1. How will Student Information System (SIS) vendors receive their district's Unique Access Codes?

The District Testing Coordinator (DTC) of record will provide their SIS vendor with the Unique Access Codes and dates of birth (DOBs) in a .csv and .txt file.

2. Where do DTCs get the data file containing the Unique Access Codes?

DTCs obtain the Unique Access Codes from the reporting data file in the Texas Assessment Management System (TAMS). Additionally, a data file with new Unique Access Codes is provided in TAMS with each test administration. Detailed steps to the data file location within the TAMS system can be provided upon request.

3. Are there samples of the .csv and .txt files that districts receive with the Unique Access Codes and DOBs?

Yes. TEA can provide these test files upon request.

4. Does the student's Unique Access Code change annually?

No. Unique Access Codes are assigned to students the first time they take a STAAR assessment. The same Unique Access Code remains with that student for their entire testing history.

5. Are there test Unique Access Codes and DOBs available to pilot before going live with districts?

Yes. TEA can provide these test Unique Access Codes upon request.

6. Is the use of the Unique Access Code required, or is there an alternate method for access to the Student Portal?

No. Unique Access Codes are required to access the Student Portal via Single Sign On.

7. If the Student Portal times out before the district's SIS, will the SIS session timeout as well?

No. The Student Portal is open in a separate browser and will not affect the SIS session.

8. Will parents experience any downtime in the online Student Portal during high traffic seasons?

Downtime is not expected during the high traffic season.

9. What security measures are in place for Brute Force Prevention?

eMetric uses next generation firewall and intrusion prevention capabilities to prevent and mitigate brute force attacks. When unauthorized responses (HTTP 401) are detected within a short time interval from the same source, eMetric drops those connections. These thresholds are set based on historical trending analysis. eMetric is actively implementing advanced rate limiting and CAPTCHA features for API layer calls in addition to our existing user interface implementation to enhance the overall security posture of the system.

10. What steps should be taken if a parent believes their child's Unique Access Code has been compromised?

DTCs of record can use the data corrections form to request a replacement Unique Access Code for a student. To date, zero Unique Access Codes have been compromised. More information can be provided by TEA upon request.

General Questions Contact:

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