

Growth Measure Pilot: Update

Presentation to the Joint Committee on
the Future of Public Education

May 8, 2017

2016 Appropriations Act

- G.1. Out of this appropriation, \$500,000 the first year is provided from the general fund for a pilot program to provide personalized instructional and academic planning for students, facilitate data-driven school improvement efforts, and support the state's accountability and accreditation systems.

Overview of the Pilot

- In response to the 2016 General Assembly action, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued to establish a contract to pilot a statistical student growth model using state assessment data in reading and mathematics.

Overview of the Pilot

- Two contracts were awarded on December 27, 2016.



- Two independent projects are underway.
- The pilot and contracts will end by June 2017.

Overview of the Pilot

Contractors will:

- Use statewide longitudinal assessment data to develop a growth measure in reading and mathematics for use in school and division accountability.
 - Includes four years (2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16) of assessment data:
 - Standards of Learning (SOL) test results from grades 3-8 and end-of-course reading and mathematics tests
 - Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) test results from grades 3-8 and high school reading and mathematics tests
 - Virginia Grade Level Alternative (VGLA) test results from grades 3-8 reading tests

(Required a VDOE Restricted Use Data Agreement with each contractor)

Overview of the Pilot

Contractors will:

- Produce growth reports in reading and mathematics for the eight schools and school divisions participating in the pilot and the state (eight school reports, eight division reports, and one state report).
- Develop and deliver training materials to participating schools and divisions that address:
 - the specific growth measure and
 - how educators may interpret the growth measure reports.

Participating Divisions and Schools

Region	Division Name	School Name
1	HENRICO COUNTY	LAKESIDE ELEMENTARY
2	VIRGINIA BEACH CITY	BRANDON MIDDLE
3	KING WILLIAM COUNTY	ACQUINTON ELEMENTARY
4	FAUQUIER COUNTY	JAMES G. BRUMFIELD ELEMENTARY
5	STAUNTON CITY	SHELBURNE MIDDLE
6	FRANKLIN COUNTY	BOONES MILL ELEMENTARY
7	RADFORD CITY	BELLE HETH ELEMENTARY
8	LUNENBURG COUNTY	LUNENBURG MIDDLE

Current Status of the Pilot

- Contractors started work in January 2017 to review Virginia assessment data and develop their proposed growth measure for the pilot.
- Each contractor developed and provided growth measure reports to the eight schools and school divisions.
- Training materials were developed by each contractor and training sessions with pilot schools divisions are underway. Training is being delivered via webinar.

Role of the Participating Schools and Divisions

- Participate in the training sessions and review the provided growth reports
- Provide feedback to the Department regarding
 - each contractor's growth measure as it relates to accountability,
 - each contractor's training, and
 - any concerns and questions.
- All feedback from schools and divisions is welcomed.



Why Measure Growth?

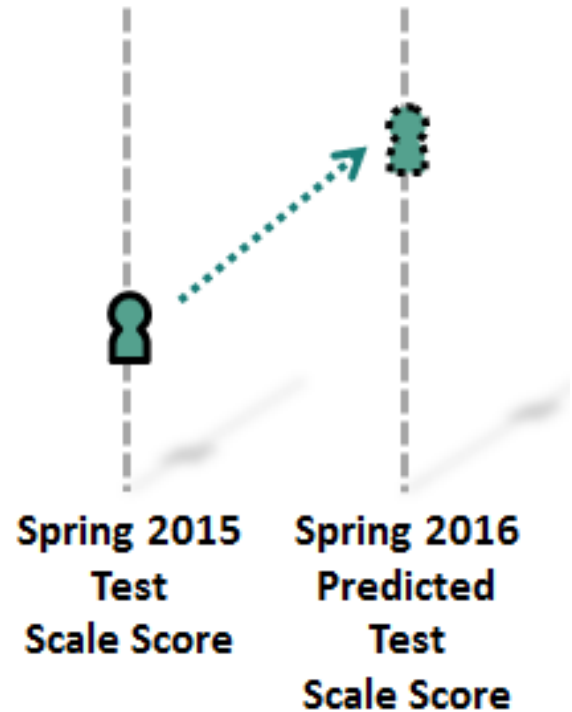
- Considering both achievement and growth may provide a more complete picture of student learning.
- Achievement – Did students pass the statewide tests?
- Growth – Did students demonstrate progress based on where they started the school year?

