

# **THE NEW SPECIAL REVIEW ASSESSMENT (SRA): AN INFORMATIONAL UPDATE FOR ADMINISTRATORS FOR 2009-2010**

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# The SRA Context

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- In recent years, 11,000-15,700 students have achieved their diploma via the SRA, most of them general education students;
- 68% of SRA profiles completed are in mathematics, 32% in LAL.
- In some schools a majority of seniors graduate via the SRA;
- Most students who go through the SRA process “pass” the SRA;

# The SRA Context, cont.

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- The SRA has been long criticized as a “back door” to a high school diploma;
- 2005 - the State Board adopted a resolution calling for the elimination of the SRA;
- March 2008 - the State Board adopted the department’s proposal to improve the SRA by reforming the SRA administration process;
- This means tightening up of the administrative and scoring procedures;
- *Retaining the SRA in its current form is not an option.*

# Some Basic SRA Data

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Total Students Using SRA to Fulfill  
Graduation Testing Requirement For One  
or Both Content Areas

<u>Year</u>	<u>N-Count</u>
○ 2004	15,351
○ 2005	15,669
○ 2006	13,288
○ 2007	11,747
○ 2008	11,513
○ 2009	11,653

# SRA Data: 2009 Rates by County

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<b>County</b>	<b>N-Count</b>	<b>Total = 11,653</b>
○ Essex	1714	
○ Hudson	1629	
○ Union	1049	
○ Passaic	982	
○ Middlesex	879	
○ Camden	809	
○ Ocean	668	
○ Monmouth	584	
○ Bergen	582	
○ Atlantic	513	
○ Mercer	493	
○ Burlington	491	
○ Cumberland	247	
○ Gloucester	225	
○ Somerset	222	
○ Morris	209	
○ Salem	91	
○ Warren	79	
○ Sussex	76	
○ Hunterdon	70	
○ Cape May	41	

# SRA Data - District SRA Survey 2008

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High schools with SRA usage rates of 10% or more in 2008 were required to submit detailed information about their SRA student population:

- 105 schools met or exceeded the 10% threshold;
- This requirement will be repeated this year (based on the class of 2009 cohort).

# SRA Data - District SRA 2008 Surveys

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**A majority of SRA students are taking college preparatory courses:**

<u>Course</u>	<u>% of SRA Students Taking/Have Taken</u>
Algebra I	90%
Geometry	86%
Algebra II	71%
Biology	91%
Chemistry	57%
Physics	10%
College Prep English 12	63%
Honors/AP English	9%

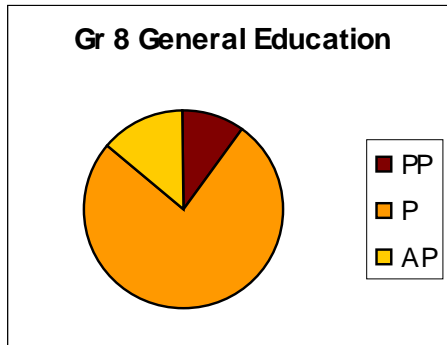


# SRA Data - District SRA 2008 Surveys

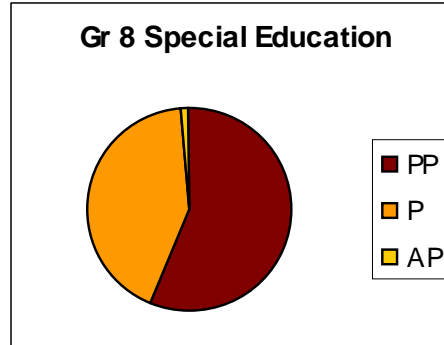
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- Almost 20% of schools reported that some classes were taught by teachers who were not certified in the subject area;
- Students who fail the NJ ASK8 are likely to fail the HSPA (see graphs on following slides);
- Most schools had programs in place to use NJ ASK8 scores to identify at-risk students; 12 schools had no such programs in place.

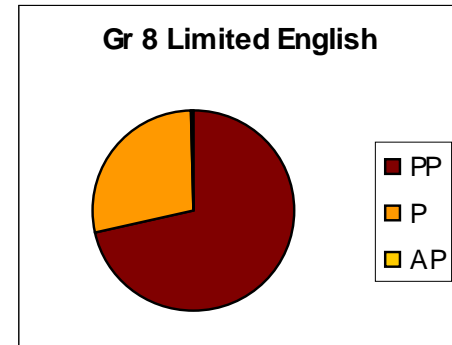
## 2008 Grades 8 & 11\* LAL Results by Program Group



