NSCAS Growth Update

June 30, 2021

Agenda

- NSCAS Growth Winter Pilot Participation Guidance
- NSCAS Growth Test Management
- NSCAS Growth Test Design & Data Update

NSCAS Growth Winter Pilot Participation Guidance

2021-2022 Timeline Partially Operational

Fall

MAP Growth*

(Science, Reading, Language, Math)

Winter

NSCAS Growth Pilot

(ELA, Math)

MAP Growth*

(Science, *Reading, Language, Math*)

Spring

NSCAS Growth

(ELA, Math)

NSCAS Summative

(Science)

MAP Growth* (Science, *Reading, Language, Math*)

*District optional

NDE Recommendation for MAP Growth in 2021-22

- If your district relies upon MAP Growth data for any processes-should plan on giving MAP Growth in 2021-2022 as you would if we were not transitioning to NSCAS Growth.

NSCAS Growth
Winter Pilot Participation Guidance

- NSCAS Growth
  - (Grades 3-8, English Language Arts & Mathematics)
- Data needs for the pilot
  - Sample size: minimum of 5000 completed assessments for each grade and content area
  - Representation: the sample must be representative of the student population across the state
  - Non-participation **will not** result in negative consequences for any accountability purposes

NSCAS Growth
Winter Pilot Participation Guidance

- NSCAS Growth
  - (Grades 3-8, English Language Arts & Mathematics)
- All students will participate in a single assessment, either ELA or mathematics
  - NDE will assign the assessments, students in the same class will take the same test for logistical ease
- Districts may opt to give students both assessments

NSCAS Growth
Winter Pilot Participation Benefits

- Participation in the winter NSCAS Growth pilot is an important step forward in our effort make to make assessment more relevant to teaching and learning. Participation in the pilot will:
  - Provide a large enough sample size to validate the results of the assessment and support studies needed for the operational assessment to produce instructionally relevant data types that help educators and administrators foster learning.
  - Give students, educators, and administrators a chance to experience an early version of the NSCAS Growth assessment and provide feedback on the enhanced interface.
  - Support a more individualized and efficient spring NSCAS Growth assessment, as we expect students' winter NSCAS Growth pilot results to inform item selection on their spring NSCAS Growth assessments (barring any unexpected research findings from the winter pilot). This approach is in preparation for the operational version of NSCAS Growth, in which the fall test informs the winter test, and the winter test informs the spring test.

NSCAS Growth Test Management & Experience

New NSCAS Growth Platform

- Today's preview of the new platform will cover the following areas:
  - Student Rostering/Registration (Assigning tests)
  - Proctoring Experience
  - Student Experience

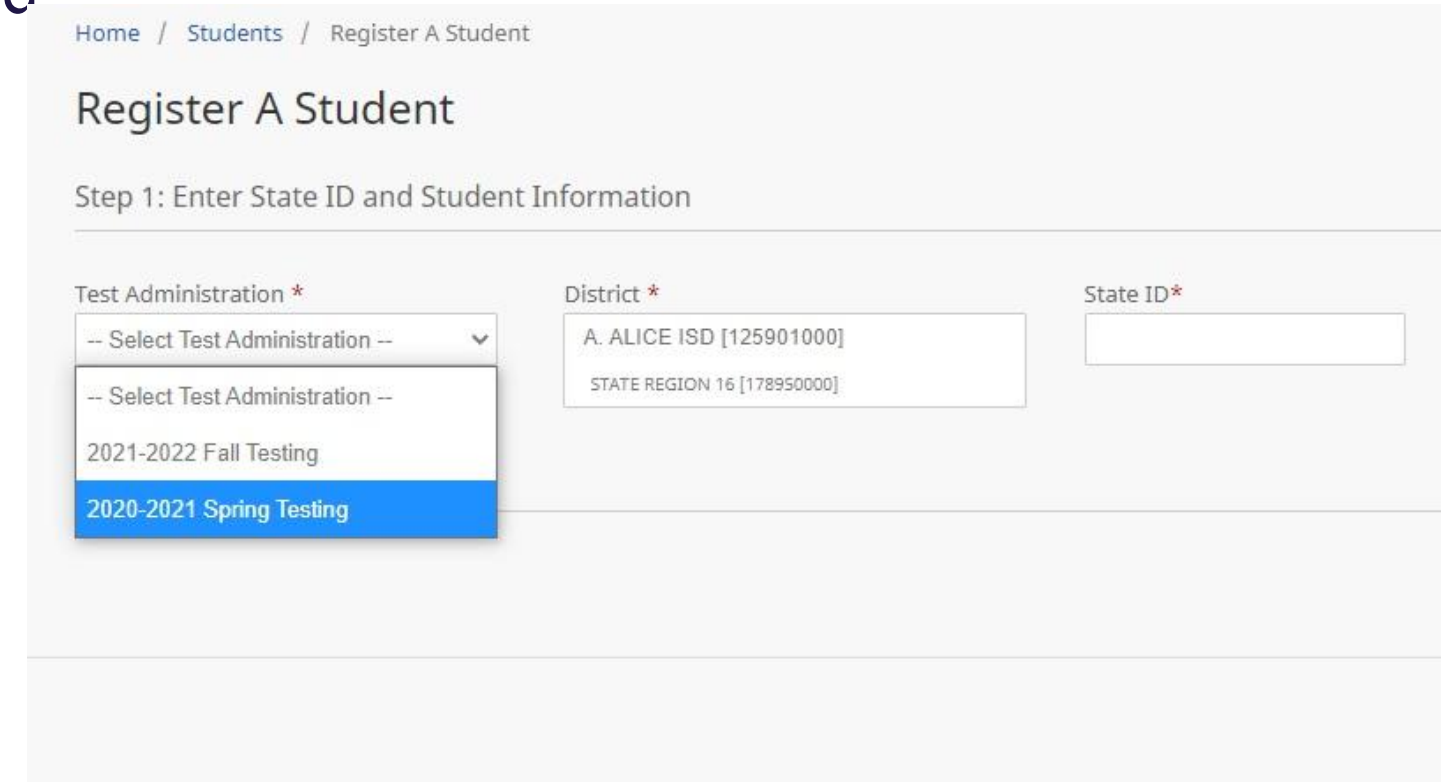
As we are still making changes, screenshots are representative of the final experience

