Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

Best Practices for SLDS

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Purpose of SLDS

- Identify students' academic strengths and weaknesses
- Identify and address potential recurring impediments to student learning, e.g., problems with attendance or difficulty in mastering prerequisite knowledge or skills, before they negatively affect student success
- Make more informed (data-driven) decisions designed to improve student learning
- Increase student achievement and close achievement gaps
- Quickly create targeted differentiation groups and cohorts

Available Assessment Data in SLDS

- Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT)
- Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests-Modified (CRCT-M)
- End-of-Course Tests (EOCT)
- Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT)
- Georgia High School Writing Test (GHSWT)
- Georgia 8th Grade Writing Test (G8WT)
- Georgia 5th Grade Writing Test (G5WT)
- Georgia 3rd Grade Writing Test (G3WT)
- 21st Century Skills Assessment (21st CSA)
- Georgia Alternative Assessment (GAA)
- Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs)
- Georgia Pre-K Assessment
- Student Lexile Scores
- Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS)

Best Practices for Administrators

Historical Dashboard - Enrollment

- o Analyze enrollment information by Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Students with Disabilities (SWD), Gifted, Remedial, English Language Learners (ELL), Migrant, or Retained. This information can be viewed as a chart or table.
- o Observe Dropout and Non-Dropout Reasons as a chart or table. Identify specific dropout reasons that are represented by an asterisk.

Historical Dashboard - Attendance

o   Analyze attendance (excused and unexcused daily absences) information by Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Students with Disabilities (SWD), Gifted, Remedial, English Language Learners (ELL), Migrant, or Retained. This information can be viewed as a chart or table.

o   Use this information for Response to Intervention (RTI) purposes.

Historical Dashboard - Assessment

o   Compare the School's performance to the State's performance on each subject-area assessment.

o   Analyze assessment data by Gender, Race, Students with Disabilities (SWD), Gifted, Remedial, English Language Learners (ELL), Migrant, or Retained. This information can be viewed as a chart or table.

o   Identify students at your school that may be possible candidates for the Gifted program by clicking on the gold portion of the assessment charts to see your "Exceeds" students. These students can also be used as peer tutors to assist some of the students who may be struggling on specific subject area assessments.

o   Click on the red portion of the assessments charts to identify "Did Not Meet" students for each subject area assessment. Use this information for Response to Intervention (RTI) purposes.

Historical Dashboard – GHSGT/EOCT Transition Report (High Schools only)

o   Generate this report to determine if a student has met graduation assessment requirements in the wake of the GHSGT phase-out period (this report should be updated frequently).

o   Use information to create retest rosters. Click the "Excel Friendly Version" button to export to Excel to filter the 12th grade students with a "No" in the chart. (Note: Be sure to determine which assessments have been loaded into SLDS—if there are some assessments missing, double-check to ensure that students with a "No" in the transition report have not passed in the most recent test administrations.   Looking at the assessment data on the Operation Dashboard is the easiest way to determine which assessments have been loaded.)

Operational Dashboard – Assessment

o   Use the assessment data for the students currently enrolled in the district/school for setting goals and/or instructional decision making.

o   Determine assessment administrations that have been uploaded to SLDS.

o   Identify students' performance at the Strand/Domain level for each assessment for RTI purposes. (Note: This data is divided into quartiles of Percent Correct.)

- o Use the information from the charts on the Operational Dashboard to create remediation or enrichment groups.

Export Feature

- o School Dashboard users can export Enrollment, Attendance, or Assessment graphs to share information with teachers for setting goals and/or instructional decision making.
- o District Dashboard users can export Enrollment, Attendance, or Assessment graphs to share information with school administrators for setting goals and/or instructional decision making.
- o Export Roster information to an Excel Spreadsheet and create Filters or Conditional Formatting.