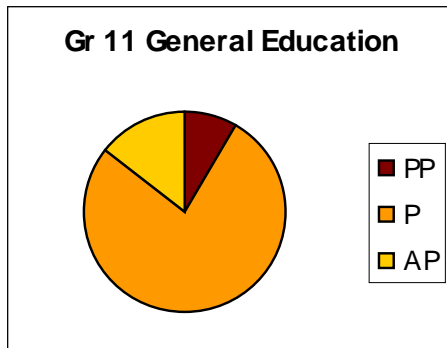
PP 10% P 76% AP 14%



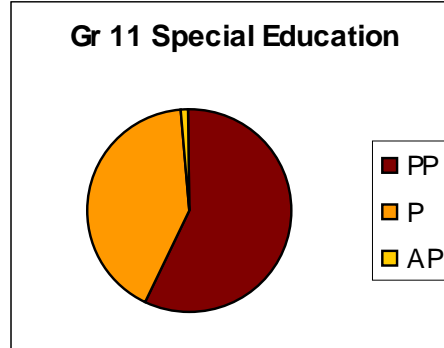
PP 56% P 43% AP 1%



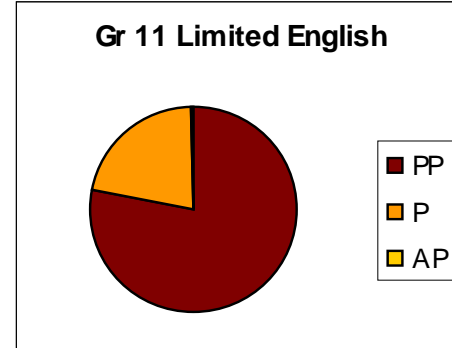
PP 72% P 28% AP 0%



PP 8% P 77% AP 15%



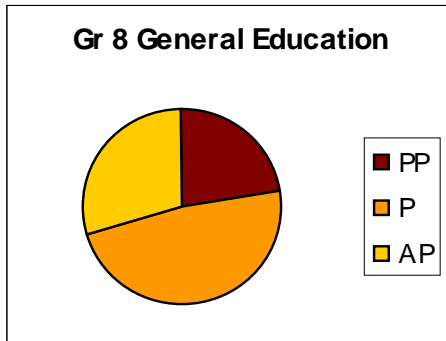
PP 57% P 42% AP 1%



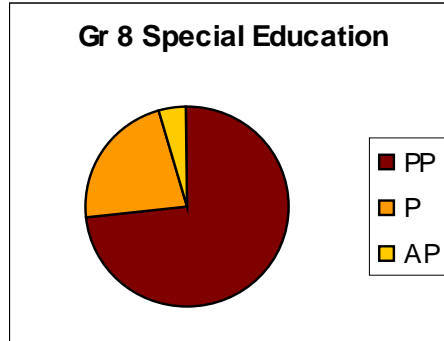
PP 78% P 22% AP 0%

\*First time test-takers

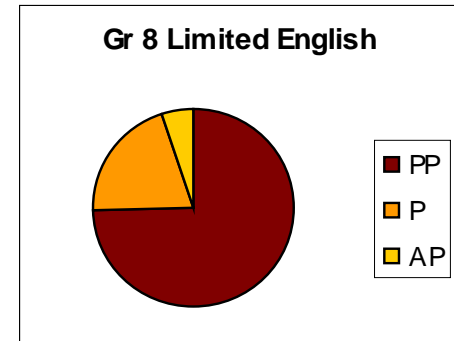
## 2008 Grades 8 & 11\* Math Results by Program Group



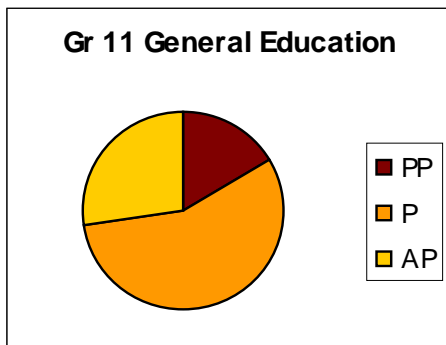
PP 23% P 47% AP 29%



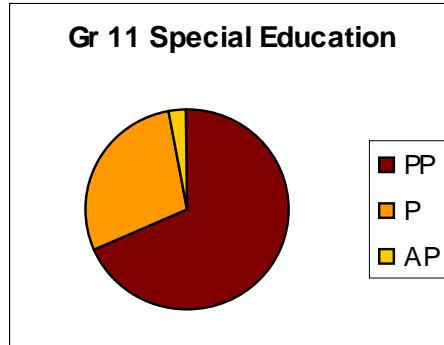
PP 73% P 23% AP 4%



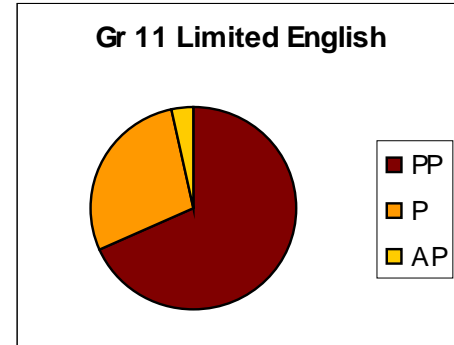
PP 74% P 20% AP 5%



PP 16% P 56% AP 28%



PP 68% P 29% AP 3%



PP 68% P 28% AP 4%

\* First time test takers



# The *New* SRA

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- We are here today to talk about what the SRA will look like in 2009-2010 and beyond;
- We can identify the fundamental principles that will apply;
- We will provide some of the details about how this process will work;
- Other details will be provided in the coming weeks.



