

Project #5 ~ Grading and Assessment

Project Goals/Desired Outcomes: Expand teacher capacity to personalize learning for all students by developing and fostering the implementation of a fair and equitable grading and assessment policy in all District schools that provides for the increased use of data to drive instruction, learning, and assessment, including ongoing feedback to students to positively impact their progress and promotes the use of data by educators to effectively align resources to meet student needs.

Narrative: The Grading and Assessment Task Force (GATF) launched in 2011 is the primary vehicle for developing the recommendations that upon School Board approval will become the new grading and assessment policy for New Haven Unified School District. The Task Force members represent each school in the District. The work of the Task Force includes study and review of research in best practices in grading and assessment, observational and document study of all District formative and summative assessments including classroom assessments, grade level and school-wide assessments, NWEA; standardized assessments (CST and SBAC), report cards; progress reports and informal feedback to students about their learning.

The Task Force is deeply engaged in outlining the purpose of assessment as an instrument and tool for supporting and promoting student learning progress and growth.

Throughout the development of recommendations period, the Task Force will pilot assessment practices in classrooms and observe and document assessments for learning that are currently in place in District schools.

In addition to presenting the policy recommendations, the GATF expects to actively support the implementation of the new system by facilitating informational professional development (PD) for Instructional Leadership Teams and other groupings of educational professionals about the content, rationale, processes and procedures of the new system.

Key Performance Measures: Table (A)(4)(a) Performance on summative assessments (proficiency status and growth); Table (A)(4)(b) Decreasing achievement gaps; Table (A)(4)(c) Graduation rates; Table (A)(4)(d) College enrollment; Table E(3)c. Percentage of students District-wide achieving at least 1 year of growth per year on NWEA English Language Arts test; Table E(3)d a) Percentage of Kindergarten students who reach grade-level literacy cut point on NWEA by end of Kindergarten; Table E(3)d b) The number and percentage of participating students, by subgroup, who are meeting 75% of their social-emotional indicators by the end of Trimester 1; Table E(3)e. Performance Measure (Grades 4-8 – a) a) The number and percentage of participating students, by subgroup, who are on track to college- and career-readiness based on the number and percentage of 6th grade students achieving NWEA assessment; b) Percentage of students Achieving Proficiency on NWEA Math in Gr. 6 (Spring 2012 NWEA Math Scores of 228 RIT or Greater).

Cross-reference to other projects: The Grading and Assessment project relates to Project 1 (Literacy and CCSS), Project 3 (Teacher / Principal Evaluation) and Project 4 (Technology and Personalization).

Activities for Project 5					Activities for Project 5		
Item	Activities, Tasks, Milestones, and Deliverables	Key Personnel	Start Date (mm/dd/yy)	End Date (mm/dd/yy)	Change from application (includes pg. reference)	Rationale for change	Implications on other activities, performance measures, and budget?
5	<i>Project 5 ~ Grading and Assessment</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	1/1/13	12/26/16			
5.1	Activity 5.1: Schedule Grading and Assessment Task Force (GATF) meetings	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	1/1/13	6/30/14			
5.1.1	Task 5.1.1: Create a schedule of meetings	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	1/1/13	1/31/13			
5.1.2	Task 5.1.2: Schedule and hire substitute teachers for GATF members for meeting days	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	2/1/13	2/28/13			
5.1.3	Task 5.1.3: Collaboratively develop and disseminate agendas	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	2/1/13	3/31/13			
5.1.4	Task 5.1.4: Collaboratively develop and disseminate agendas	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	4/1/13	6/30/14			
5.1.5	<i>Deliverable 5.1.5: Meeting calendar schedule; Meeting agendas; completion of hiring and scheduling of substitute teachers</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			
5.1.6	<i>Milestone 5.1.6: Meeting schedule completed; all agendas and minutes are disseminated; all substitutes are hired and scheduled for GAFT meeting days</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			
5.2	Activity 5.2: 5 Complete study visits by GATF members in groupings of 6 to NHUSD classrooms to observe classroom assessment practices to inform grading and assessment recommendations	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	4/30/14			
5.2.1	Task 5.2.1: Develop Study Visit document and After Study Visit summary document	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	9/30/13			

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5.2.2	Task 5.2.2: Select schools and classrooms and schedule visits	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	9/30/13			
5.2.3	Task 5.2.3: Hire half-day substitute teachers to replace GAFT members participating in study visits	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	12/23/13			
5.2.4	<i>Deliverable 5.2.4: Schedule of grading and assessment study visits; hiring of substitutes for GATF members; completion of study visits</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/30/13	9/30/13			
5.2.5	<i>Deliverable 5.2.5: Completed Study Visit worksheet and After Study Visit Summary documents</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/31/14	3/31/14			
5.2.6	<i>Milestone 5.2.6: Collection and dissemination of study visit observations; identification of classroom assessment practices that may be included in a comprehensive District system for grading and assessment</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	4/30/14	4/30/14			
5.3	Activity 5.3: Complete grading and assessment recommendations through regularly scheduled GATF collaborative meetings and additional after school and summer meeting	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	8/31/14			
5.3.1	Task 5.3.1: Develop a schedule and calendar for after school and summer collaborative work	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	9/30/13			
5.3.2	Task 5.3.2: Arrange for stipends for GATF members participating in after school and summer collaborative work	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	9/30/13			

