

READ BY GRADE 3 (RBG3) ASSESSMENT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) RECOMMENDATION

**Presentation to the State Board of Education
March 11, 2021**

Presenters

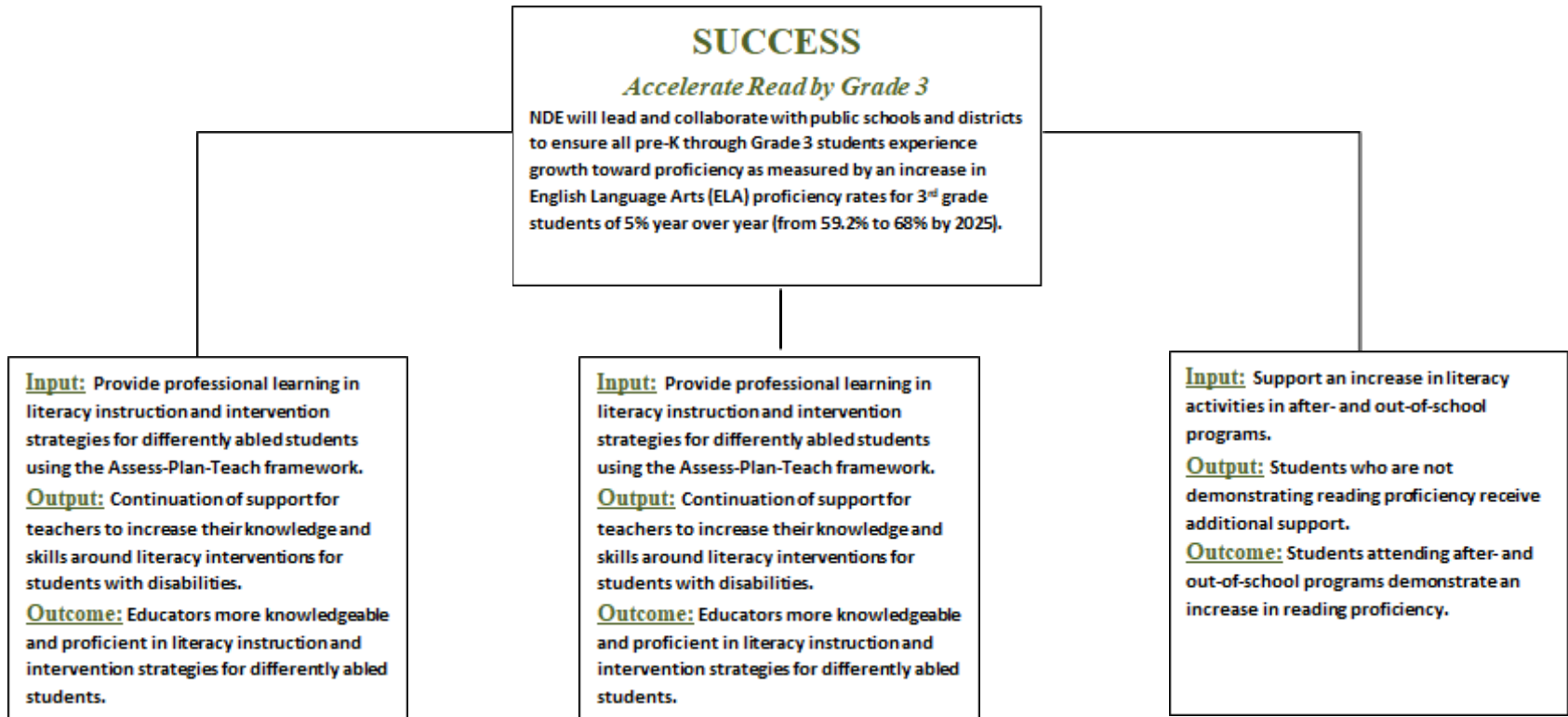
❖ **Dave Brancamp**, Director, Office of Standards and Instructional Support

❖ **Peter Zutz**, Administrator, Office of Assessment, Data, and Accountability Management

