New Jersey Department of Education

New Jersey Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Teacher Training 2021-2022

Division of Teaching and Learning Services

New Jersey Department of Education

Office of Assessments

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Preparation for the DLM Assessment

- This presentation provides guidelines for:

    - The use of documents and modules to prepare for the NJ DLM Year-End (YE) spring assessment; and

    - The required training for teachers.

- Your School or District Assessment Coordinator will answer any questions you may have about the assessment.

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NJ DLM General Information

Participation Criteria Guidelines

- Students with the most significant intellectual disabilities are the only students eligible to take the New Jersey Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) alternate assessment.

- IEP teams must use the **NJ DLM Participation Criteria Guidelines** to make this determination.

Student Policies

- Students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 participate in the English language arts and math assessments.

- Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 also participate in the science assessment.

- Retained students in grades 3 through 11 must participate in the DLM.

- Current grade 12 students who did not participate in the spring 2021 administration of the DLM when in grade 11 are encouraged, but not required, to participate in the spring 2022 administration.

DLM Year-End (YE) Model and Test Window

- New Jersey uses the DLM Year-End (YE) model which is a computer-based assessment based on the NJSLS and DLM Essential Elements (EEs).

    - The DLM IE testlets were made available to NJ educators in the fall of 2021 to assist with gathering benchmark data for DLM students in the absence of spring 2021 DLM data. Results from the DLM IE testlets are not predictive of student performance on the DLM YE spring assessment.

- Test administration window is **April 1 to May 27, 2022**.

- Districts should begin testing early enough to ensure completion during the testing window.

- **May 27, 2022** is the last day of testing, therefore students should consistently participate in the assessment by completing required testlets from April through mid-May.

YE Model Adaptive Assessment

- The DLM assessment is a computer adaptive assessment. The computer adaptive process for the assessment includes:

  1. The teacher completes the student's First Contact Survey indicating current level of demonstrated skill level, etc. These answers help the system pick the first set of test items.

  2. A student takes a small set of items, called a testlet, then the system considers the level of difficulty of the test items and the student's performance (correct or incorrect answers).

  3. Based on the student's performance another testlet is selected, which contain items that are around the same level, somewhat easier, or somewhat harder than the last testlet (same, lower, or higher-level skills are selected).

- This is an iterative process until the testlets address all Essential Elements in the YE test blueprint.

- The number of testlets varies based on grade and content area tested.

DLM Computer Based Testing

- A small percentage of students will be assessed outside the system via DLM teacher administered tests. The student will not view the computer screen as the teachers will administer the questions based on their view of the testlets on the computer.

  - When this occurs, a teacher will be asked to gather objects to use during the test.

  - A student may sometimes have one teacher administered testlet, and the next testlet may not be teacher administered, depending on the adaptive nature of the test and modifications to the level of testlet assigned to the student.

- Information on teacher administered testlets is found in the DLM Test Administration Manual.
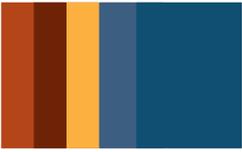
Obtaining Test Specifications

- Grade specific test specifications which delineate which DLM Essential Elements and skill statements are tested in the YE model should be reviewed.

- Use the links to the [Educator Resource](#) pages for information on:

  - [Test specifications for ELA and math](#)

  - [Test specifications for science](#)

Test Administrator Responsibilities

- Test administrators:

  - Are classroom teachers
  - Administer assessments to students and assist in the selection of accessibility features and necessary supports
  - Complete First Contact surveys and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profiles
  - Verify correct students are on assigned rosters
  - Administer practice tests
  - Review [Test Administration Manual](#)
  - Review [Accessibility Manual](#)

- Contact your School Assessment Coordinator if you have questions.

DLM Educator Roles

- Teachers **may not** fulfill the other DLM designated roles:

    - District/School Assessment Coordinators

    - District Data Manager

- Teachers will receive their DLM login ID and password after their District Data Manager uploads the teacher's information into the DLM Educator Portal.

Additional District-Level Roles and Responsibilities

- There are three additional roles for district-level staff in the DLM testing process.

    - The **School and District Assessment Coordinators:**

        - Are the point of contact for all assessment responsibilities excluding the tasks of the two roles listed below.