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5.3.3	Task 5.3.3: Develop agendas and collaborative work deliverables for after school and summer work	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	11/30/13			
5.3.4	Task 5.3.4: Meet with GATF to work to: create guidelines for new policies, plans for disseminating materials, PD plans, web-based links, and hard copy materials	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	11/30/13			
5.3.5	Task 5.3.5: Develop agendas and collaborative work deliverables for after school and summer work	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/13	2/28/14			
5.3.6	Task 5.3.6: Meet with GATF to work to: create guidelines for new policies, plans for disseminating materials, PD plans, web-based links, and hard copy materials	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/13	2/28/14			
5.3.7	Task 5.3.7: Develop agendas and collaborative work deliverables for after school and summer work	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/14	5/31/14			
5.3.8	Task 5.3.8: Meet with GATF to work to: create guidelines for new policies, plans for disseminating materials, PD plans, web-based links, and hard copy materials	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/14	5/31/14			
5.3.9	<i>Deliverable 5.3.9: Meeting schedule and agendas</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.3.10	<i>Deliverable 5.3.10: Guidelines for new policy completed</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.3.11	<i>Deliverable 5.3.11: Completed plans for dissemination of new grading and assessment policy recommendations</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			

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5.3.12	<i>Deliverable 5.3.12: Plan for PD supports for pedagogical and District community.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.3.13	<i>Deliverable 5.3.13: Plan and design of web-based and hard copy materials for new grading and assessment policy (draft).</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			
5.3.14	<i>Milestone 5.3.14: Completed meeting work plans with outlined goals for deliverables</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.3.15	<i>Milestone 5.3.15: Draft and final grading and assessment policy recommendations; published PD plan for the new grading and assessment policy; grading and assessment products and information printed in hard copy and web-based</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.4	Activity 5.4: Production and presentation of grading and assessment policy recommendations	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/14	6/30/14			
5.4.1	Task 5.4.1: Development of draft and final document of recommendations for new grading and assessment policy for NHUSD	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/14	5/31/14			
5.4.2	Task 5.4.2: Complete design and content of web-based and hard copy new grading and assessment system materials	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/14	6/30/14			
5.4.3	<i>Deliverable 5.4.3: Grading and assessment policy recommendations to NHUSD</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	5/31/14	5/31/14			
5.4.4	<i>Deliverable 5.4.4: Web-based and hard copy new grading and assessment system documents</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			
5.4.5	<i>Milestone 5.4.5: Completed grading and assessment policy recommendations for NHUSD; Grading and assessment products and information printed in hard copy and web-based.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/14	6/30/14			

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5.5	Activity 5.5: Purchase grading and assessment research based materials including articles, DVD's	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	4/30/14			
5.5.1	Task 5.5.1: GAFT team collaboratively research and identify materials that would best inform their goals	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/13	11/30/13			
5.5.2	Task 5.5.2: Purchase of professional materials from designated organization	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/13	2/28/14			
5.5.3	Task 5.5.3: Create a document that outlines the key points and rationale from research based study materials that would be integrated and or cited in the recommended grading and assessment policy recommendation	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	2/1/14	3/31/14			
5.5.4	<i>Deliverable 5.5.4: Identification and ordering of materials; viewing, study and review of materials; use of new learning from materials to inform and refine the developing grading and assessment policy recommendations</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/31/14	3/31/14			
5.5.5	<i>Milestone 5.5.5: Grading and assessment materials purchased</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	4/30/14	4/30/14			
5.6	Activity 5.6: Support the implementation of new grading and assessment policies by hiring and deploying assessment coaches.	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	6/15/15			
5.6.1	Task 5.6.1: Create job description for assessment coach	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	8/1/14			
5.6.2	Task 5.6.2: Hire 14 assessment coaches	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/1/14	8/31/14			

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5.6.3	Task 5.6.3: Assessment Coaches support staff in implementing new NHUSD grading policies and in using data to inform instruction	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/14	11/30/14			
5.6.4	Task 5.6.4: Assessment Coaches continue their support of staff in implementing new NHUSD grading policies and in using data to inform instruction	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/14	2/28/15			
5.6.5	Task 5.6.5: Assessment Coaches continue their support of staff in implementing new NHUSD grading policies and in using data to inform instruction	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/15	6/15/15			
5.6.6	<i>Deliverable 5.6.6: Assessment coach job description; assessment coaches hired</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.6.7	<i>Milestone 5.6.7: Teachers use data to inform grading and assessment</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/15/15	6/15/15			
5.7	Activity 5.7: Hire 12 PD facilitators (GATF team members and others) part-time for the 2014-15 school year	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	6/30/15			
5.7.1	Task 5.7.1: Create job description for PD facilitator to support the implementation of NHUSD new grading and assessment policy	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	8/31/14			

