

2017-18 Alternate Assessment Justification

The following must be completed by districts contributing to the state exceeding the 1% cap for students participating in the alternate assessment. Please return the completed form to Leslie.M.Hoffman@tn.gov by Wednesday February 26, 2019 by 5:00pm CST.

District Name: Henry County Schools

	% of Alternative Assessments: 2016-2017 Administration	Current % of Alternate Assessments: 2017-2018 Administration	Projected % of Alternate Assessments: 2018-2019 Administration
MSAA ELA	1.25%	1.28%	1.18%
MSAA Math	1.33%	1.19%	0.82%

1. **Percentage Goal:** What is your goal in addressing decision making for identifying the right students for the alternate assessment?

We have a new School Psychologist this year. She has developed a form for teams to fill out with guiding information as they discuss if a student needs Alternate Assessment added to their plan. She will review and add the information into EASY once the team has made the final decision.

2. **Process:** Describe the process, training, and steps the district will use to meet the percentage goal reduction proposed above.

Each year, we had a Sped Academy day where we discuss all parts of the eligibility process and IEP. This next school year, we are going to have an additional day for any school system staff that wants to attend to discuss disabilities and procedures for eligibility. We will include Alternate Assessment in this training.

3. **Disproportionality:** Explain how the school district is addressing any disproportionality identified in areas that include, but are not limited to: student's IEP disability, number of students with disability, grade bands (elementary, middle, high school).

The School Psychologist and myself has been to each school to discuss the eligibility process and what interventions should be happening in Tier I instruction and the documentation that should

be taking place before a student is referred for Sped services. We are doing our best to monitor closely each area and work with our staff to ensure that all students are getting the instruction and interventions needed daily through RTI and Tier I instruction.

4. **Parent Participation:** How do parents participate in, or how are they notified of, the IEP decision for their student to participate in the alternate assessment(s)?

These decisions are made in IEP meetings. Parents are called and invited to meetings over the phone so that they can choose a date and time that best meets that parents needs. The parent is then sent an invitation to the meeting as a reminder. We do our best to set meetings when parents can attend, so that they are an active part of each decision. If a parent is not able to attend, then we will ask them if they can attend by phone as the meeting is taken place. Once that happens, the documents are sent home for the parent to agree with and sign.

5. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All feasible requests for supports will be considered.)

How do we manage when you have a school that is going through S-Team meetings and are constantly wanting to refer students for testing? We are doing our best to do what is best for students, but if they are requesting a large amount of student to be tested, then that can throw off our disproportionality.

Is there a training from TNDOE that helps with the process and disproportionality?