        - Oversee and assist teachers in their roles.

        - Schedule teacher training and ensure proper test administration.

    - The **Technology Representative** will load the DLM Kite application onto computer devices in order to allow for access to the practice tests and to administer spring testing.

    - The **Data Manager** will upload and review data to create the classroom test rosters, obtain all login IDs for the district, and add new students to the system as necessary.

Test Administrator Tasks

- Complete District teacher training (NJDOE PowerPoint modules and DLM Moodle modules) and implement instruction related to New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) and DLM Essential Elements (EEs).

- Review DLM materials including test blueprints, manuals etc., and review professional development modules as needed.

- Complete First Contact (FC) and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profiles once rosters are completed by **March 18, 2022**.

- Attend District training on preparation for NJ DLM, administer practice tests, create testing schedule & produce student testing folders in **March 2022**.

- Conduct NJ DLM testing **April 1 to May 27, 2022**.

  - **Note:** Districts should begin testing early enough to ensure completion during the testing window.

Steps for Teachers Administering the DLM

Timeline	Action Steps
September – January	• Implement instruction related to New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) and DLM EEs • Review DLM materials including, test blueprints, EEs, etc.; and • Review professional development modules as needed • Complete teacher training (PowerPoint and DLM Moodle modules)
February – March	• Complete First Contact (FC) and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profiles once rosters are completed • Review training materials including DLM Accessibility Manual • Complete training on Preparation for NJ DLM • Administer practice tests • Create testing schedule • Produce student testing folders
April 1 through May 27	• Administer the DLM assessment to students • Note: Districts should begin testing early enough to ensure completion during the testing window.

Required Teacher Training: PowerPoint and DLM Moodle

Moodle Training Modules

- Moodle is the DLM platform used to provide the mandatory [teacher training modules](#) required by NJDOE.

- District or School Assessment Coordinators will conduct and oversee the training of teachers using both the Moodle site and the NJ teacher training materials.

- **Note**: Test administrators who utilized the DLM IE testlets in fall 2021 and passed all the required training in the fall **do not** need to repeat the Moodle training for the spring 2022 administration.

Returning Test Administrator for 2021-2022

In most cases, Returning Test Administrators tested students with the DLM last year.

- Someone is designated a Returning Test Administrator in Moodle if, in the 2020-21 school year, they:

  - Passed all DLM modules; and

  - Received a certificate in their current district.

- Someone is still considered a Returning Test Administrator in Moodle if they:

  - Were designated as a back-up Test Administrator; and

  - Passed the modules/received certificates (even if they did not administer the DLM last year).

Note: Test administrators who utilized the DLM IE testlets in fall 2021 and passed all the required training in the fall **do not** need to repeat the Moodle training for the spring 2022 administration.

New Test Administrator for 2021-2022

Someone is designated a New Test Administrator in Moodle if, in the 2020-21 school year they did not take and pass the DLM modules.

- Test administrators are only considered "returning" if they have no gaps in taking and passing the annual Moodle training.

  - Therefore, if test administrators did not take the Moodle training for the 20-21 administration because the DLM was not administered in the district, they are designated "New" test administrators for 21-22 and must take and pass the "New" test administrator Moodle training.

Note: Test administrators who utilized the DLM IE testlets in fall 2021 and passed all the required training in the fall **do not** need to repeat the Moodle training for the spring 2022 administration.

Administered DLM Last Year and Changed School Districts

- Moodle accounts are associated with teachers' email addresses.

- If you are listed in Moodle as a New Test Administrator because you are working in a different district than you were last year and/or your email address has changed, even though in 2020-2021 you passed the module post-tests and received certificates, this can be revised.

  - Present the Moodle certificates to your Assessment Coordinator and ask that they email assessment@doe.nj.gov and DLM Support to request that your status be changed in the system to a Returning Test Administrator.
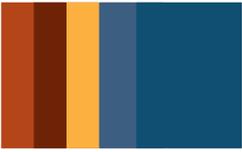
Required Reading

- Download [DLM's Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training](#) for important information on:

  - logging into Moodle

  - resetting passwords

  - post-tests

  - facilitated versus self-directed training, etc.

