

meeting agenda can be found on the website.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Due to circumstances beyond the control of the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Designated Federal Officer, the Defense Science Board was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102–3.150(a) concerning the meeting on February 8, 2018, of the Defense Science Board. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102–3.140 and 102–3.150.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** The mission of the DSB is to provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the DoD's scientific and technical enterprise. The objective of the meeting is to obtain, review, and evaluate classified information related to the DSB's mission. DSB membership will meet with DoD Leadership to discuss current and future national security challenges within the DoD. This meeting will focus on matters related to the National Defense Strategy, Nuclear Posture Review, and Ballistic Missile Defense Review.

**Agenda:** The DSB Winter meeting will occur on February 8, 2018 at 8:25 a.m. with opening remarks by Edward Gliot, DFO, and DSB Chairman, Dr. Craig Fields. The first presentation will be from Rear Admiral Hill, Deputy Director of the Missile Defense Agency, who will provide a classified briefing on the views and priorities of the current administration on the Missile Defense initiatives. Following Rear Admiral Hill, Mr. Roberts, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical & Biological Defense Programs), will provide a classified briefing on the views and priorities of the current administration with regard to Nuclear, Chemical & Biological Defense challenges. Following lunch deliberations regarding classified national security policy topics in preparation for the afternoon meetings, Mr. Trachtenberg, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and Mr. Colby, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Strategy & Force Development, will provide a classified briefing and engage in discussion on the National Defense Strategy. The next briefing will be from Mr. Soofer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy, and Mr.

Weaver, Deputy Director for Strategic Stability, Joint Staff J5, who will provide a classified briefing and engage in discussion on the Nuclear Posture Review. Following a discussion about the Nuclear Posture Review, Mr. Soofer will provide a classified briefing and engage in discussion on the Missile Defense Review. The final presentation of the day will be remarks from the National Security Advisor to the President, Lieutenant General McMaster who will provide a classified briefing on the National Security Strategy. The meeting will adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

**Meeting Accessibility:** In accordance with section 10(d) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.155, the DoD has determined that the DSB meeting will be closed to the public. Specifically, the Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in consultation with the DoD Office of General Counsel, determined in writing that the meeting will be closed to the public because it will consider matters covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1). The determination is based on the consideration that it is expected that discussions throughout will involve classified matters of national security concern. Such classified material is so intertwined with the unclassified material that it cannot reasonably be segregated into separate discussions without defeating the effectiveness and meaning of the overall meetings. To permit the meeting to be open to the public would preclude discussion of such matters and would greatly diminish the ultimate utility of the DSB's findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense and to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

**Written Statements:** In accordance with section 10(a)(3) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140, interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the DSB at any time regarding its mission or in response to the stated agenda of a planned meeting. Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the Defense Science Board DFO provided in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section at any point; however, if a written statement is not received at least 3 calendar days prior to the meeting, which is the subject of this notice, then it may not be provided to or considered by the DSB until a later date.

Dated: February 7, 2018.

**Aaron Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2018–02742 Filed 2–9–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001–06–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### National Assessment Governing Board Quarterly Board Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Announcement of open and closed meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the agenda for the March 1–3, 2018 Quarterly Board Meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board (hereafter referred to as Governing Board). This notice provides information to members of the public who may be interested in attending the meeting or providing written comments related to the work of the Governing Board. Notice of this meeting is required under § 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

**DATES:** The Quarterly Board Meeting will be held on the following dates:

- March 1, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- March 2, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.
- March 3, 2018 from 7:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Watergate Hotel, 2650 Virginia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Munira Mwalimu, Executive Officer/ Designated Federal Official for the Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 825, Washington, DC 20002, telephone: (202) 357–6938, fax: (202) 357–6945, email: [Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov](mailto:Munira.Mwalimu@ed.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Statutory Authority and Function:** The Governing Board is established under the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, Title III of Public Law 107–279. Written comments may be submitted electronically or in hard copy to the attention of the Executive Officer/ Designated Federal Official (see contact information noted above). Information on the Governing Board and its work can be found at [www.nagb.gov](http://www.nagb.gov).

The Governing Board is established to formulate policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The Governing Board's

responsibilities include the following: Selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment frameworks and specifications, developing appropriate student achievement levels for each grade and subject tested, developing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons, improving the form and use of NAEP, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, and releasing initial NAEP results to the public.

### March 1–3, 2018 Committee Meetings

The Governing Board's standing committees will meet to conduct regularly scheduled work based on agenda items planned for this Quarterly Board Meeting and follow-up items as reported in the Governing Board's committee meeting minutes available at <https://www.nagb.gov/governing-board/quarterly-board-meetings.html>.

### Detailed Meeting Agenda: March 1–3, 2018

#### March 1: Committee Meetings

*Ad Hoc Committee on Measures of Postsecondary Preparedness:* Open Session: 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

*Assessment Development Committee (ADC):* Open Session: 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Closed Session: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

*Executive Committee:* Open Session: 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### March 2: Full Governing Board and Committee Meetings

*Full Governing Board:* Open Session: 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Closed Session: 12:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

#### Committee Meetings

*ADC:* Open Session: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

*Reporting and Dissemination (R&D):* Open Session 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

*Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology (COSDAM):* Open Session: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### March 3: Full Governing Board and Committee Meetings

*Nominations Committee:* Closed Session: 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

*Full Governing Board:* Closed Session: 8:30 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.; Open Session: 8:50 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

On Thursday, March 1, 2018, the Ad Hoc Committee on Measures of Postsecondary Preparedness will meet in open session from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thereafter, the ADC will meet in open session from 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and in closed session from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. to review secure cognitive items for the NAEP Reading Assessment at grades 4 and 8. This meeting must be

conducted in closed session because the test items and data are secure and have not been released to the public. Public disclosure of the secure test items would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of § 552b(c) of Title 5 of the United States Code.

