PDE Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS)
District and Building Administrator Surveys
Data Collected Spring 2008

Rationale/Purpose of Survey

The PDE PVAAS Statewide Core Team sought to gather information from district and building administrators in Pennsylvania school districts to plan for professional development and support for the 2008-2009 school year. Two surveys were developed: one for district administrators and one for building administrators. Both surveys and the results are posted on the PVAAS page of PDE's website. The surveys were designed to collect information on district and building administrators' awareness, use and perceived value of PVAAS, as well as needs for support. This survey was not part of a formal research study.

Survey Dissemination

Both surveys were forwarded to each of the 29 Intermediate Units who in turn forwarded the survey via e-mail to all district and building administrators in their respective regions with a link to the survey in Survey Monkey.

Survey Limitations

Approximately 1100 administrators completed the two surveys. However despite the large number of responses, there may have been district and building administrators who did not receive the survey. The results of the survey only reflect the feedback of those who completed the survey. Some regions had lower levels of participation than other regions, and the reason for varying participation levels could not be determined.

While a survey designed as part of a formal research study may include items that are true and false as a means of assessing the truest possible awareness levels of participants, these two PVAAS surveys only presented true information about PVAAS. Given the historical need to correct misunderstandings about PVAAS, the survey designers made a conscious decision to only include true information about PVAAS in the survey items.

For any questions about the survey items or results, please email pdepvaas@iu13.org.

Follow-up PVAAS Survey for District Level Administrators

1. Indicate the IU Region in which your district is located:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Intermediate Unit 1	4.1%	24
Pittsburgh-Mt. Oliver IU 2	0.0%	0
Allegheny IU 3	7.5%	44
Midwestern IU 4	5.8%	34
Northwest Tri-County IU 5	3.4%	20
Riverview IU 6	1.5%	9
Westmoreland IU 7	3.1%	18
Appalachia IU 8	3.2%	19
Seneca Highlands IU 9	1.0%	6
Central IU 10	2.2%	13
Tuscarora IU 11	2.1%	12
Lincoln IU 12	5.5%	32
Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13	**8.5%**	50
Berks County IU 14	3.2%	19
Capital Area IU 15	6.8%	40
Central Susquehanna IU 16	4.8%	28
BLAST IU 17	3.8%	22
Luzerne IU 18	3.2%	19
Northeastern Educational IU 19	2.7%	16
Colonial IU 20	3.4%	20
Carbon-Lehigh IU 21	3.9%	23
Bucks County IU 22	4.6%	27
Montgomery County IU 23	3.2%	19
Chester County IU 24	2.9%	17

Delaware County IU 25		1.7%	10
Philadelphia IU 26		2.7%	16
Beaver Valley IU 27		0.2%	1
ARIN IU 28		2.7%	16
Schuylkill IU 29		1.9%	11
		answered question	**585**
		skipped question	**0**

2. Indicate the primary role you have in your district:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Superintendent		15.4%	90
Assistant Superintendent, or Assistant to the Superintendent		18.3%	107
Director of Curriculum & Instruction		16.4%	96
Director of Special Education		23.1%	135
Other (please indicate below.)		**26.8%**	157
		answered question	**585**
		skipped question	**0**

3. PVAAS provides measures of growth for an entire grade level cohort.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Was Aware of This		**92.9%**	512
Was Not Aware of This		7.1%	39
		answered question	**551**
		skipped question	**34**

4. PVAAS provides measures of growth on each predicted performance level (advanced, proficient, basic, below basic) by grade and subject.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Was Aware of This	**93.1%**	513
Was Not Aware of This	6.9%	38
	answered question	**551**
	skipped question	**34**

5. PVAAS provides measures of growth by subgroup (such as special education, ELL, economically disadvantaged, gifted, and tutored).

	Response Percent	Response Count
Was Aware of This	**92.9%**	512
Was Not Aware of This	7.1%	39
	answered question	**551**
	skipped question	**34**

6. Student growth is NOT linked to student's attributes such as socioeconomic and ethnic/minority status.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Was Aware of This	**63.7%**	351
Was Not Aware of This	36.3%	200
	answered question	**551**
	skipped question	**34**

7. PVAAS provides reporting on a student's likelihood of proficiency on a future PSSA (students currently in grades 4-9).		Response Percent	Response Count
Was Aware of This		**86.4%**	476
Was Not Aware of This		13.6%	75
		answered question	**551**
		skipped question	**34**

8. I know how to access my district's PVAAS reports, OR who to go to in my district for PVAAS access.		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		**84.4%**	449
No		15.6%	83
		answered question	**532**
		skipped question	**53**

9. I have viewed my district's PVAAS reports.		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		**76.3%**	406
No		23.7%	126
		answered question	**532**
		skipped question	**53**

10. I have used the Help screen options within the PVAAS system.		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		28.4%	151
No		**71.6%**	381
		answered question	**532**
		skipped question	**53**

11. Have YOU participated in PVAAS training and professional development? (Check ALL that apply.)		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, this fall (SY 07-08)		35.7%	190
Yes, SY 06-07		**46.1%**	245
Yes, prior to SY 06-07		27.4%	146
No		24.1%	128
		answered question	**532**
		skipped question	**53**