Required Test Administrator Training

2021-22 required training for teachers administering the DLM assessment opens on your state's scheduled training date. The Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training (pdf) is a great place to start, with information about accessing the DLM training site for your first login.

DLM Required Training for Returning Test Administrators

- In Moodle, the DLM required training is one module titled, *Returning Test Administrator Training – Review of the DLM Alternate Assessment System*. This module is approximately 45 minutes.

- After viewing the module, the teacher must independently complete a four-part post-test.

  - If you score below 80% accurate, the DLM system will provide and require additional training and post-tests.

  - You may review the module and take the post-tests as many times as necessary in order to achieve 80% or higher.

DLM Required Training for New Test Administrators

In Moodle, the DLM required training is four modules.

- Part 1 – About the DLM System

- Part 2 – Understanding and Delivering Testlets

- Part 3 – Test Administration and Scoring

- Part 4 – Preparing to Administer the Assessment

- These modules are approximately 2.5 hours.

- After viewing each module, the teacher must independently complete a post-test.

  - If you score below 80% accurate on any post-test, you must review the training materials again and retake the post-test(s).

  - You may take the tests as many times as necessary in order to achieve 80% or higher.

- There is also an optional module in Moodle entitled *Personal Learning Profile Training*, which provides more information about completing a student's Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile and First Contact survey.

  - There is no post-test for this module.

  - This module is also available on DLM's website to view at any time.

- Assessment Coordinators may train all Test Administrators as one group (Returning and New Test Administrators) using all five modules.

- After the training, each Test Administrator must:

  1. Independently and separately login into Moodle;

  2. Click on *"Facilitated Training"* (this tells the system you don't need to view the modules because someone showed them to you); and

  3. Take assigned post-test(s)

     - One post-test if a returning test administrator

     - Four post-tests if a new test administrator

- Assessment Coordinators may choose to split the group into a "Returning Test Administrators" group and a "New Test Administrators" group for training.

- After the training, each test administrator must:

  1. Independently and separately login into Moodle;

  2. Select "Facilitated Training" (this tells the system you don't need to view the modules because someone showed them to you); and

  3. Take assigned post-test(s).

- Be advised that even when trained in a facilitated setting alongside new test administrators, there is no facilitated option in Moodle for returning test administrators, only self-directed.

- Upon logging into Moodle, returning test administrators will need to play the self-directed returning training video then proceed to the post-tests.

- The returning video includes the highlights of the four modules for new test administrators.

Individual Teacher Training

- The Assessment Coordinator may also choose to assign a time during school hours for Test Administrators to separately view the module(s) and take the post-test(s).

- To independently complete the modules and post-tests:

    1. Login into Moodle;

    2. Select "Self-Directed Training";

   3. View the module(s); and

    4. Take assigned post-test(s).

How To Access the Required Moodle Training

- See the [Guide to DLM Required Test Administrator Training 2021-2022](#) for information on use of login ID, password updates, Moodle access, etc.

- The district Data Manager will provide login ID to Test Administrators if they do not already have one.

Preparation for Instruction and Assessment
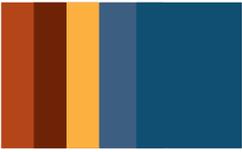
Instructional Program Preparation

- Teachers and school program staff must review the **Essential Elements** (EEs) and implement individualized instruction related to the EEs.

  - The Essential Elements are skill statements written to align with the NJSLS at an appropriate linkage level for students with significant cognitive disabilities. EEs and nodes (specific skills) are important to review and address during instruction.

  - Note that ELA and math have five linkage levels, while science currently has only three linkage levels.

    - More details are presented in upcoming slides.

Use of the Test Information

- Use of the Essential Elements, linkage levels, and nodes (skill statements related to the map), and the YE test blueprint will guide instruction, assist in selecting individualized targeted skills related to the NJSLS, and help prepare students for the DLM assessment.

- School program staff and district curriculum specialists should assist in the development of instructional plans based on the DLM Year-End (YE) test blueprints.

- DLM also provides Professional Development (PD) modules that are designed to teach conceptual areas related to NJSLS and the DLM EEs.