Proposed Growth Measures

- The proposed growth measures considered students' prior achievement on SOL tests and the performance of similar students
- Statistical predictions were developed for how each student would score on the current year's test (predicted score) based on the student's performance on the previous year's test.
- A student's growth was then determined by whether the student fell below, met, or exceeded the predicted score and by how much.

An Example...

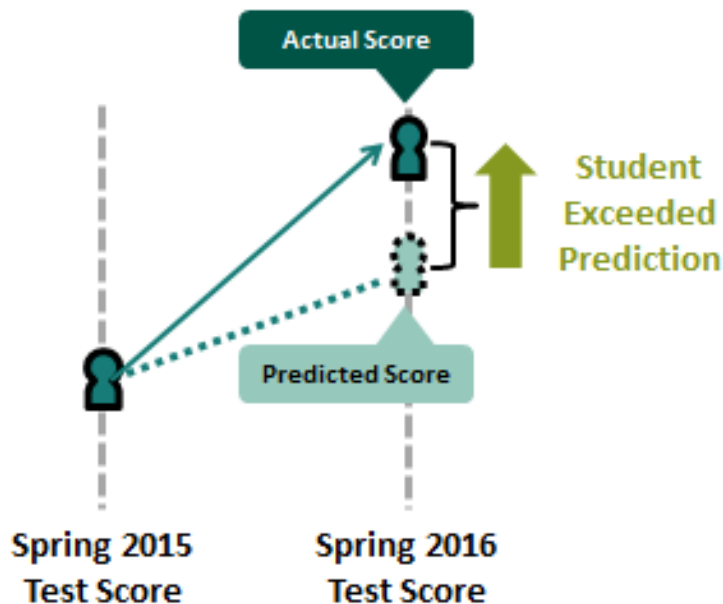
After the statewide assessments are administered, the data are used to calculate a statistical prediction for each student based on his or her characteristics and similar students across Virginia.



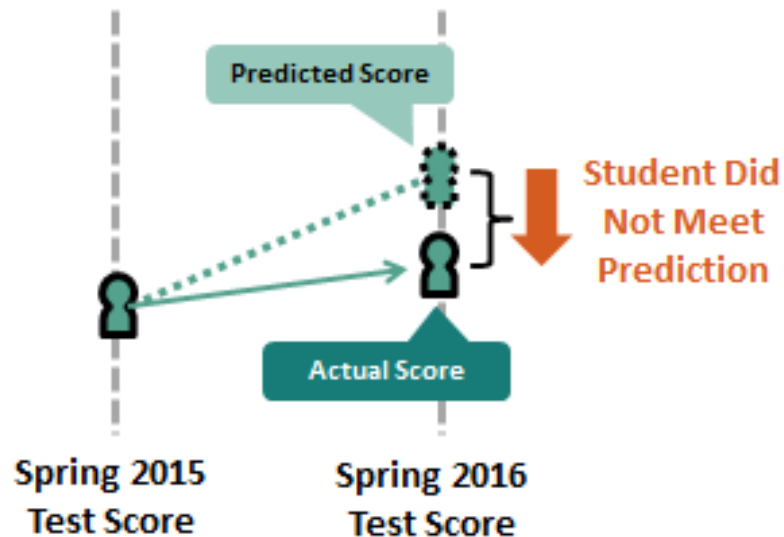
An Example...

Students' actual scores and predicted scores are compared to determine whether each student met or exceeded the prediction and by how much.

Student 1:



Student 2:



Proposed Growth Measures

- Growth results for a school could be determined by considering whether, on average, the school's students tended to exceed or not meet their predictions and by how much

Current Status

- Staff in each of the pilot schools and school divisions are reviewing their growth reports and participating in training and coaching sessions with each contractor.
- Department staff will hold feedback sessions with each participating school and division to conclude the pilot.
- School divisions will provide feedback to the Department regarding
 - each contractor's growth measure as it relates to accountability,
 - each contractor's training, and
 - any concerns and questions.

Evaluation of Piloted Growth Approaches

- Transparency
 - Can it be replicated by school divisions?
- Understandable
 - How are predicted scores determined?
- Supportive of instructional decisions
- Timing of Growth Measure Results
 - Proposed measures would be calculated and prepared after all spring tests are completed
 - One contractor required 6 weeks; one contractor required 2 to 3 weeks

Potential Actions

- Explore other growth models
- Consider best practice models for reports provided to schools and divisions
- Consider cost for statewide implementation
 - Recurring annual expense for calculation of growth measure
 - Training of school division staff

Questions?