

Q and A: Fall Data Collection 2014 – Spring Webinars – May 21, 2014

SAS

1. When will this information [1-3 reading levels] be sent to school divisions?

- Clarification on questions relating to the 1-3 Levelled Reading Data Collection will follow.

2. Can we log into SDS and input the reading level data directly?

- Web screens are available on SDS. Due to changes taking place in June to the security process and roles used by this function we [the Ministry] are only able to create a limited number of accounts to perform direct data entry. Please contact us if you would like such an account. By fall, new security will be complete.

3. Have the vendors already been contacted with this information?

- Vendors will be sent an information package shortly. The target is to have screens/field to collect the data in place by fall with the XML transfer to follow (after September 30th).
- Note (from Division) We currently store reading levels in Pearson Inform so if we could pull them out of there into the xml that would be ideal

4. Which fields do you need included in the spreadsheet?

- Ministry Student Learning ID (9 digit number)
- Student first name
- Student last name
- Birth date
- Levelled Reading Tool used (Fountas and Pinnell, DRA, Reading Recovery Levels, Developmental Reading Assessment, PM Benchmarks, Northern Lights, Regina Public, GB+, Alpha-jeunes)
- Instructional reading level attained

5. Is there a new Security role for entering reading levels into SDS?

- Yes. There will be a new role. It will be fully implemented by fall.

6. Has this kind of data already been sent up by the divisions in January 2014?

- The data sent in January was aggregate data. The June 2014 submission is the first in which data at the student level is being collected.

Notes: (provided by Maplewood) Maplewood has the capacity to collect this [reading level] data. We will be testing the xml transfer of this data with the hope to have it ready for this June.

EAL

1. Where are the notes from the February EAL web session and Q&A posted?

- Webinar only: <http://connect.edonline.sk.ca/p247lnm7vn7/> (35 minutes)
- Webinar and Q & A sheet: <https://www.edonline.sk.ca/> (Blackboard login & password required)

Notes: (provided by Maplewood) We will remove the start and end dates from the EAL files so that the SDS defaults will be used.

EEP

1. Can the educators complete the EEP prior to Aug. 28?

- Yes. The EEP will be available beginning August 1st.

SDS

1. Homeroom identifier – Maplewood will send the homeroom "designation". Do we want to include the surname and initial as well?

- Any value up to 25 characters may be used. The addition of the name is not required.

2. Will the attendance submission eventually be completed through SDS? Are you working on the XML format for that? Will there be discoverer reports for that?

- In reference to the Attendance Reporting that is currently in progress (May-June 2014) and continuing into the fall, at this time, there has been no decision made on integrating this data collection into SDS or expanding it to include XML formats.

3. Will this presentation be e-mailed?

- The presentation will be posted on the SDS and XML web.

4. Will data on % [of instruction in] French be captured for Immersion students?

- No. The percentage of instruction is not explicitly captured. It is assumed schools are adhering to the requirements for Immersion designation.

5. Where can we find the ministry designated PreK programs for our division?

The 2014-15 list of Ministry Designated programs will be included in the Frequently Asked Questions document which will be posted to the SDS updates page in August.

6. What steps can be taken to remove students from the "Not ReEnrolled" report when the next school doesn't enroll the students that have moved?

- When all due diligence has been done, or the location of the student is known at another Saskatchewan school, contact the Ministry and the student will be removed from the report.

7. In which bi-weekly bulletin was the Summer School information communicated?

- In the April 17th bi-weekly Director's bulletin.

8. Can you please outline how address changes are handled when they are submitted via xml?

- If an address change is received via XML that is the same as a previous address (for example a school sent address A for a student, the next school sent address B and now address A is being submitted again) the address change will be ignored and a message returned. This is to prevent 'old' values from overwriting current, up to date values.
- If the last address change was made by Ministry staff, then a subsequent address change coming in by XML will be ignored and a message returned. The school may complete the address change by entering it on the SDS web Demographic Update screen.
- Address changes at the grades 10 – 12 level must be closely monitored to ensure transcript mailings are reaching the proper destination.

9. Does the home-based student count include Home schooled students or are they still separate?

- The terms home based and home schooled both refer to students that are educated at home and whose parents have registered an education plan for them.
- Home based (schooled) students are entered at the Division level, associated with the School Division 7 digit number.
- A third designation, home bound, refers to students whose education plan is still administered by a school but who, for specific reasons, are at home for an extended period of time.

Security Administration

1. Are there changes to Security roles that Remote Security Administrators should be aware of for fall 2014?

- Yes. Security roles are being re-vamped to ensure all SDS, EAL, SAS and Student Support Services tasks have proper access. Once these changes have been finalized a webinar for Division Level Security Administrators will be scheduled.