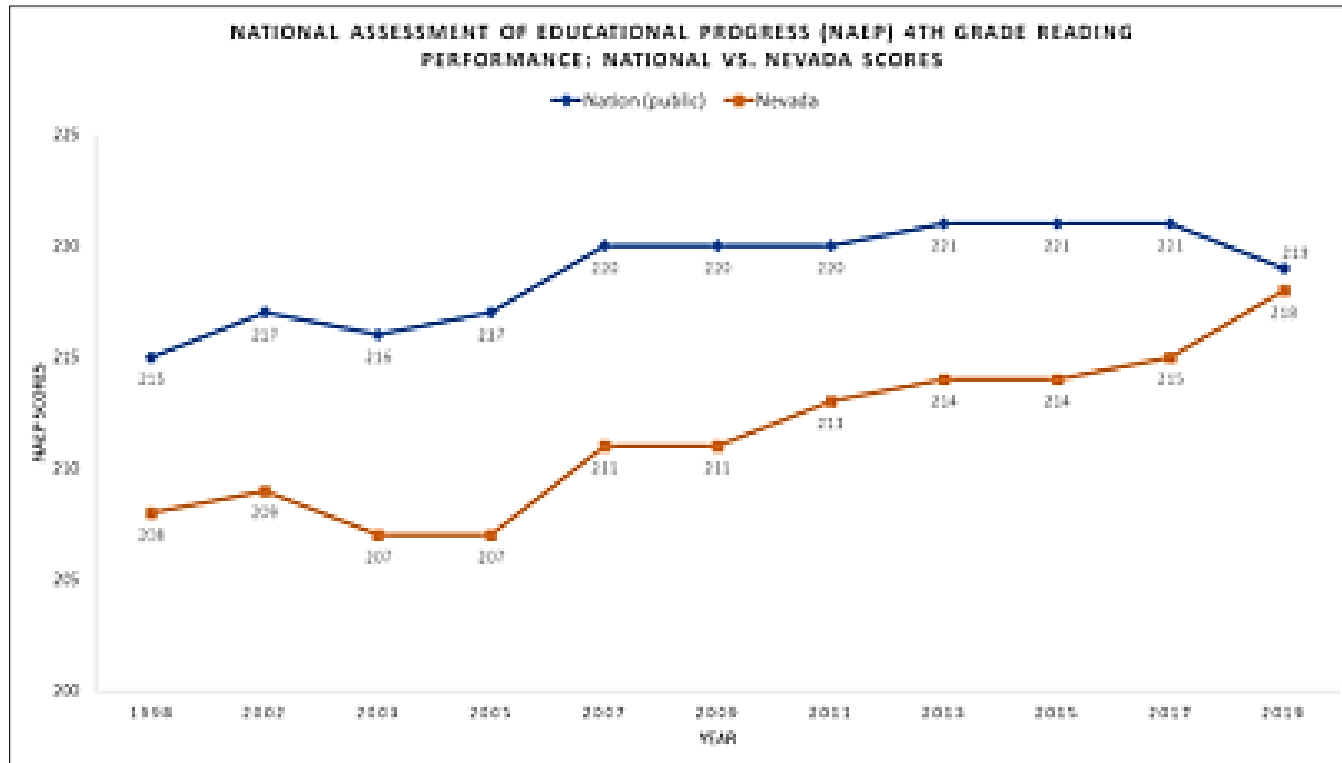
Alignment to STIP

Goal 1. All children, birth through third grade, have access to quality early care and education.

(The Nevada Department of Education Statewide Plan for the Improvement of Pupils, 2020, page 42)



Read by Grade 3 Outcomes



Since the start of Read by Grade 3 in 2015, the trajectory of Nevada's early reading scores has improved according to the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

RBG3: Statutory Authority

- ❖ **Senate Bill (SB) 391 (2015):** Created the RBG3 program in Nevada law
 - ❖ **Section 5, Item 1 (b):** Outlined the requirements for the administration of a statewide assessment under RBG3
- ❖ **Assembly Bill (AB) 289 (2019):** Revised provisions of the RBG3 program
 - ❖ **Section 1, Item 1 (b):** Outlines the requirements for the administration of a statewide assessment under RBG3

RBG3 Assessment:

Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)

