



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Richard Woods
Superintendent
Georgia Department of Education
1554 Twin Towers East
205 Jesse Hill, Jr. Drive
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Superintendent Woods:

I am writing in response to a February 17, 2023, email from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to the U.S. Department of Education (Department), indicating that the GaDOE is withdrawing from the Department's innovative assessment demonstration authority (IADA) initiative. We acknowledge GaDOE's withdrawal.

GaDOE was first afforded flexibility under the IADA in the 2019-20 school year to allow two consortia of local educational agencies—the Georgia MAP Partnership and the Putnam Consortium—to pilot systems of assessments in place of existing statewide assessments. The Department understands that GaDOE decided to withdraw from IADA after both consortia indicated that they would not be able to implement operational pilot assessments that could be administered in lieu of the regular statewide assessments. Because GaDOE is withdrawing from the IADA, all schools that were previously part of either IADA model must administer the existing GaDOE statewide assessments to all students in the 2022-23 school year.

Thank you for GaDOE's work to develop and pilot the Georgia MAP and Putnam Consortium pilot assessments. While I understand that neither of these assessments will become Georgia's statewide assessment, I am encouraged that GaDOE continues to evaluate and pursue options for the advancement of its educational system. These efforts will support growth in student achievement throughout the State.

If we can be of any additional assistance, please contact my staff at ESEA.Assessment@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

James F. Lane, Ed.D.
Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary
Delegated the Authority to Perform the
Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

cc: Matt Jones, Chief of Staff
Allison Timberlake, Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability
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