Feedback about Assessment Administration Experiences

- Feedback gathered includes:
  - Time spent creating Test Sessions
  - Difficulties transferring students between districts
  - Need for more flexible User Roles
  - More streamlined approach to off-site testing (such as External Programs)

Test Administrations

- Students are rostered to a Test Administration – Similar to Terms in MAP Growth and NSCAS
- Test Administration determines the test window dates and which tests are available for which grades



Student Rostering

- The process for importing rosters will be similar to how it exists today for MAP Growth and NSCAS
- Rostering will automatically assign students applicable tests and add students into test sessions
- Accommodations can also be assigned via the roster process
  - Removes the need for manual test session creation or accommodation assignments

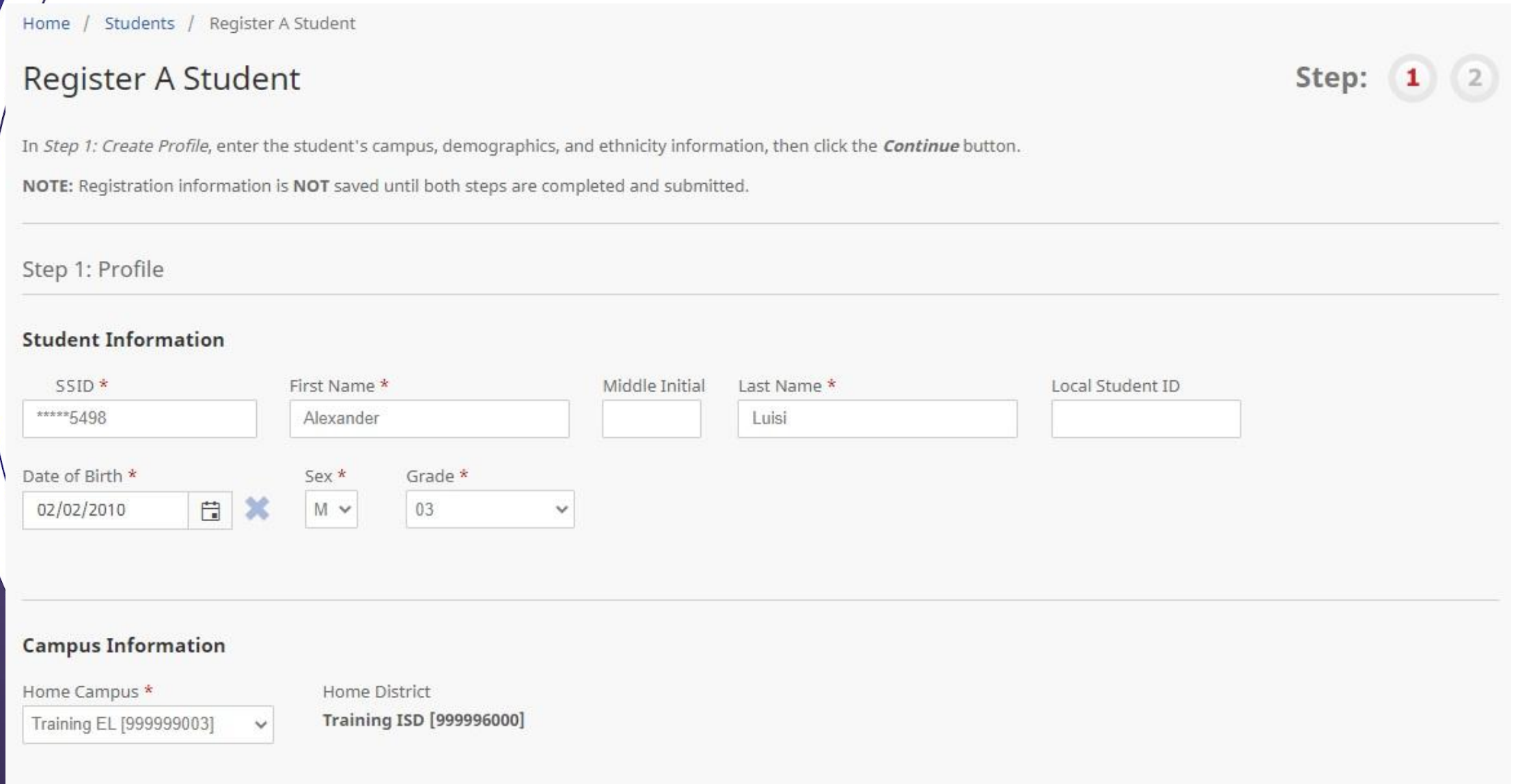
Student Rostering

- Test Sessions can automatically be created by class information provided in the roster
- In-platform ability to transfer students between districts and notifications to DACs when students have been transferred
- Accommodate current autoroster for winter

