

MINI-COTS

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

OCTOBER 7-9, 2020



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WEDNESDAY, OCT 7
11:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. EST

11:00 – 12:00

National and State Perspectives on Major Issues Impacting the Security of K-12 Educational Assessment in 2020-21

The current pandemic has had a severe impact on the planning for statewide testing in K-12 education. While many resources are available to State Education Agencies, preparing school districts to administer high stakes testing this Fall and Spring is uncharted territory for all states. Challenges and solutions that will be discussed include securely testing in remote environments, ensuring students receive proper testing accommodations, how the current pandemic will affect, or has affected the learning and testing of students with disabilities, deciding how to handle scores from statewide assessments, guidance State Education Agencies have received from Technical Advisory Committees.

Moderators:

Walt Drane, Caveon Test Security
John Olson, Caveon Test Security

Panelists:

Brian Rieder, Hawaii State Department of Education
Sholonda Trice, Indiana Department of Education
Martha Thurlow, National Center for Educational Outcomes

12:30 – 1:30

Building an Incident Response Plan for Online Testing

Incident response planning is an important part of any testing program. Understanding and evaluating risks, mitigation strategies, and proposed outcomes enables testing programs to be prepared to address some of the unique issues posed by online testing and proctoring. With issues ranging from technical issues to testing disruptions, surrogate testing, AI flags, and proctor gaffes, the more you prepare, the better you will navigate these issues in a thoughtful, consistent, and defensible manner. Join testing experts as they share key considerations for building an effective incident response plan for online testing.

Moderator:

Rachel R. Watkins Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies

Panelists:

Camille Thompson, The College Board
Ingrid DeVrie, Medical Council of Canada
Faisal Alam, Law School Admissions Council

THURSDAY, OCT 8
11:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. EST

11:00 – 12:00

Investigating Exam Misconduct

Investigating exam misconduct involves a number of different tools and different methodologies. Join experts as they discuss the three steps of test security: Prevention, Detection, and Remediation, and the tools needed to protect testing around the globe. Attendees will learn how threats emerge on social media and strategies for detection and intervention. In addition, attendees will learn the critical questions that organizations should always ask and answer in the process of deciding whether to conduct an investigation. Answers to these questions will enable testing organizations to make fair, rational and well-reasoned decisions before, during and after the investigation.

Moderator:

Mark Albanese, National Conference of Bar Examiners

Panelists:

Ray Nicosia, ETS

Marc Weinstein, Marc J. Weinstein PLLC and Caveon Test Security

Tiffany Stronghart, National Conference of Bar Examiners

12:30 – 1:30

Legal Updates Concerning Test Security

The relationship between test sponsors and test takers and others is defined by legal principles, statutes and caselaw. These legal principles and protections are woven throughout the testing process – from copyright protection for items to contract terms for test takers. Join experts in the testing industry with significant knowledge and experience in the testing industry as they explore how changes in test delivery and technology are changing the legal landscape for testing.

Moderator:

Rachel R. Watkins Schoenig, Cornerstone Strategies

Panelists:

Jennifer Semko, Baker McKenzie

Donna McPartland, McPartland Privacy Advising

Bob Burgoyne, Perkins Coie

FRIDAY, OCT 9

11:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. EST

11:00 – 12:00

Maintaining Test Security in State Assessment Programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A State Panel Discussion

State Education Agencies across the country are having to adapt the administration of high stakes testing to the current pandemic. Many states are having to adjust policies and procedures to allow testing to occur remotely (possibly in student homes), or in unconventional situations within school districts. If you are interested in K-12 education, this is a session you must attend. Come hear how four (4) state test security directors are planning to securely administer testing this Fall and Spring (2020-21) despite the unprecedented challenges they are currently facing, all while ensuring U.S. Department of Education peer review requirements are being met.

Moderators:

Walt Drane, Caveon Test Security
John Olson, Caveon Test Security

Panelists:

David Ragsdale, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Tamara Lewis, Maryland State Department of Education
Jessica Fenby, Michigan Department of Education
Timothy Butcher, West Virginia Department of Education

12:30 – 1:30

The Future of Test Security

The testing industry and professional test cheats are engaged in a never-ending game of chess, in which each entity is not only responding to vulnerabilities which have been identified and exploited by their opponent, but are needing to anticipate future plans of attack and develop effective prevention, deterrence, mitigation, and detection strategies. Developments in new technology continue to introduce new avenues for examinees to steal and share test content, and for programs to develop tests which are more cheat-resistant and to execute more effective and comprehensive security response plans. The global pandemic has forced even greater changes in the testing industry, and while it is unclear which of these changes will persist beyond the current circumstances, it is already clear that many of the changes will be lasting.

In this panel discussion, leading security authorities on test design, development, test administration, and cheating detection will share their thoughts about where the field is heading, what new threats we might expect, and what we must be doing to ensure the security of our future assessments.

Moderator:

James Wollack, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Panelists:

Jarrett Dyer, College of DuPage
Kimberly Swygert, National Board of Medical Examiners
Sandip Sinharay, ETS