Weekly PARCC Technology Updates
Friday Edition -- March 14, 2014

Purpose
The following communication was developed to help school and district technology coordinators prepare for and administer the Spring 2014 PARCC Field Test.

In this edition, you will find information regarding:

- Notice - PearsonAccess Maintenance Window This Weekend
- Notice - Using the TestNav App for iPad on March 13-16
- Tech Prep Week Wrap Up
- Reminder - Tutorial Content vs. Sample Items in Infrastructure Trial Forms
- TestNav App Update Required After March 17
- Sample Set and Tutorial Update
- Additional Field Test Resources

Attention - PearsonAccess Maintenance Window This Weekend

- PearsonAccess has a scheduled maintenance window late Friday night 3/14 through Sunday 3/16. During this time, PearsonAccess will be undergoing routine maintenance in preparation for the field test, and will be temporarily unavailable for a portion of time during this window. For the majority of this maintenance window, PearsonAccess will function as normal, but there may be some unexpected behavior during this time as the scheduled maintenance is completed.

Attention - Using the TestNav App for iPad on March 13-15

- Due to a temporary App Store issue, the new version of the iPad App (version 1.1), scheduled for release to schools/districts on Monday, March 17 (see Reminder below), was prematurely exposed in the live App Store for a short time between 10a.m. and noon ET on March 13th.
- If a school downloaded the version 1.1 during that window of time, the App will work to run infrastructure trial forms on iPads, but will not communicate with properly with the current forms in proctor caching. Proctor caching for version 1.1 will be enabled with the official release of version 1.1 on March 17.
- Schools using iPads for infrastructure trials on March 13-15 have two options
  - Use version 1.1 without proctor caching your infrastructure trial forms
  - Contact the Pearson Support Center to obtain a copy of the previous version (version 1.0) that you can reinstall for infrastructure trials you may be administering March 13-15. This version will work with proctor caching of existing infrastructure trial forms in your cache.
- For those iPads with the previous version 1.0 installed, devices may auto install version 1.1 if they launch the app through the App Store “My Installed Apps” list. If you launch from the TestNav icon on the desktop of the iPad, in most cases it should not update automatically.
- All iPad users will need to upgrade to TestNav 1.1 official release starting March 17.
Tech Prep Week Wrap Up

- PARCC would like to thank all districts and schools that participated in Tech Prep Week. We had a great turn out with over 500 participants joining Monday’s kickoff and Tuesday’s Q&A webinar.
- As a reminder, the Infrastructure Trial tools and PearsonAccess Training Center will remain open throughout the Field Test and schools/districts can continue to run infrastructure trials as needed.
- As a reminder, the Infrastructure Readiness Guide includes a detailed list of step-by-step directions for running an infrastructure trial/dress rehearsal. This guide can be found on the support page of Pearson Access. PearsonAccess.com > Support > Manuals and Documents or at http://parcc.pearson.com/Manuals.

Reminder - Tutorial Content vs. Sample Items Infrastructure Trial Forms

- Due to an issue with content permissions, PARCC will have to temporarily remove several of the literary passages in the sample items. The PARCC content team is working to restore these permissions, but at this time we do not have a date when these issues will be resolved.
- The sample items were also previously used for the infrastructure trial forms. Due to these changes, the previous model test forms for Infrastructure Trial which included the sample items were replaced with tutorial content and released Monday March 10th.
- The Infrastructure Trial Readiness Guide has also been updated to reflect these changes and can be found at http://parcc.pearson.com/Manuals.
- For districts and schools that have already set up a test session with the previously listed forms (Infrastructure Trial Grades 3-5, Infrastructure Trial Grades 6-8, Infrastructure Trial High School and Infrastructure Trial Generic), these forms have been replaced with new tutorial content forms. PearsonAccess will automatically pull down the most up-to-date content so there are no additional actions required by schools to update to the new forms.
- In cases where the previously listed forms (Infrastructure Trial Grades 3-5, Infrastructure Trial Grades 6-8, Infrastructure Trial High School and Infrastructure Trial Generic) have already been proctor cached, schools can manually replace the cached content with the new forms, or the new content will be automatically updated by PearsonAccess when students login to start the dress rehearsal sessions.
- Important note: If you previously had students in an exited status in the PearsonAccess Training Center for the sample set form, when you resume the student they will begin the test at the beginning of the tutorial content.

Reminder - Required TestNav App Update after March 17

- As discussed in previous weekly technology updates, a mandatory update to the TestNav app for iOS and Chromebook devices will be available for download through their respective app stores on March 17, 2014.
- For additional details, please see the document TestNav Update for Apple iOS and Google Chromebook which can be found on the support page of Pearson Access. PearsonAccess.com > Support > Technology Information or http://parcc.pearson.com/TechInformation.
- To provide districts and schools with additional support, following the release of the TestNav iPad and Chromebook apps on March 17th, the following will be provided:
  o Step-by-step instructions for updating the app on both devices (will be added to the iOS and Chromebook document on PearsonAccess support page)
  o One hour app update focused technology forums March 17, 19, and 21.
March 17, 3PM CST/4PM EST

March 19, 3PM CST/4PM EST

March 21, 3PM CST/4PM EST

Additional Field Test Resources

- Pearson has developed a list of the most common error codes for TestNav with directions on how to address them. TestNav Common Error Codes can be found at PearsonAccess.com > Support > Technology Information or http://parcc.pearson.com/TechInformation. This list also appears in the TestNav 8 User Guide.

- The fourth weekly Technology Forum/Technical Q&A webinar was held Thursday, March 13th to answer questions from district technology staff regarding setup, best practices, or other district concerns. By the Wednesday following each forum, a recording of each weekly session can be found on the secure support page of PearsonAccess. PearsonAccess.com > Support > Training or http://parcc.pearson.com/Training.
  - To register for upcoming weekly webinars, please register at the following links:
    - March 20th
    - Match 27th
  - Once the host approves your request, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting.

Pearson Help Desk

- For more information regarding PARCC and the 2014 Field Test, please visit the PARCC website at http://www.parcconline.org/field-test.
- If you have questions regarding the administration of the PARCC Field Test, please contact Pearson’s PARCC Support Center: 1-888-493-9888 (open Monday through Friday, 6:00am to 8:00pm CST) or PARCC@support.pearson.com.
- For state policy questions, please contact your state field test contact.