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“Beyond the Pencil: The Nation’s Report Card’s Transition to Technology“  

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is transitioning from its traditional paper and pencil based assessments to a technology-based assessment administered via tablet for all assessments by 2017. Building on the foundation of NAEP as the gold standard in large-scale student assessment, NAEP's goal is to leverage technology to continue its role as a leader and innovator in the field. Dr. Carr, the Acting Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics, will discuss the current assessment environment and the relevancy and timeliness of a transition to technology based assessments. She will cover the integration of technology in all aspects of NAEP’s design, operations and research. Dr. Carr will address NAEP’s current and future efforts to utilize advances in technology as a mechanism for innovation while maintaining NAEP’s fundamental utility as the largest nationally representative and continuing measure of what students know and can do across the country.

Peggy G. Carr is the Acting Commissioner of the National Center for Educational Statistics for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Institute of Education Sciences, and U.S. Department of Education. As acting commissioner, she oversees the collection, analysis, and reporting of education data ranging from preschool through graduate education. She has served as the Associate Commissioner of Assessment for the National Center for Education Statistics since 1998 and was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2001. Dr. Carr is responsible for national large-scale assessments, including the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL) and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). In 2008, Dr. Carr received the Presidential Rank Award as a Meritorious Senior Executive in recognition of her exceptional leadership. Prior to joining NCES, Dr. Carr served as the Chief Statistician in the Office for Civil Rights within the Department, where she was engaged in the application of statistics and survey methods in the field of discrimination, legislative compliance reviews, and complaints. She received her Ph.D. in Psychology from Howard University.