Student Rostering

- As with MAP Growth / NSCAS, any errors in the file will be identified for you to make corrections and re-import
- Errors can be exported as a .csv file to make it easier to identify and compare to your file
- Once imported, applicable tests will be assigned to the student and any accommodations identified in the file will be assigned

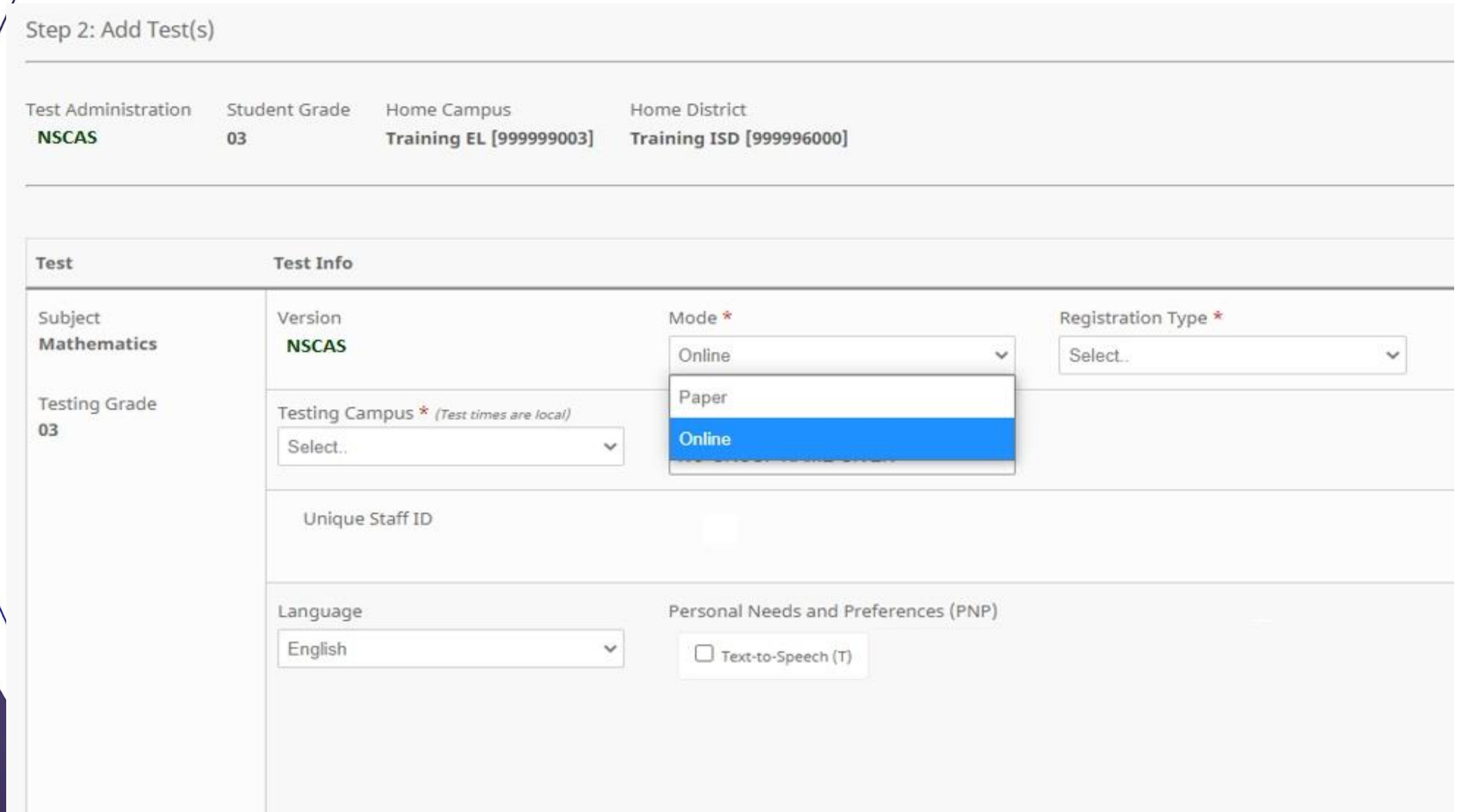
Student Registration – Profile Creation



Student Registration – Profile Creation

- Tests and Accommodations are automatically assigned to the student for that Test Administration via the profile
- Ability to select Online or Paper
- Can select a Home Campus and Testing Campus to identify where student tests
- Can select Out-of-District testing for off-site test administration locations (Such as External Programs)

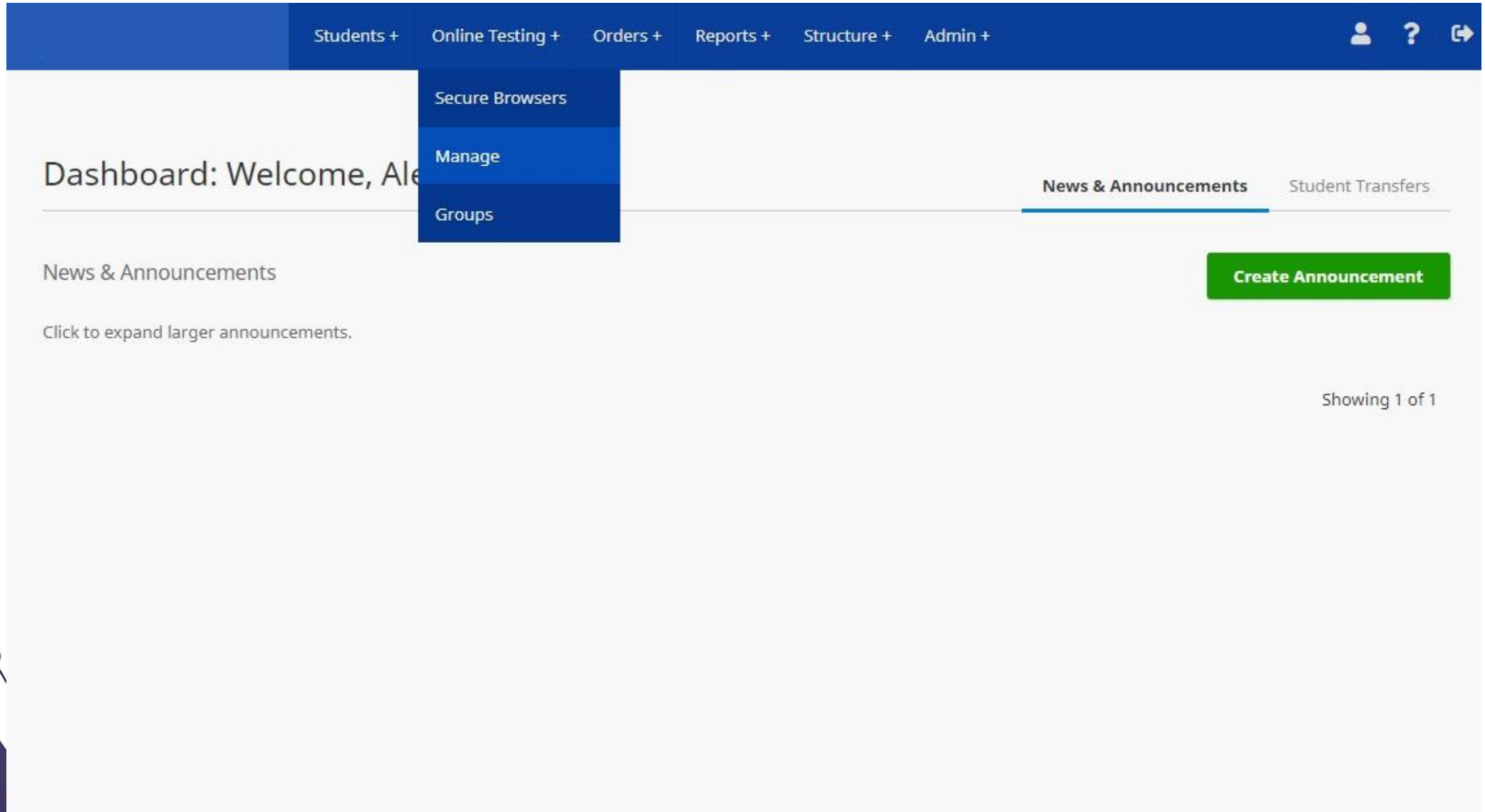
Student Registration – Test Assignment



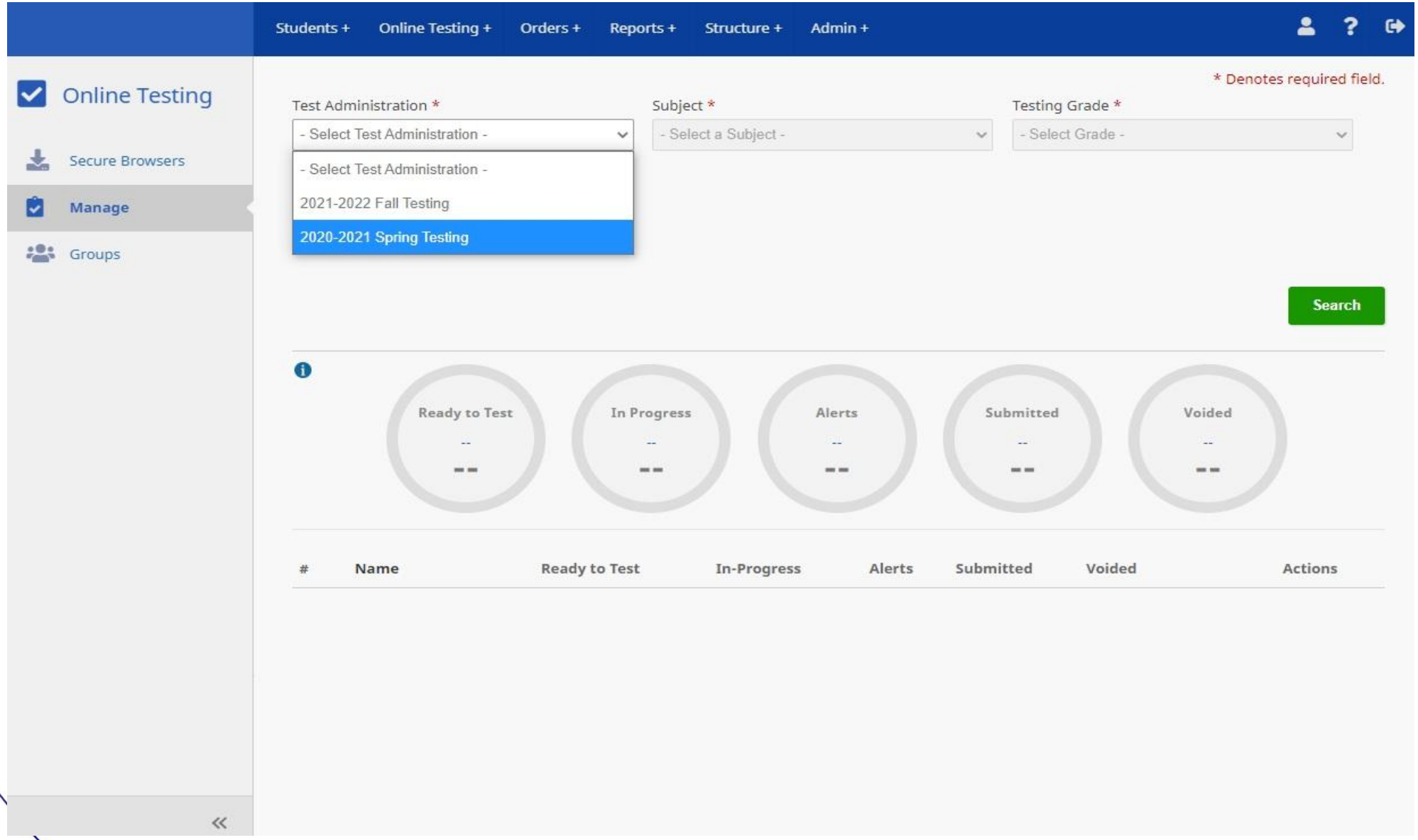
Proctoring on New NSCAS Growth Platform

- Users Roles offer additional flexibility
- Proctoring is monitored via a Dashboard
- Proctors do not need to take direct actions such as confirming or pausing students while overseeing testing
- Students will be grouped by testing status and shown as a percentage to easily identify testing progress