What do teachers/test administrators need to do this school year to prepare for the DLM? (Part I)

1. Review the training materials designed to prepare you for instruction aligned to the Essential Elements (EEs) and administration of the DLM.

2. Prepare your students by providing instruction linked to the NJSLS and the related DLM EEs.

   A. Develop instructional lessons related to the EEs.

      • EEs are comprised of linkage levels and nodes that show how skills are related and build on one another.

      • Linkage levels and nodes help teachers understand how to route instruction for the diverse population of participating students.

   B. Incorporate computer use, manipulatives, familiar texts, writing tasks, and DLM skills into your instruction.

3. Complete required Moodle DLM training.

What do teachers/test administrators need to do this school year to prepare for the DLM? (Part II)

4. View 2–3 minute Instructional and Informational videos on the [Educator Resource Videos page](#) in preparation for assessment.

5. Complete in the First Contact and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profiles for each student on your rosters in February 2022.

   - It may be helpful to begin these surveys on paper so that you can consider the responses.

6. Prepare students for the DLM through practice tests.

7. Check NJ DLM webpage for training material updates.

Test Blueprint

- A test blueprint pdf is available for each subject.

- Blueprints list the EEs assessed at each grade.

- The test blueprints can be found on NJ's page of the DLM website:

  - Under the "Instructional Resources" filter.

Grade 6: Essential Elements Assessed

Conceptual Area	EE	Description
ELA.C1.1		
	EE.RI.6.5	Determine how the title fits the structure of the text.
ELA.C1.2		
	EE.RL.6.1	Determine what a text says explicitly as well as what simple i
	EE.RL.6.2	Identify details in a text that are related to the theme or cent
	EE.RL.6.4	Determine how word choice changes the meaning in a text.
	EE.RL.6.6	Identify words or phrases in the text that describe or show wl feeling.
	EE.RI.6.1	Analyze a text to determine what it says explicitly as well as w
	EE.RI.6.2	Determine the main idea of a passage and details or facts rela
	EE.RI.6.4	Determine how word choice changes the meaning of a text.
	EE.RI.6.6	Identify words or phrases in the text that describe or show th
	EE.RI.6.8	Distinguish claims in a text supported by reason.
	EE.L.6.5.b	Demonstrate understanding of words by identifying other wo
ELA.C1.3		
	EE.RL.6.3	Can identify how a character responds to a challenge in story
	EE.RL.6.5	Determine the structure of a text (e.g., story, poem, or drama
	EE.RI.6.3	Identify a detail that elaborates upon individuals, events, or i
ELA.C2.1		
	EE.W.6.2.a	Introduce a topic and write to convey ideas and information a information as appropriate.
	EE.W.6.2.b	Provide facts, details, or other information related to the topi

Example of the Grade 6 blueprint for ELA

How to Find the Linkage Levels

- Another way to view the EEs is the "Currently Tested" webpages by content area:

  - [Mathematics](#)

  - [ELA](#)

  - [Science](#)

- Each EE is a clickable link that reveals the linkage levels and nodes for the EE.

- This resource is particularly helpful in determining routes of learning for individual students.

- Essential Elements with a gray flag icon beside them are not assessed in the YE model but can still be useful in instruction.

NOTE: Essential Elements marked with a gray flag ( ) are not assessed in Year End states.

Grade 3: Essential Elements Assessed

EE.RL.3.1 Answer who and what questions to demonstrate understanding of details in a text.

EE.RL.3.2 Associate details with events in stories from diverse cultures.

EE.RL.3.3 Identify the feelings of characters in a story.

EE.RL.3.5 Determine the beginning, middle, and end of a familiar story with a logical order.

EE.RI.3.1 Answer who and what questions to demonstrate understanding of details in a text.

EE.RI.3.2 Identify details in a text.

EE.RI.3.3 Order two events from a text as "first" and "next".

EE.RI.3.5 With guidance and support, use text features including headings and key words to locate information in a text.

Example of Grade 3 from the *Currently Tested Essential Elements for ELA*
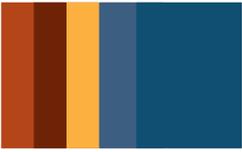
Instructional and Informational Videos

- Instructional and Informational videos can be obtained through the [Educator Resource Videos](#) page for topics including:

  - Accessing and maneuvering through Education Portal

  - Testlet Overviews

- These videos are most beneficial when viewed in conjunction with the training modules.

