

**Michigan Educational Research
Association, Inc. (MERA)**
(www.merainc.org)

MERA Mission:

The mission of The Michigan Educational Research Association, Inc. is to promote accurate, high quality, appropriate and ethical use of research, assessment, and evaluation practices that improve teaching and learning in education.

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Michigan Educational Research Association, Inc.
c/o Macomb Intermediate School District
44001 Garfield Road,
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Michigan Educational
Research Association, Inc.
(MERA)

Presents

Assessments for
Improving Instruction,
Measuring Growth
and Accountability



(www.merainc.org)

Spring 2016 Conference

May 4, 2016

Bath, Michigan

Program Information

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

8:45—9:45 A.M. Tanya Wright



This session will focus on early literacy assessment. What are some different purposes for early literacy assessment? Which tools are available to meet these purposes? Most importantly, how can we use assessment data to design appropriate literacy instruction for our youngest learners?

9:45—10:30 A.M. Mark Reckase



A computerized adaptive test (CAT) is measurement device that matches the characteristics of the test to the skills and knowledge of the persons being tested. This approach has been used by teachers for generations when they adapt the questions that they ask students to what they know about

the student. In the ideal case, adaptive tests can be very efficient and very humane. But large scale usage of CAT can distort the procedure so that it is far from the ideal case and loses its efficiency and it is no longer humane. This session will describe the ideal case and the distortions (mutations) that can make this approach less than ideal.

10:40 —11:40 A.M. Tamika Chambers & Michael Nathan

This year, close to 700,000 students in Michigan will take NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. This number represents approximately 70% of the state's K-12 enrollment. Join NWEA's National and Senior Account Managers for a lively discussion around computer-adaptive testing, appropriate uses of MAP data, and the importance of selecting an assessment that provides immediate, valid and reliable data. Additionally, learn how the data provides insight for collaboration with educational resources and accountability tools.

11:40—12:30 P.M. Lunch

12:30—1:15 P.M. David Judd & Andrew Middlestead

M-STEP, SAT, and WorkKeys: An update on year 2 of Michigan's transitioning assessment system. Including an update on the new computer adaptive (CAT) features of the M-STEP English Language Arts and Mathematics assessments.

1:15—2:00 P.M. Christopher Janzer

Chris will provide an overview of the accountability provisions in the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the replacement to No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Initial thinking and stakeholder feedback regarding what may be included Michigan's new accountability system will be provided. We will also spend some time going through accountability transition plans and timelines leading up to the implementation of a new Michigan Accountability System.

2:15—3:00 P.M. Roderick Bernosky & Jessica Fenby

MI School Data is the State of Michigan's official public portal for education data to help citizens, educators and policy makers make informed decisions that can lead to improved success for our students. There are a variety of new reports on MI School Data including Early Childhood Child Counts, Early Childhood Kindergarten Participation, Financial Transparency Dashboard, Student Pathways Aggregate, and other reports in the works.

3:00—4:30 P.M. Ted Gardella & MI SAT Team

This session will feature an update on the Michigan Implementation of the SAT suite of assessments. Information provided will include data on fall testing results and usage of the College Board's new Electronic Scores and Reporting portal, Khan academy linking data, and a summary of the April testing experience. In discussing the latest developments for the SAT suite of assessments, discussion will include the development of the benchmark scores for each assessment and plans for review of the initial benchmarks. Presenters will also discuss concordance between the SAT and ACT, as well as plans for online implementations of the SAT suite of assessments.

Registration/Conference Information

Directions for On-line Registration:

1. Go to www.misd.net
2. Click on Course Offerings
3. Click on View by Category
4. Select the "MERA" category from the scroll-down menu. Click "Go"
5. Select "MERA Spring Conference"
6. Follow the registration instructions to complete your registration! (If you would like SCECHs and/or a vegetarian meal, please indicate that in the "Special Needs/Comments/Requests" field.)
7. A confirmation of registration will be sent via email
8. If you have any questions regarding registrations, please contact Jim Gullen at jgullen@misd.net
9. Please register by Monday, May 2, 2016.

**Advanced on-line registration is encouraged, but day of registrations, at the conference, will be accepted.*

Conference Cost: (Select one)

- \$75.00 Registration Fee
- \$50.00 Retiree or Student Registration

Conference Location:

Eagle Eye Conference Center

15500 Chandler Road

Bath, Michigan, 48808

- Conference Questions/Information: David Treder
(810) 591-4971 or dtreder@geneseisd.org