On Thursday, March 1, 2018, the Executive Committee will convene in open session from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

On Friday, March 2, 2018, the Governing Board will meet in open session from 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. From 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., the Governing Board will review and approve the March 2–3, 2018 Governing Board meeting agenda and meeting minutes from the November 2017 Quarterly Board Meeting. Thereafter, from 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. the Governing Board will receive briefings from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the CCSO Governing Board State Policy Task Force.

At 9:45 a.m., the Governing Board will recess for a 15 minute break and reconvene for standing committee meetings in open session which will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Following the committee meetings, from 12:30 p.m. to 12:45 p.m., the Governing Board will take a 15 minute break and meet in closed session from 12:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

From 12:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., the Board will receive a briefing and discuss the 2017 NAEP Grades 4 and 8 Reading and Mathematics Report Cards. The closed session briefing will take place from 12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., following which the Board will meet in breakout sessions to discuss the results from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Governing Board will reconvene in plenary session from 3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. to report out on the discussions. These sessions of the Governing Board meeting must be conducted in closed session because data for the 2017 NAEP Grades 4 and 8 in Reading and Mathematics have not been released to the public. Public disclosure of secure data would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of § 552b of Title 5 U.S.C.

From 4:15 p.m.–5:15 p.m., the Governing Board will remain in closed session to receive a briefing on the Grade 4 NAEP Writing Assessment and Achievement Levels. This session of the meeting must be conducted in closed session because items and data for the Grade 4 writing assessment have not been released to the public. Public

disclosure of secure data would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of § 552b of Title 5 U.S.C. The March 2, 2018 session will adjourn at 5:15 p.m.

On March 3, 2018, the Nominations Committee will meet in closed session from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. The Committee will discuss nominees for Governing Board vacancies for terms beginning October 1, 2018. The Nominations Committee's discussions pertain solely to internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, the discussions are protected by exemptions 2 and 6 of § 552b(c) of Title 5 of the United States Code.

On Saturday, March 3, 2018, the Governing Board will meet in closed session from 8:30 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. to receive a briefing from the Nominations Committee on the recommended slate of candidates for Board terms beginning October 1, 2018. The Nominations Committee's discussions pertain solely to internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, the discussions are protected by exemptions 2 and 6 of § 552b(c) of Title 5 of the United States Code.

From 8:50 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. the Governing Board will convene in open session to take action on finalists for Board member vacancies for terms that begin on October 1, 2018 and approve recommended candidates for submission to the Secretary of Education.

From 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. the Governing Board will discuss assessment efficiencies in NAEP. Following this session and a 15 minute break, the Board will take action on NAEP Assessment Schedule Priorities. This discussion relates to Strategic Vision #9, which is to develop policy approaches to revise the NAEP assessment subjects and schedule.

The Governing Board will receive reports from its standing committees from 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and thereafter take action on the NAEP Framework Development Policy from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. This action is pursuant to the Governing Board's Strategic Vision #5, which is to develop new approaches to update NAEP subject area frameworks.

The March 3, 2018 meeting will adjourn at 11:45 a.m.

**Access to Records of the Meeting:** Pursuant to FACA requirements, the public may also inspect the meeting materials at [www.nagb.gov](http://www.nagb.gov) beginning on Thursday, March 1, 2018 by 10:00 a.m. EST. The official verbatim transcripts of the public meeting sessions will be available for public inspection no later than 30 calendar days following the meeting.

**Reasonable Accommodations:** The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice no later than 21 days prior to the meeting.

**Electronic Access to this Document:** The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys). At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the Adobe website. You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

**Authority:** Pub. L. 107-279, Title III—National Assessment of Educational Progress § 301.

Dated: February 6, 2018.

**William J. Bushaw,**  
*Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), U.S. Department of Education.*

[FR Doc. 2018-02810 Filed 2-9-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs

**AGENCY:** Office of the Deputy Secretary, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As part of a broader effort to reduce barriers for applicants seeking funds under a Department of Education (Department) discretionary grant competition, the Department is issuing

a common set of instructions for applicants. It will be referenced in individual notices inviting applications (NIAs). The common instructions will ensure consistency, reduce burden on Department staff, and improve the Department's ability to provide potential applicants with timely information about Department programs and competitions.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Levon Schlichter, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 6E235, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-6387 or by email: [Levon.Schlichter@ed.gov](mailto:Levon.Schlichter@ed.gov).

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background:** This document provides applicants with a centralized and up-to-date set of instructions for applying to the Department's discretionary grant programs. Future NIAs will reference this document in lieu of providing this series of instructions within each NIA. Rarely, exceptions will need to be made to these instructions and will be noted in an individual competition NIA.

**Common Set of Instructions for Applicants:**

#### Application and Submission Information

1. **Address To Request Application Package:** You can obtain an application package from the Department's website or [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).

To obtain a copy via the Department's website, use the following address: [www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html).

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission:** Requirements concerning the content and form of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for the program.

3. **Submission Dates and Times:**

Submit applications for grants under the program electronically using [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, please refer to *Other Submission Requirements* in section 5 of these instructions.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact a person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section in the competition NIA.

If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in the competition NIA.

4. **Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management:** To do business with the Department, and to submit your application electronically using [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov), you must—

a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);

b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov)), the Government's primary registrant database;

c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and

d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet at the following website: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the IRS or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data you enter into the [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov) database. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

**Note:** Once your [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov) registration is active, it may be 24 to 48 hours before you can access the information in, and submit an application through, [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).

If you are currently registered with [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov), you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your