Memo

Date: January 2020
To: Administrators, Principals, Testing Coordinators

Three New Recorded Webinars: Improving Student Learning and Iowa Performance

Last year students at 510 AACS schools took the Iowa Assessments through the AACS partnership with Riverside Insights. One of the primary reasons we administer nationally normed achievement tests is to identify content and academic skills that are deficiencies for our students when compared to a broad sample of students. Many school leaders have expressed some frustration with “taking the next step”—identifying content and skills for further development in their program. In this three-workshop series, we demonstrate the procedure for creating and analyzing the most helpful reports and for remediating the most common deficiencies identified by our analysis of the reports from the AACS program—deficiencies in reading comprehension and mathematics concepts for students in grades 3 to 8.

Target Audience: School leaders, testing coordinators, reading and math instructors in grades 3 to 8

Recording Information: The recordings were done in an Adobe Connect meeting room. Dr. Walton and Mrs. Walton recorded the content from workshops prepared for fall conferences. The link for each recording follows the description.

#1 Improving Iowa Performance 2020—Identifying (40 minutes)
In this workshop, Dr. Walton shares his desktop and demonstrates creating and analyzing the two most helpful reports for identifying group/class deficiencies, the Group Performance Profile Report and the Group Item Analysis Report. After demonstrating the steps for producing the reports in Data Manager, he discusses simple steps for analyzing the reports and ethical procedures for using the information from the reports for improving instruction and student performance.
http://aacsonline.adobeconnect.com/pe1nx44cxse4/

#2 Math Subtest 4–6: Improving Iowa Performance 2020 (48 minutes)
For students tested in the AACS/IOWA program, the lowest subtest scores were in Mathematics for grades 4–6. At many schools, average student performance on these subtests was ten or more percentile points below national norms. Analysis of group reports points to content and skills that AACS students have not mastered at the same level as their peers. In this workshop, Dr. Walton identifies eight skills that are weak for a majority of AACS students and suggests teaching strategies and resources for improving student learning of those skills.
http://aacsonline.adobeconnect.com/pndyhokbkaz7/

#3 R|E|A|D|I|N|G: Improving Iowa Reading (24 minutes)
For students tested in the AACS/IOWA program, the second-lowest subtest scores were in Reading Comprehension for grades 3–8. At many schools, average student performance on these subtests was below national norms. Analysis of group reports points to content and skills that AACS students have not mastered at the same level as their peers. In Reading Between the Lines, Mrs. Walton identifies five skills that are weak for a majority of AACS students and shares techniques you can employ in your classroom to advance your students’ reading comprehension and literacy skills.
http://aacsonline.adobeconnect.com/ptyfhory7y4f/