Professional Development and Educational Resources
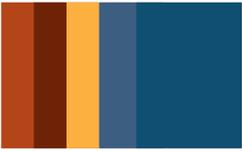
Professional Development

- [DLM Professional development modules](#) developed by the University of North Carolina (UNC) support the design and delivery of this instruction.

- These modules are different from the required DLM training modules, but are highly recommended and optional.

- The PD modules on topics related to math, writing, reading, and science instruction provide information that is useful for classrooms and school programs.

- Topics are broad and include information about alternate pencils (writing topic), algebraic thinking, predictable chart writing, place value, etc.

- Viewing the PD modules is encouraged and topic selection is based on a teacher's interest in specific areas.

- Modules can be sorted according to DLM Claim or in alphabetical order.

Obtaining PD Checklist

- Professional development modules are sorted by the alphabetized list or claims list. A check list is available to download so you may track which modules you have viewed.

- Access the website for the [DLM Professional development modules](#).

Recap of Materials

- Using the following [DLM resources](#) will help to instruct your students and prepare them for assessment:

  - [DLM Professional development modules](#)

  - Essential Elements which note the grade level and target skills

  - Test Blueprints for list of tested skills

Educator Portal Surveys and Supports
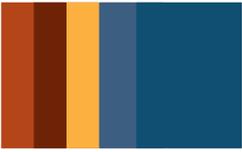
Online Surveys

- During February 14 through March 18, 2022, you will need to complete the First Contact (FC) survey and the Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile for each student on each of your subject test rosters.

- Please review the DLM Accessibility and Test Administration manuals in order to consider which survey responses and accessibility features to use for each student.

- More information on the FC survey and PNP Profiles are found in the [Educator Portal User Guide](#).
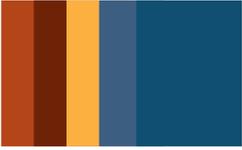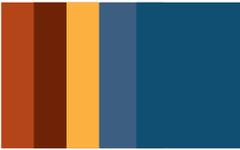
Accessibility Supports

- DLM offers a variety of accessibility supports during assessment.

- Some supports are delivered through the Kite Student Portal and are determined by responses to the First Contact (FC) and Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP) Profile.

  - Category 1 supports delivered via Kite include magnification, inverted color choice, color contrast, overlay color, and computer spoken audio.

  - Category 2 supports require additional tools and/or materials. These include Single-switch System/PNP Profile Enabled, Two-switch System, individualized manipulatives, etc.

  - Category 3 supports provided outside the system include Test Administrator read aloud, sign interpretation of text, language translation of text, etc.

  - Pages 21–24 of the [Accessibility Manual](#) provide additional details explaining the support categories.

DLM Practice Testlets

Practice Testlets

- Practice testlets are available in DLM Kite Student Portal and should be administered to students prior to March 2022 testing.

- Practice testlets relate to some accessibility features the student may use. Select the practice testlets ("demos") based on the PNP features.

- The purpose of using the practice items is to give the student experience with the online test experience prior to answering live test questions.

    - This allows the student and teacher to be aware of the computer features, and helps to determine whether the student or teacher would "drive" (use the computer mouse) during testing.

Practice Testlet Access

Refer to the Test Administration manual along with pages 1 and 2 of the [Guide to Practice Activities & Released Testlets](#) Year-End model for information on accessing practice testlets.

Personalized practice testlets are not available in the DLM system. The practice test button seen on screen after logging in to a student's account does not function.

Practice testlets login ID always start with "demo" for the login info.

Do not use the student's login ID and password when looking for practice tests.

Engagement Activities

- DLM engagement activities are included in each testlet.

- The engagement activities are meant to give the student a context for the questions, taps and activates prior knowledge and experience, and/or introduces the concept(s) to be addressed.

- The engagement activities do not require a student response to a DLM test question.

- The test administrator will engage the student in the activity and may ask **factual questions** without leading the student to answers.

Test Administrators Manuals and Resources

DLM Materials for Review

- The [DLM NJ webpage](#) currently contains updated manuals and information *as well as some files that are not yet updated*.

