

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, Feb. 26, 2019, by 5 p.m. CT.

District Name: Dickson County Schools

	% of Alternative Assessments: 2016-2017 Administration	Current % of Alternate Assessments: 2017-2018 Administration	Projected % of Alternate Assessments: 2018-2019 Administration
MSAA ELA	0.98%	1.16%	1.00%
MSAA Math	0.94%	1.16%	1.00%

1. **Percentage Goal:** What is your goal in addressing decision making for identifying the right students for the alternate assessment? Dickson County Schools will strive to decrease the number of students taking the alternate assessment by at least .16% to be within the 1% guidelines.
2. **Process:** Describe the process, training, and steps the district will use to meet the percentage goal reduction proposed above. Training is provided at annual professional development throughout the summer. Training will continue to be provided with emphasis placed on giving all students the opportunity to be assessed at least once though the regular TNReady Assessment if at all possible with accommodations/accessibility. This training will be provided during planned summer staff development to allow for current teachers as well as newly hired teachers to have this information. The Alternate Assessment Participation Guidelines Decision Making Tool provided by the TDOE-Sped will also be reviewed with all Comprehensive Development Class teachers as part of their 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). Training will address all grade bands as well as ensuring that particular disabilities are not singled out. At this time we do not appear to single out certain disabilities or grade levels.

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)? Parents participate in the IEP meeting and are part of the decision process. If the parent doesn't attend the IEP meeting, a copy of the IEP, IEP Team minutes and Prior Written notice with the team decision is provided to the parent in a timely manner. Parent is given the opportunity to respond to the team decisions by requesting another IEP team meeting to discuss concerns further or by signing the Sorry You Missed the Meeting Letter in agreement.
5. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All feasible requests for supports will be considered.) No support is needed at this time. Additional training by our system should help to resolve this issue. Dickson County received a letter from Michael Holman in October 2017 saying we were "not expected to exceed the 1%" from the TDOE (we were at .98%), therefore we did not do any additional training.