

mCLASS® DIBELS® Next in 2011

Since launching mCLASS®:DIBELS® in 2003, Wireless Generation's partnership with DIBELS®, the Dynamic Measurement Group, and Sopris West/Cambium Learning has enabled educators in every state to identify risk early, diagnose learning needs, and precisely target literacy instruction for millions of students. The newest edition of the assessment – DIBELS® Next – represents an exciting series of research-based enhancements. Key components of the update include:

- An additional indicator of Comprehension for third through sixth grades based on maze procedures – Daze
- A new, easier-to-administer measure of early phonemic awareness – First Sound Fluency – which replaces Initial Sound Fluency
- All new forms and passages
- New validity and reliability research

As you know, mCLASS:DIBELS is much more than just an electronic version of the assessment. The software streamlines assessment administration and provides robust data management, analytics, and reporting capabilities. The assessment software and an “ecosystem” of other DIBELS-supported solutions from Wireless Generation help drive effective use of DIBELS data in instructional practice through tools for student grouping, Response to Intervention (RTI), selection of reinforcement activities, and full intervention curriculum. mCLASS:DIBELS is also tightly integrated with the Text Reading and Comprehension (TRC) diagnostics in mCLASS®:Reading 3D™.

DIBELS Next will be finished in time for a 2010-2011 school year paper-and-pencil implementation. Wireless Generation's technology adaptations are currently under way and will launch for the 2011-2012 school year. This timetable allows for the full range of DIBELS-connected, technology-based products to be developed to the high standards of quality assurance and attention to detail that customers appropriately expect.

We encourage schools and districts that have been taking advantage of mCLASS and/or Burst® capabilities to continue to do so; the value of that continuity is one of the reasons Dynamic Measurement Group, Sopris West/Cambium Learning, and Wireless Generation are supporting a two-year transition period from DIBELS Sixth Edition to DIBELS Next. We also discourage state agencies from instituting policy that forces immediate transition on their LEAs since many districts in many states have invested in hardware, software, training, and enhanced operational routines to take advantage of the capabilities described above and should continue to benefit from those investments without disruption.

We invite districts and state departments who want to begin their transition to mCLASS:DIBELS Next to contact Wireless Generation as soon as possible so that we can put in place a careful transition plan in 2010 that ensures their schools will be ready for 2011.



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