  - As DLM or NJ revises the documents you will see a note to the right of the title with the date of the update.

  - Please make sure you access only current materials, and if necessary, wait to download some documents until you see the new version indication.
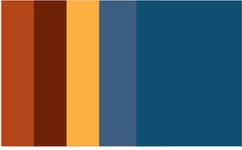
Kite Suite

"Kite Student Portal is for Kids"

- Access student operational testlets

- Practice testlets (e.g., demo.lisa)

- Utilize student usernames and passwords

"Kite Educator Portal is for Educators"

- Utilize teacher username and password

- Access student rosters

- FC and PNP surveys

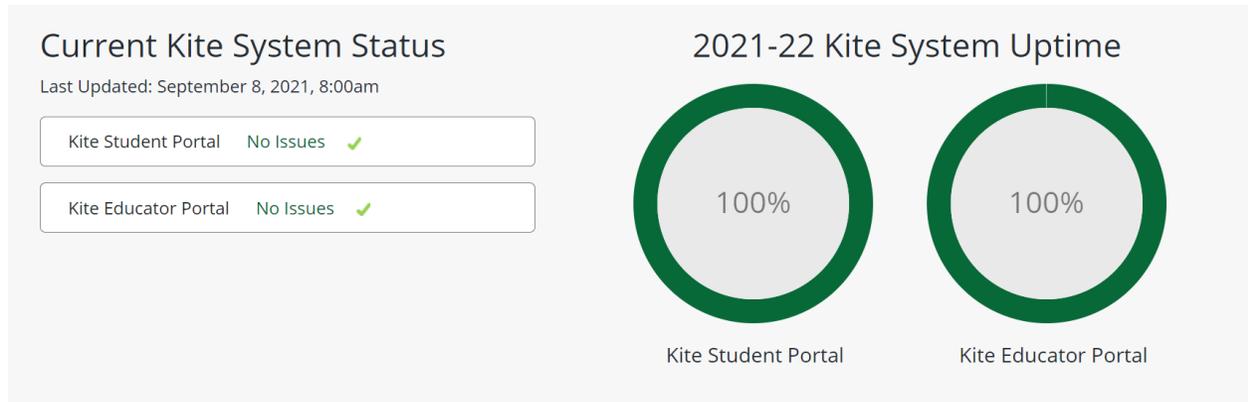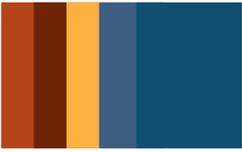- TIPs page

- Retrieval of student usernames and passwords

Kite and Educator Portal Status Check

The status code indicates if Kite and Educator Portal system is operating normally. Check each status before logging in to either system. A code of yellow or red will indicate a problem.

Please wait until the system shows the green "No Issue" status before using it.

How to Navigate Educator Portal

- For a step by step video instruction, go to [Educator Resource Videos page](#), then click on video links as needed to get information about:

  - Getting Started in Educator Portal

  - Using Student Portal with Alternate Assessments

  - Test Tickets and TIPs

DLM Reminders

- Educators must regularly check the [NJ DLM webpage](#) for material updates as the information is continuously updated.

  - Teachers should subscribe to the automatic test updates on the DLM homepage.

  - This website contains all training materials, web links, and important information regarding district preparation and implementation of the DLM that are updated frequently.

  - The revision date is listed to the right of the document name.

- NJ presentations call attention to the mandatory DLM documents educators must review; NJ presentations do not deliver all details needed for DLM.

- Review all referenced documents.

Presentation Information

- NJ DLM Preparation Parts 1 and 2 presentations must be viewed by Assessment Coordinators and teachers administering the test.

- Teachers must adhere to all NJ test policies outlined in the presentations and must sign the New Jersey DLM Test Security Agreement.

- Preparation Parts 1 and 2 Presentation Topics include:

  - Scheduling Students

  - Creating Student Test Folders

  - Test Security and Confidentiality

  - Substitutions for Manipulatives

  - Clarifying Test Directions

  - Use of Test Information Pages (TIPs)

  - Number of Required Testlets per Grade & Subject

  - Checklist for Teachers' Testing Tasks

Thank You!

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