Accessing Online Test Management



Selecting Testing Sessions



Monitoring Test Sessions

View: Testing List | Test Attributes

#	Name	SSID	Test Status	Campus	Group	Sync Status	PNP	Response Count	Actions
1	GROSS, OCONE	*****0000	Sep 06, 2018 10:15 AM PDT	Training J H [999996004]	GROUP NAME	⊗	R,T	N/A	
2	NINTH, ONLINE	*****4000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training Middle [999996002]	GROUP NAME	✓	---	N/A	
3	NINTH, ONLINE	*****2000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training J H [999996004]	GROUP NAME	✓	---	N/A	
4	NINTH, ONLINE	*****0000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training H S [999996009]	New grou test name	⊗	R,T	N/A	
5	NINTH, ONLINE	*****6000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training EL [999999003]	TEST Group ALG I	⊗	T	N/A	
6	TWELFTH, ONLINE	*****0000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training Middle [999996002]	GROUP NAME	✓	---	N/A	
7	TWELFTH, ONLINE	*****8000	Dec 29, 2017 9:47 AM PST	Training J H [999996004]	GROUP NAME	✓	---	N/A	
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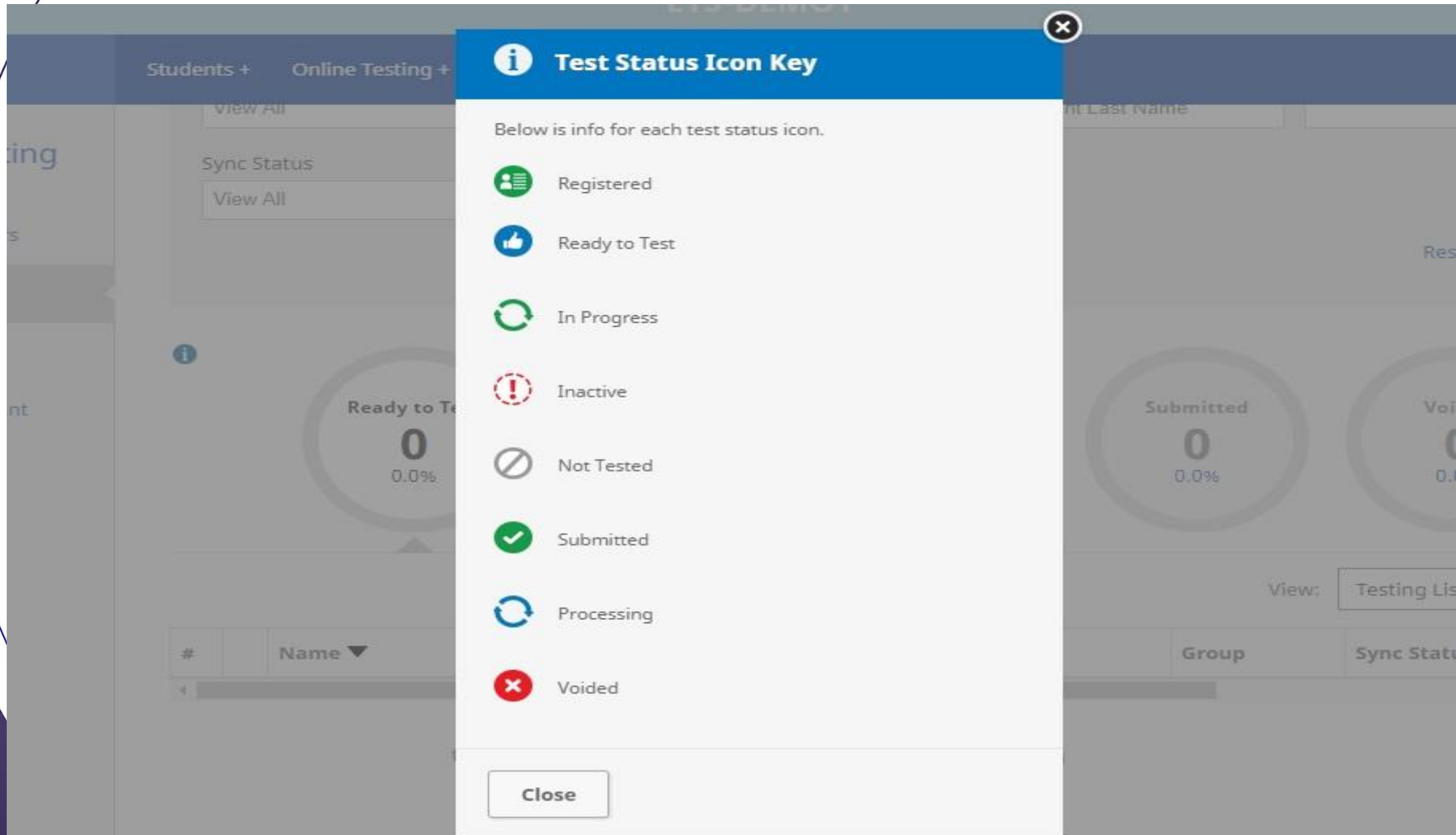
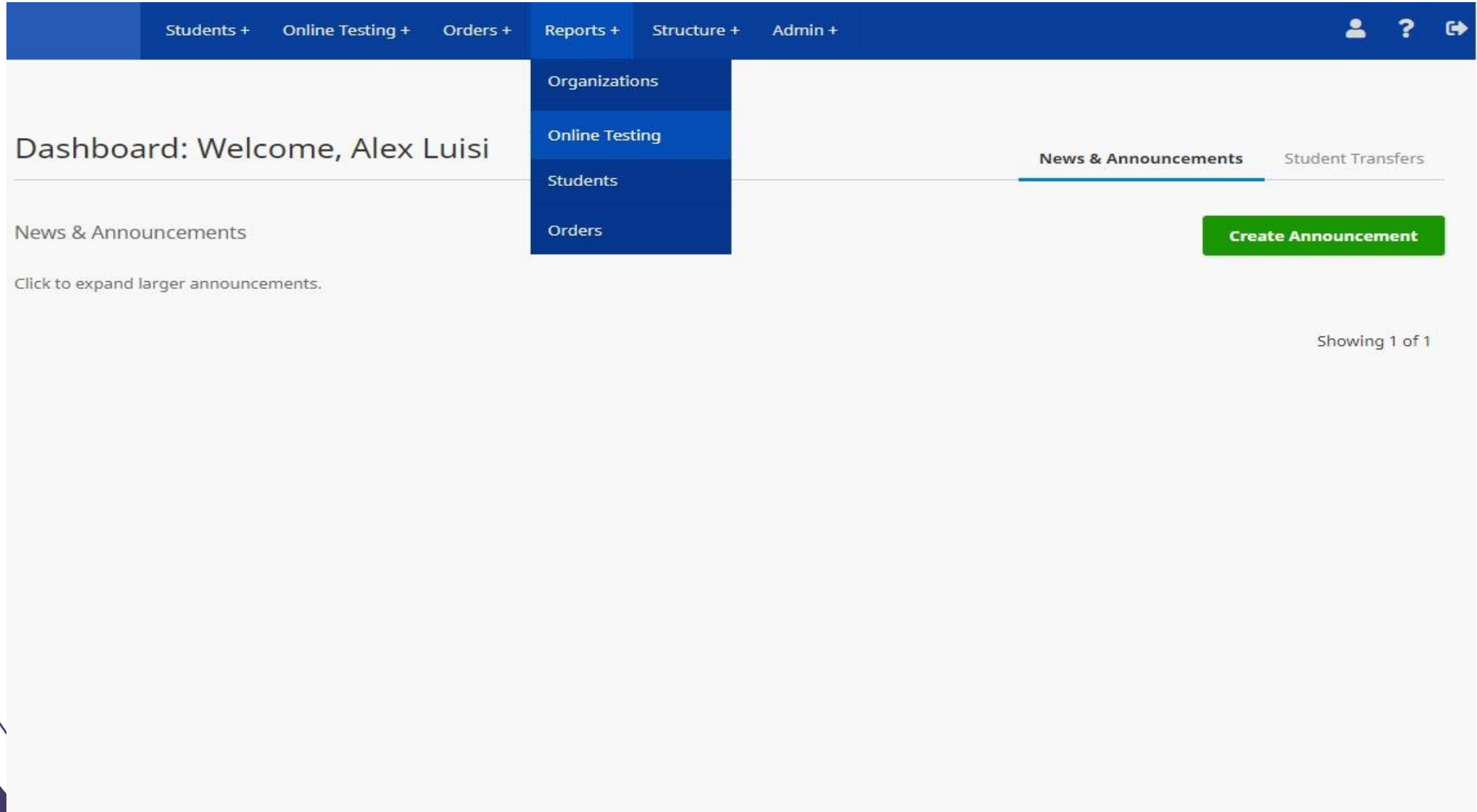
Showing 1 of 1

