

# Addressing Ideas Arising from Strategic Visioning Conversations

Over the course of a five-month strategic visioning process from March to August 2024, which involved full Board and small group discussion, individual member interviews, conversation with NCES and extensive staff work, a robust set of ideas emerged for achieving the vision. They are represented here reflecting their alignment to the strategic vision and with additional details about the next steps for moving them forward.

## 1. INFORM AND ENGAGE:

*“The Governing Board will continue to ensure that NAEP provides valid and reliable national, state, and district data to illuminate academic achievement and progress and to help stakeholders use NAEP to advance policy and practice.”*

### A. Improve the accessibility and utility of NAEP data.

ID	Idea	Status	Lead	Next Steps
1	Create practical use cases that illustrate uses of NAEP data for improvement.	Pending start	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build and improve off of existing work (e.g., state profiles).</li> </ul>
2	Encourage the linking of the Nation’s Report Card with external data and disseminate information about student learning and experiences to inform policy and practice in accessible and actionable ways.	Pending start	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confer with NCES about what existing linking studies are appropriate to become public and shared.</li> </ul>
3	Accelerate reporting of results from voluntary NAEP assessments within 6-9 months (instead of 12-18 months) to improve use and value of data.	Further discussion needed	NCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the degree to which users think this would be helpful for them (or if it is not worth the resources).</li> <li>Study if reporting timelines can be accelerated.</li> </ul>
4	Review policies on access to restricted data to facilitate secondary research (e.g., who is	Further discussion needed	NCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine criteria for gaining access to embargoed data and barriers to accessing restricted-use data (e.g.,</li> </ul>

Status Color Key: Pending completion Underway Pending start Further discussion needed

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	granted access, for how long, under what circumstances).			timelines for NCES contractors to de-identify data, funding sources to support external research) to propose possible improvements.

## B. Enhance the interpretation and communication of NAEP for stakeholders and the public.

ID	Idea	Status	Lead	Next Steps
1	Discuss NAEP results not only in terms of achievement levels, such as <i>NAEP Proficient</i> , but in terms of actual skills and knowledge measured.	Pending completion	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete interpretive guide to achievement levels (expected completion by January 2025).</li> </ul>
2	Improve how magnitude of score changes, statistical significance, and practical significance are explained.	Pending start	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create an interpretive guide to statistical and practical significance.</li> </ul>
3	Create additional structure around monitoring K-12 education trends and projections that impact the NAEP program's future.	Pending start	NAGB Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hire and onboard Education Policy Analyst. (Job vacancy announcement closed 7/9/24; applications under review)</li> <li>Define topical areas to track.</li> </ul>
4	Proactively collaborate with NCES to promote, disseminate, and help interpret NAEP results.	Underway	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue collaborations with NCES.</li> <li>Increase efforts to host events and present at conferences in the months leading up to and following releases.</li> <li>Create interpretive guide.</li> </ul>
5	Consider whether and how to publish series of reports using NAEP survey data that adds policy-relevant context to understand trends in student achievement.	Underway	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue <i>Powered by NAEP</i> efforts.</li> </ul>

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6	Collaborate with researchers to generate analyses and resources that enable the education field to make informed decisions to advance education policy and practice.	Underway	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to engage the research community through <i>Powered by NAEP</i> efforts.</li> <li>Develop partnerships with researchers who use Report Card data to help connect them with funding.</li> </ul>
7	Engage and inform new governors, their education policy advisors, and state chiefs after they take office and before NAEP results are released.	Underway	NAGB Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue outreach to national organizations representing state policymakers on educational issues to inform NAGB strategy.</li> </ul>

### C. Build support for a robust assessment schedule to inform national, state, and district education policy.

ID	Idea	Status	Lead	Next Steps
1	Consider how to build greater demand for Science, Civics, and U.S. History voluntary state level assessments.	Underway	Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue outreach to encourage state interest.</li> </ul>
2	Consider how to build greater demand for Grade 12 NAEP assessments to check the health of state K-12 systems.	Further discussion needed	Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a proof-of-concept "Profile of a Graduating Class" using state-level NAEP data.</li> </ul>
3	Examine and manage risks to the sustainability of Long-Term Trend.	Further discussion needed	ADC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a feasibility assessment with NCES and LTT subject-matter experts to determine the optimal path forward.</li> </ul>

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## 2. INNOVATE

*“The Governing Board will leverage research and new technologies and processes, including artificial intelligence (AI), to strengthen the NAEP program.”*

### D. Model the ethical use of new technologies to measure what students know and can do.

ID	Idea	Status	Lead	Next Steps
1	Develop policy guidelines for the ethical use of AI in NAEP	Pending Start	AI Ad Hoc Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue engaging with experts to build knowledge base and inform guidelines.</li> <li>Draft policy guidelines with support from external experts as needed.</li> </ul>

### E. Protect the integrity of NAEP data and intellectual property.

ID	Idea	Status	Lead	Next Steps
1	Implement policy guidelines on ethical use of AI in NAEP	Further discussion needed	NCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with NCES throughout policy development to get operational and feasibility perspectives.</li> </ul>
2	Monitor and update policies on ongoing basis as needed	Further discussion needed	Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine Board process for monitoring and updating.</li> </ul>

Status Color Key: 

Pending completion	Underway	Pending start	Further discussion needed
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**F. Apply research and new technologies to improve the quality, relevance, efficiency, and utility of the design, content, and reporting of NAEP.**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Idea</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
1	Design and implement nimbler process for framework development.	Underway	ADC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete revisions to framework development policy (expected implementation by the end of FY 2025).</li> </ul>
2	Develop evidence to support the interpretation and communication of NAEP achievement levels to ensure that they are reasonable, valid, and informative to the public.	Underway	COSDAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete validity argument for NAEP Achievement Levels.</li> <li>Develop reporting ALDs for Reading and Mathematics.</li> </ul>
3	Explore new methodologies related to practical significance.	Underway	COSDAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to discuss and collaborate with R&amp;D.</li> </ul>
4	Explore alternative (i.e., less costly/cumbersome) ways to maintain trends on NAEP, while balancing important updates to NAEP content, design, and administration.	Pending start	COSDAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with ADC and NCES to investigate possible changes that NCES could implement.</li> </ul>
5	Consider optimal Board role in design and methodological issues (and for what purposes).	Pending start	Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss with COSDAM what, if anything, should be done differently related to the legislative authority review.</li> <li>Consider forming a Technical Advisory Committee to provide external advice on matters under the Board's authority.</li> </ul>

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6	Explore whether AI tools can tap the potential of the vast, varied data that NAEP collects.	Pending start	AI Ad Hoc Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with NCES, examine the use of AI to help analyze and synthesize NAEP data that is currently underutilized (e.g., process data) and report on relevant findings.</li> <li>• Determine if using AI helps facilitate linking NAEP data with other datasets and if it can be helpful in understanding learning more deeply by analyzing process data around how students complete questions, apply knowledge, and use their skills.</li> </ul>
7	Explore AI's ability to assist stakeholders to find greater value from the NAEP results, including contextual data and links with other data sets to provide more relevant information that answers the questions they have about student achievement, and more actionable insights to inform decisions by policymakers and practitioners.	Pending start	AI Ad Hoc Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure consultants and subject-matter experts to provide technical advice and help inform decisions.</li> </ul>
8	Develop a NAEP "Opportunity to Learn" Index to describe student access to resources that support academic outcomes.	Further discussion needed	NCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confer with NCES to conduct feasibility study to examine the potential to create a NAEP "Opportunity to Learn" Index.</li> </ul>

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