12. Our district has requested technical assistance and/or professional development on our PVAAS reporting from the following: (check ALL that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Intermediate Unit Staff	**47.9%**	255
PDE Distinguished Educator	3.0%	16
PaTTAN Distinguished School Leader	1.9%	10
EAP/Tutoring Technical Advisor	0.9%	5
CDDRE Consultant	0.9%	5
PaTTAN Staff	11.7%	62
PDE Staff	4.7%	25
PVAAS Statewide Core Team	10.5%	56
Our District has not received any technical assistance/professional development this school year.	25.2%	134
Other (please specify)	18.0%	96
	answered question	**532**
	skipped question	**53**

13. I have shared and reviewed our district's PVAAS reports with: (Check ALL that apply.)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Superintendent	38.9%	207
Assistant Superintendent	19.7%	105
Principal(s)	**58.3%**	310
Curriculum & Instruction	25.0%	133
Special Education Director	33.3%	177
Guidance Counselor	18.2%	97
School Psychologist	13.7%	73
Technology Director	14.8%	79
Department/Subject Chairs	18.4%	98
Teacher(s)	36.3%	193
Math/Literacy Coach(es)/Specialist(s)	16.2%	86
School Board Member(s)	12.0%	64
Parent(s)	6.4%	34
Have not shared PVAAS data	25.0%	133
Other (please specify)	7.3%	39
	answered question	**532**
	skipped question	**53**

14. My district uses PVAAS performance diagnostic reports as part of grade/subject level team meetings to analyze groups by performance level (advanced, proficient, basic, below basic) making more or less than a year's worth of growth.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**47.0%**	239
No	32.5%	165
Not Sure	20.5%	104
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

15. My district uses PVAAS performance diagnostic reports to analyze subgroups of students making more or less than a year's worth of growth (e.g., special education, ELL, economically disadvantaged).

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**50.6%**	257
No	30.3%	154
Not Sure	19.1%	97
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

16. My district uses PVAAS student projection data to plan enrichment supports for students with a HIGH likelihood of being advanced on a future PSSA.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	25.2%	128
No	**45.9%**	233
Not Sure	28.9%	147
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

17. My district uses PVAAS student projection data to plan interventions for students with a LOW likelihood of being proficient on a future PSSA.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**49.2%**	250
No	29.7%	151
Not Sure	21.1%	107
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

18. My district has received and used the scatter plots provided by the PVAAS Core Team and my IU to get a more complete picture of my schools' performance by looking at achievement (PSSA) and growth (PVAAS) together.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**43.9%**	223
No	25.0%	127
Not Sure	31.1%	158
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

19. My district uses PVAAS data to support the Strategic Planning process.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**50.4%**	256
No	26.0%	132
Not Sure	23.6%	120
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

20. My district uses PVAAS data as part of school level planning.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	**52.4%**	266
No	23.8%	121
Not Sure	23.8%	121
	answered question	**508**
	skipped question	**77**

21. PVAAS is an effective tool for district/school improvement efforts in my district.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	24.2%	118
Agree	**48.4%**	236
Disagree	7.8%	38
Strongly Disagree	1.6%	8
Not Sure	18.0%	88
	answered question	**488**
	skipped question	**97**

22. The effectiveness of our district is more accurately reflected when viewed through PVAAS and achievement data together rather than according to AYP status or achievement data alone.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	30.5%	149
Agree	**41.4%**	202
Disagree	5.7%	28
Strongly Disagree	1.4%	7
Not Sure	20.9%	102
	answered question	**488**
	skipped question	**97**

23. To use PVAAS results in a more meaningful way, our district needs informational sessions focused on increasing awareness of PVAAS and the concept of growth with:

	Response Percent	Response Count
District Level Administrators	51.4%	251
Building Level Data Teams	**78.3%**	382
No Support is Needed	14.5%	71
	answered question	**488**
	skipped question	**97**

24. To use PVAAS results in a more meaningful way, my district needs implementation training and support focused on the interpretation and uses of PVAAS data with:

	Response Percent	Response Count
District Level Administrators	53.5%	261
Building Level Data Teams	**78.9%**	385
No Support is Needed	12.9%	63
	answered question	**488**
	skipped question	**97**

25. To use PVAAS results in a more meaningful way, our district needs integration training and support focused on how PVAAS data is used in conjunction with other data sources for continuous school improvement with:

	Response Percent	Response Count
District Level Administrators	60.7%	296
Building Level Data Teams	**75.4%**	368
No Support is Needed	13.7%	67
	answered question	**488**
	skipped question	**97**

26. Would you like to have someone contact you regarding additional supports/technical assistance? If so, please enter the following information:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Name	**100.0%**	106
Title	**100.0%**	106
District	**100.0%**	106
Email Address	99.1%	105
	answered question	**106**
	skipped question	**479**

27. Would your district be interested in sharing your experiences and strategies for implementing PVAAS at conferences and workshops or through other means of support?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, Same Contact Information As Above	**62.1%**	36
Yes (Please enter Contact Name, District, Title and Email Address)	37.9%	22
	answered question	**58**
	skipped question	**527**