Test Session Status



Accessing Testing Progress Reports



Test Progress Reports Available

- Similar to Operational Reports in MAP Growth
- Below are some of the available test progress reports:
  - Export of all students rostered to the Test Admin
  - Testing completion status of students
  - All students transferred in and out of the district
  - Students testing at an out-of-district location
  - Paper/pencil orders

Logging Students into Sessions

- As with MAP Growth and NSCAS, test sessions have unique login credentials
- Login credentials are available to DACs and Proctors via test tickets provided to students
- Access to test tickets can be configured by user role, we plan to give access to proctors to help with distribution

Student Experience

- Students log in using a new Secure Browser application
  - Available on Windows, Mac, Chromebook and iOS – same devices as MAP Growth and NSCAS
- Secure Browser performs checks on OS, device configuration, bandwidth and allow list when launching
  - No need to run a separate diagnostic site on student devices prior to testing
- Item Type Sampler / Practice tests available
- Similar tools and formats of questions

NSCAS Growth New Platform

- The shift to this new platform will help support through-year assessments moving forward
- Working on a training plan to provide additional information on the system and ensure all NE districts are prepared to use the system by Winter
- Participants in the NSCAS Growth Winter Pilot will have the first opportunity to use the new platform and to provide feedback

NSCAS Growth Test Design

NSCAS Innovation—Still Moving Forward

- Still working towards providing the best of MAP Growth and NSCAS Summative
- Key step is the linking study to establish link to RIT
- Initial finding are promising; enable us to continue moving forward and combine the two item banks

Linking Study--Findings

- Used match results from MAP Growth & NSCAS Phase I Pilot from the spring of 2021
  - Any measurement has a range of error
    - Same test given on the exact same day would likely have a different result
  - Assessments were not designed for the same purpose
    - Summative vs. Interim
  - These assessments have differences in design
    - On grade vs. Off grade
  - Differences in when the assessments were given
    - As much as a month difference between administrations
  - COVID Limitations
    - Unfinished learning and less data

Linking Study

Table 4.1. Descriptive Statistics of RIT and Linked RIT Scores

	RIT (Fall 2020) *					RIT (Spring 2021)*					IRT Linked RIT (MS) (Recommendation)			
Grade	N	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	N	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
ELA_RD														
3	16,719	189.71	15.82	140	239	18,442	198.98	15.76	135	245	196.61	13.18	137	238
4	13,995	199.24	15.08	145	249	15,462	206.08	15.28	140	260	203.59	12.06	154	255
5	14,209	206.62	14.70	147	250	15,761	211.71	14.93	145	262	209.44	11.74	161	255
6	14,333	212.07	14.31	152	254	16,242	215.00	15.08	156	261	213.74	11.40	165	269
7	13,183	215.66	14.52	155	261	14,873	217.58	15.45	154	267	215.07	11.73	167	256
8	11,935	219.37	14.76	154	267	13,503	221.27	15.51	151	274	219.19	11.87	174	264
MA_MA														
3	14,106	188.78	12.76	121	250	15,609	202.49	14.22	138	266	203.95	13.98	171	256
4	14,122	199.78	13.54	134	256	15,548	211.21	15.64	139	269	216.23	16.78	171	281
5	14,379	209.23	14.39	135	310	15,897	219.38	17.21	144	289	223.59	17.05	174	292
6	13,951	215.48	14.12	141	276	15,687	223.27	16.78	146	288	226.88	16.40	180	294
7	12,725	222.44	15.38	146	283	14,345	227.94	17.85	138	307	231.05	16.61	185	303
8	11,722	228.39	16.50	146	297	13,316	232.81	19.15	136	316	237.72	17.52	187	310

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6	14,333	212.07	14.31	152	254	16,242	215.00	15.08	156	261	213.74	11.40	165	269
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Next Steps—Winter Pilot

- Provide an opportunity for educators and students to experience a version of the new model
  - Like this spring, we are still considering the length of the assessment
- Gather feedback on test administration and reporting
- Validate data gathered from spring 2021

Next Steps—Winter Pilot

- How can we provide the data that you expect from MAP Growth?
- How can we provide even better on grade information to inform instruction?
- How can we still calculate reliable proficiency determinations for accountability?

Comparison

	NSCAS Growth Test Design	MAP Growth	NSCAS Summative
Common Blueprint	☑	☑	☑
Measures Growth	☑	☑	
Measures Proficiency	☑		☑
Adapts on-grade	☑		☑
Adapts off-grade	☑	☑	
Diagnostic feedback	☑		
Bank proficiency	☑		

- The Integrated Through-year design provides a more comprehensive picture of student learning throughout the school year.

