

# Education Advocates: MAST Update

Samantha Walsh, Project  
Manager



Putting Montana Students First **A+**

# Topics

- ❖ How is Year 1 Going?
  - Participation Numbers
- ❖ How are we preparing for Year 2?
  - Changes Made
  - Passage Review Workshops
  - Flexibility
  - Recruitment

# Year 1

Window 4 opened on Monday, April 17th and has been extended to close on Friday, May 5th.

33 Districts

“It was short so we had time to work on other things.”

“The test platform was incredibly easy for students to navigate and it was easy for them to go back and check each of their answers. The idea of a "shortened" test helped my students be prepared and looked forward to getting through it.”

Location of Testing School/District	Count (Schools)
Urban	5
Suburban	23
Rural	54

# Preparing for Year 2

Samantha Walsh, Project  
Manager



Putting Montana Students First **A+**

# What's going to change for Year 2?

Waiver requested to remove the undue burden of double testing

Addition of Grades 3, 4, 6, and 8

Year 2 pilot will field test ELA and Math for grades 3-8

Addition of performance task administration as a fifth window - more details to come

First stage of introducing flexibility

Adjusting order of testlets to align to local scope and sequence

# Flexibility

## Year 2 Flexibility:

The OPI, in partnership with New Meridian, is collecting as much information as possible that points to local scope and sequence

New Meridian will manually adjust the order of teslets to reflect local scope and sequence at the district level

Year 3 will bring further flexibility - more details to come

# Current Priorities

Obtaining the field testing flexibility waiver

Inviting Districts to participate in Year 2

Passage Review Educator Cadres

Gathering Scope and Sequence to align teslets to local instruction

# Thank you!

[Samantha.walsh@mt.gov](mailto:Samantha.walsh@mt.gov)

[Krystal.smith@mt.gov](mailto:Krystal.smith@mt.gov)

406-438-0523

[Opi.mt.gov](http://opi.mt.gov) > [Leadership](#) > [Montana Alternative Student Testing Pilot Program](#)



Putting Montana Students First **A+**