NAC 388.660: Approved assessments for assessing pupil's proficiency in subject area of reading. ([NRS 385.080](#), [388.157](#))

For the 2017-2018 school year and each school year thereafter, the State Board hereby approves the following as assessments for assessing a pupil's proficiency in the subject area of reading:

1. The Brigance Early Childhood Screen III: K & 1 published by Curriculum Associates; and
2. The Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment published by the Northwest Evaluation Association. (*Added to NAC by Bd. of Education by R037-16, eff. 9-9-2016*)

RBG3 Assessment: Implementation History

- ✓ **January 4, 2016:** NDE released a Request for Information (RFI). In an RFI process, the State expects vendors to propose creative, competitive solutions to the agency's stated problem or need, as specified in the RFI
- ✓ **April 2016:** Based on the RFI responses received by the Nevada Department of Education (NDE or Department), the Nevada State Board of Education selected the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Growth Reading Assessment as the Statewide reading assessment for RBG3 (per SB 391 -2015)
- ✓ **September 2017:** The Read by Grade 3 MAP Growth Reading Assessment was first administered to Nevada's 1st through 3rd grade students at the fall testing benchmark. Additional administrations occurred at the winter and spring benchmarks that followed. (*Administration of the assessment for kindergarten students only occurred during the winter and spring benchmarks of 2018*)
- ✓ **May 2019:** Nevada State Purchasing informed the NDE that a solicitation or Request for Proposal (RFP) must be released for the RBG3 Reading Assessment in 2020
- ✓ **November 2019:** NDE releases a survey to collect feedback from teachers, administrators, and the public around the RBG3 Assessment to inform the draft of the RFP
- ✓ **August 2020:** NDE released a RBG3 Reading Assessment RFP
- ✓ **November 2020:** The RFP Evaluation Committee recommended a vendor

RBG3 RFP: Assessment Survey

- ✓ **November 2019:** NDE released a survey for teachers, administrators, and the public to inform the draft of the RFP
 - **1,462 Respondents Participated**
 - ✓ 56.5% identified as Literacy Specialists and Elementary Teachers
 - ✓ 66.7% identified affiliation with the Clark County School District
 - ✓ 15 of the 17 school districts were represented among the respondents
 - ✓ The State Public Charter School Authority was also represented with respondents across multiple schools
 - The survey data resulted in several predominant themes about this assessment:
 - ✓ demonstrates a positive impact on student performance in reading
 - ✓ provides reports that demonstrate a strong alignment to the Nevada Academic Content Standards
 - ✓ enhances educators' ability to utilize the data to inform ongoing reading instruction and intervention practices
 - ✓ accurately identifies the reading needs of students who are English Learners (EL), students with individualized education plans, and students eligible for free-or-reduced-price lunch
 - ✓ includes a comprehensive description on how efforts were made to reduce bias
 - ✓ accurately predicts student performance on the Smarter Balanced Assessment
 - ✓ provides a comprehensive report to Nevada Department of Education

RBG3 RFP: Selection Process

- In partnership with Nevada State Purchasing, NDE released an RFP for the RBG3 Assessment in August 2020
- There were 4 responses to the RFP
- The Evaluation Committee (defined by NRS 333.335) consisted of representatives from the following entities:
 - **Churchill County School District**
 - **Clark County School District**
 - **Washoe County School District**
 - **Nevada Department of Education**
 - **Nevada State Library, Archives, and Public Records**

RBG3 RFP: Selection

- The RBG3 RFP Evaluation Committee recommends:
 - ***NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessment***

RBG3 RFP: Next Steps

Recommended Motion

- *It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Read by Grade 3 (RBG3) RFP Evaluation Committee's recommendation to select the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessment as the statewide assessment for RBG3*

Next Steps

- ✓ Upon approval by the Board, NDE will notify Nevada State Purchasing
- ✓ Nevada State Purchasing will work with the vendor to finalize the selection process
- ✓ Once the selection process is complete, NDE will work with the vendor to coordinate implementation, including the engagement of teachers, administrators, and the RBG3 Advisory Council as needed

Questions

For information regarding the RBG3 Program or early literacy, please contact:

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