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5.7.2	Task 5.7.2: Create content and protocols for the PD support of dissemination and implementation of the new grading and assessment policy	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	8/31/14			
5.7.3	Task 5.7.3: Hire and designate facilitators of the PD for the new NHUSD grading and assessment policy	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/14	8/31/14			
5.7.4	Task 5.7.4: Develop a schedule with the Instructional Leadership Teams (ILTs) for PD on the new NHUSD grading and assessment policy	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/1/14	9/30/14			
5.7.5	<i>Deliverable 5.7.5: Completed job description for new grading and assessment policy PD facilitators.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/30/14	8/30/14			
5.7.6	<i>Deliverable 5.7.6: Completed content and protocols for PD.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/30/14	9/30/14			
5.7.7	<i>Deliverable 5.7.7: Completed hiring of PD facilitators</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/30/14	9/30/14			
5.7.8	<i>Milestone 5.7.8: All PD facilitator positions staffed; informational PD facilitation completed at all school sites</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/15	6/30/15			

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5.8	Activity 5.8: Provide PD for Instructional Leadership Teams (ILTs), on the content, rationale and implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS) assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	7/1/14	6/30/15			
5.8.1	Task 5.8.1: Develop criteria for content of PD	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	7/1/14	7/31/14			
5.8.2	Task 5.8.2: Identify and designate a PD provider	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/1/14	8/31/14			
5.8.3	Task 5.8.3: Contract with the designated PD provider for CCSS assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/1/14	8/31/14			
5.8.4	Task 5.8.4: Develop a schedule to implement CC assessments PD	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/1/14	8/31/14			
5.8.5	Task 5.8.5: Provide PD for ILT's around CC assessments - Quarter 1	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/14	11/30/14			
5.8.6	Task 5.8.6: Develop a survey around CC assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	10/1/14	11/30/14			
5.8.7	Task 5.8.7: Administer the survey	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	11/1/14	11/30/14			

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5.8.8	Task 5.8.8: Assess and report the effectiveness of the PD on Common Core assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/14	12/23/14			
5.8.9	Task 5.8.9: Provide PD for ILT's around CC assessments - Quarter 2	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/14	2/28/15			
5.8.10	Task 5.8.10: Develop a survey around CC assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	1/1/15	2/28/15			
5.8.11	Task 5.8.11: Administer the survey	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	2/1/15	2/28/15			
5.8.12	Task 5.8.12: Assess and report the effectiveness of the PD on Common Core assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/15	3/31/15			
5.8.13	Task 5.8.13: Provide PD for ILT's around CC assessments - Quarter 3	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/15	5/31/15			
5.8.14	Task 5.8.14: Develop a survey around CC assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	5/1/15	5/15/15			
5.8.15	Task 5.8.15: Administer the survey	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	5/16/15	5/31/15			
5.8.16	Task 5.8.16: Assess and report the effectiveness of the PD on Common Core assessments	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/1/15	6/30/15			
5.8.17	<i>Deliverable 5.8.17: Identified provider of Common Core assessment PD.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.8.18	<i>Deliverable 5.8.18: Completed contract with designated PD provider.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	8/31/14	8/31/14			
5.8.19	<i>Deliverable 5.8.19: Schedule and implementation of PD workshop presentations.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/30/14	9/30/14			

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5.8.20	<i>Deliverable 5.8.20: Assessment report on effectiveness of PD.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/15	6/30/15			
5.8.21	<i>Milestone 5.8.21: Completed PD on CCSS Assessments; Report on effectiveness of PD</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/15	6/30/15			
5.9	Activity 5.9: Purchase materials and resources to inform and support NHUSD new student assessment policy	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/14	6/30/15			
5.9.1	Task 5.9.1: Collaboratively develop materials and resources	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/14	11/30/14			
5.9.2	Task 5.9.2: Disseminate materials and resources to educators and community by presentations, web-based information and print documents	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	12/1/14	2/28/15			
5.9.3	Task 5.9.3: Disseminate materials and resources to educators and community by presentations, web-based information and print documents	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	3/1/15	5/31/15			
5.9.4	Task 5.9.4: Pay for resource and material production	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	9/1/14	11/30/14			
5.9.5	<i>Deliverable 5.9.5: Completed resources and materials about new PD policy.</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	11/30/14	11/30/14			
5.9.6	<i>Deliverable 5.9.6: Invoices of purchased materials and resources</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	5/31/15	5/31/15			
5.9.7	<i>Milestone 5.9.7 Materials and resources produced and available to educators NHUSD community</i>	T. Noriega, Director, Assess. & Eval.	6/30/15	6/30/15			