# The *New* SRA: Core Principles

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- The new SRA is not about “getting students through” - it’s about assuring that all students are prepared for success in their post-secondary lives;
- The SRA “problem” is not a testing issue but a learning and teaching issue, and math learning issue especially.

# The *New* SRA: Administrative Principles

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- The SRA will continue to be administered locally – however:
- Students will not take SRA PATs until after the October HSPA scores are in (i.e., early January);
- Students will not have unlimited opportunities to complete PATs;
- There will be two PAT administration windows, one in January, the other in April.



# The *New* SRA: Administrative Principles

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- The scoring will be conducted at regional centers organized by the NJ testing vendor, staffed with NJ teachers recruited and trained by the vendor;
- The SRA vendor will report results following each administration window, in time to inform graduation decisions.

# The New SRA Process – Key Details

(tentative dates – to be confirmed)

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- First PAT administration window: January 6-28, 2010;
- Second window: April 12-30, 2010;
- At the start of each administrative window, districts will download a set of PATs from the state vendor's web site: 6 LAL PATs (3 reading, 3 writing) and 8 Math PATs (2 per cluster);
- From among these PATs, during first administration window district will select and administer 4 LAL PATs and/or 5 Math PATs to each SRA student;
- Students must successfully complete 3 LAL PATs (including one writing PAT) and 4 math PATs (1 per cluster) to meet SRA requirements.

# The New SRA Process – Key Details

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- Vendor will supply scannable student PAT answer documents and pre-ID labels in advance;
- Districts will ship student responses to state vendor, using prepaid labels provided;
- Vendor will distribute student responses to scoring centers and develop online score reports;
- During second window, districts will administer additional PATs, as needed, from a second selection of PATs – only students who did not “pass” the January SRA administration will participate in the second window;
- District staff will certify security of administration process and proper return of secure SRA materials.

# The *New* SRA Process – Key Details

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## SCORING

- Vendor will recruit, hire, and train scorers from among New Jersey teachers;
- DOE will expect districts to release teachers for this purpose and encourage their participation;
- Substitute stipends (\$120 per day) will be paid districts; teachers working weekends will receive stipends directly, if local policy allows;
- Teachers will not be scoring their own students.

# SRA Timeline 2009-2010 (Draft a/o 8/26/09)

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- September 2009: SRA Instructional Program
- October 6-15, 2009: HSPA retest administration
- December 18, 2009: Districts receive October 2009 HSPA scores
- December 18-January 4, 2009: Districts receive SRA answer documents and pre-ID labels from state vendor;
- January 4-6, 2010: Districts download SRA PATs;
- January 6-28, 2010: First Administration Window
- January 29-February 3, 2010: Vendor receives SRA student responses from districts;
- February 15-March 31, 2010: Vendor scores student responses and reports results to districts via online rosters;
- March 2-11, 2010: HSPA administration
- March 29-April 1, 2010: Districts access SRA PATs for second administration window;
- April 12-30, 2009: Second Administration Window;
- May 1-3: Vendor receives student responses from districts;
- May 10-June 2, 2010: Vendor scores student responses and reports results online.



# ELL (LEP) SRA Issues

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- Department expects to be able to make Spanish language PATS available for the two SRA administration windows;
- We shall review options for additional languages but can make no assurances at this time;
- SRA instructional support for these students should presume that PATs will be in English and probably in Spanish;
- Further policy details about this issue will be forthcoming.

# Reminder: Summer 2009 SRA

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- Deadline for Summer 2009 SRA submission (Appendices H, J, Y, Z) to counties is August 31, 2009;
- Student responses to SRA PATs “banked” for the graduating class of 2010 will be reviewed by DOE for eventual submission to the state vendor to be linked to the student’s subsequent SRA data file;
- Students beginning 2009-2010 school year with “banked” SRA work must sit for October 2009 HSPA.



# The *New* SRA: Next Steps

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- Share this information with your colleagues and community;
- Focus on helping students pass the October 2009 HSPA;
- Expect detailed directions about SRA process in coming weeks from DOE and state vendor;
- Give us constructive feedback;
- Remember, retaining the *status quo* is not an option.

# The *New* SRA: Contact Information

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- Faye Ball, SRA Program Coordinator: 609-984-1970; [faye.ball@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:faye.ball@doe.state.nj.us)
- Timothy Peters, Director, Office of State Assessments: 609-984-7761; [timothy.peters@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:timothy.peters@doe.state.nj.us)



# QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU!