

## 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](mailto:Leslie.M.Hoffman@tn.gov) by Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2019, by 5 p.m. CT.

### District Name: DeKalb County Schools

|           | % of Alternative Assessments:<br>2016-2017 Administration | Current % of Alternate Assessments:<br>2017-2018 Administration | Projected % of Alternate Assessments:<br>2018-2019 Administration |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| MSAA ELA  | 1.47%   | 1.50%   | 1.25%   |
| MSAA Math | 1.47%   | 1.50%   | 1.25%   |

1. **Percentage Goal:** What is your goal in addressing decision making for identifying the right students for the alternate assessment? DeKalb County Schools follow TN State standards for making any and all alternate assessment decisions. These determinations are made at IEP meetings as a team and documented. These decisions are also revisited annually for any revisions that need to be made.
2. **Process:** Describe the process, training, and steps the district will use to meet the percentage goal reduction proposed above. During monthly PLC meetings, the topic of alternate assessment will be reviewed as well as providing all teachers with a revised copy of the TN DOE guidance on alternate assessment.
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). No disproportionate representation noted at time of APR.
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)? DeKalb County schools

initiate a ten day invitation for all IEP meetings as well as attempt to reach parent/guardian by phone if possible. Parents are given three ten day invitations to meetings but a phone call is attempted to reach a mutually agreeable date/time to ensure the parent attends. If a parent is unable to attend, our teachers also offer a phone conference so that they can participate in that format if they are unable to physically come in for the meeting. Any IEP decisions are made at the time of meeting and reviewed thoroughly with the parent at that time while reviewing the IEP, again during the signing of the meeting notes, and again during the signing of the Prior Written Notice to ensure the parent understands the agreement that has been made and that the parent agrees with the decision. If the parent is not in attendance, all documents are sent home for the parent to review.

5. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All feasible requests for supports will be considered.) No requested support at this time.