NSCAS Growth

- Allows measurement goals to be defined at runtime based on prior knowledge about the student and knowledge gained within the current test
  - Maximum efficiency—stop asking questions about what students know and can do when we already know the answers and use time saved to ask questions, we don't know the answers to yet
  - Actionable results tailored to each student—start asking questions that relate directly to what students and teachers need to know to improve instruction multiple times a year, not just annually

Winter Pilot Test Model

- Test begins with on-grade Nebraska items
  - Items used to estimate where a student will be in NE achievement level classifications
  - Initial simulations used 27 items in Part 1 of this test

Winter Pilot Test Model

- After engine estimates the student's ability level, it can refocus the blueprint
  - Engine then focuses blueprint to more complex items, including on- and off-grade items, to challenge student
  - Engine can also determine areas of need, even for proficient students
  - Combination of both can appear in the diagnostic part
  - Initial simulations used 13 items in Part 2 of this test
    - Length may change to provide more information for instruction

NSCAS Growth Blueprint for Grade 5

ELA Content first 27 items

Reporting Category	Number of Items Spring 2019	Number of Items Spring 2021	Number of Items Part 1 Winter 21/22 Pilot
Vocabulary	8	4	6
Comprehension	23	13	15
Writing	10	6	6
Total	**41**	**23**	**27**

Math Content first 27 items

Reporting Category	Number of Items Spring 2019	Number of Items Spring 2021	Number of Items Part 1 Winter 21/22 Pilot
Number	17	9	10
Algebra	10	5	7
Geometry	8	5	5
Data	6	4	5
Total	**41**	**23**	**27**

Design Considerations

- Each administration of NSCAS Growth will inform the next administration; additional build in efficiencies to maximize the information for teachers
- By the end of the year, we need enough evidence to make a grade-level proficiency determination but still have the ability to go off grade to provide data to teachers about the student and accurately capture growth data
- NSCAS Growth will provide better information about each student for their current grade level but still allow students to go off grade
- When adapting off-grade, the current model is giving priority to the adjacent grade when that content is available.
- If/when students receive content that is off-grade, the prioritization of the off-grade content will mirror the on-grade blueprint.

Grade Level Configurations

- On-grade content is prioritized over off-grade content
- Areas for support are prioritized over areas of strength
- Content within the grade is prioritized by percent of the blueprint
- When moving off-grade, content from the adjacent grades above and below is prioritized over other grades
- Content specific criteria is also considered (number of question per passage, calculator availability, reference sheet access)

Growth Scores and Grade Level Information

- Personalized Reports
  - Strengths and areas of learning needs of students in terms of the number of easy/average/hard items student was given and answered correctly
- Predicted achievement level classification
- Linked MAP Growth RIT score
  - RIT score is calculated from all items on the test and designed to be a close approximation of the MAP Growth RIT score

Report Updates

Winter Pilot Data File Expectations: April 22

Yes
StudentLastName
StudentFirstName
StudentMI
StudentID
Student_StateID
StudentDateOfBirth
StudentGender
Grade
TestRITScore*
Goal[x]Name*
Goal[x]RitScore*
Goal[x]StdErr*
Goal[x]Range*

No
PercentCorrect
RapidGuessingPercentage
[x to x]ProjectedGrowth
[x to x]ObservedGrowth
[x to x]ObservedGrowthSE
[x to x]MetProjectedGrowth
[x to x]ConditionalGrowthIndex
[x to x]ConditionalGrowthPercentile
[x to x]GrowthQuintile
Typical[x to x]Growth
ProjectedProficiencyStudy[x]
ProjectedProficiencyLevel[x]

Maybe
TestPercentile
Goal[x]Adjective*

New
NscasScaleScore
NscasStdErr

*Through-year equivalent/naming convention (eg, linked RIT)

*Exact format/information type TBD

Winter Pilot Data File Expectations: June 24

Yes
StudentLastName
StudentFirstName
StudentMI
StudentID
Student_StateID
StudentDateOfBirth
StudentGender
Grade
TestRITScore*
Goal[x]Name*
Goal[x]RitScore*
Goal[x]StdErr*
Goal[x]Range*
TestPercentile

No
~~PercentCorrect~~
RapidGuessingPercentage
[x to x]ProjectedGrowth
[x to x]ObservedGrowth
[x to x]ObservedGrowthSE
[x to x]MetProjectedGrowth
[x to x]ConditionalGrowthIndex
[x to x]ConditionalGrowthPercentile
[x to x]GrowthQuintile
Typical[x to x]Growth
ProjectedProficiencyStudy[x]
ProjectedProficiencyLevel[x]

Maybe
Goal[x]Adjective*

New
NscasScaleScore
NscasStdErr

Additional Information
Test duration
Accommodations/tools usage

*Through-year equivalent/naming convention (eg, linked RIT)

*Exact format/information type TBD

Winter Pilot Data File Expectations:

- Continue to explore if we can provide additional data that districts currently expect from MAP Growth

Next Steps

- Targeting Administrator Days
  - Overall summary of NSCAS Growth
  - Short introductory videos
  - Recorded vignettes into specific areas of NSCAS Growth
  - Supporting resources

- Nothing is in Stone; We Continue Innovating and Moving Forward

Q&A

Thank you!