Office of

Inspector General

Chicago Board of Education

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SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020

ADMINISTRATION OF CPS HIGH-STAKES TEST, GRADES 3-8

OVERVIEW

Over the past year, the OIG's Performance Analysis Unit conducted a review of CPS's high-stakes test for third through eighth graders, focusing on the Spring 2018 test. Last fall, the OIG submitted a written report on the results of the review, including numerous recommendations, to the Board of Education and CPS leadership. Since then, the OIG and CPS administration have discussed CPS's response to our report, and CPS has agreed to take action on all OIG recommendations.

In short, the OIG found a concerning level of unusually long test durations, high counts of test pauses and other irregularities during CPS's Spring 2018 administration of this untimed, adaptive test. This occurred in a minority of cases, but enough to be worrisome and to warrant action.

Specifically, we found that tens of thousands of CPS students are taking at least twice the national average duration to complete their tests, and some are taking three, four and five times. The test vendor has warned that excessive durations can make it difficult to accurately compare CPS results to national norms. As it stands now, CPS's average durations have been above national norms since at least 2016 and increased even more in each grade and subject in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The OIG also is concerned that a small number of tests — about 4% — had at least five pauses each. Some were paused 10, 20 and even more times. Some of these pauses could reflect attempts to game the test, which could compromise the results.

Excessive durations and pauses can occur for benign reasons. Importantly, even if benign, such irregularities risk making CPS results less meaningful. This is a major concern, given the many ways CPS uses these results.

However, in untimed tests that carry stakes for students, teachers, principals and schools, high durations and pauses also could be indicative of improper attempts to win higher scores or gains. OIG interviews with a small sample of 20 students and 10 teachers suggested this might be the case in certain instances. To be sure, data alone cannot say whether high durations and pause counts are due to improper motives. The OIG also has not sustained here any individual cheating cases. The OIG does not have — and perhaps no office has — the resources to do a deep individual dive into a significant number of unusual 2018 tests. Accordingly, the OIG has taken the approach that improving the administration procedures and general security of the test going forward is the far better solution from a cost-benefit standpoint.

During its performance review, the OIG had extensive exchanges with the test vendor and in the wake of the OIG's review, the vendor has published clearer guidance on some of the duration and pause concerns raised by the OIG. This further reinforces the need for swift action.

It is worth noting that many of the issues discussed in this report may well have arisen because this untimed, adaptive test may not have been designed with CPS's multiple high-stakes pressures in mind. It's possible that some unknown level of gaming or cheating sits in the mix of potential reasons for the high durations and pause counts. The recommendations the OIG has made — and which CPS is acting on — are intended to ensure that this test can be used effectively for CPS's current purposes. At some point, CPS might want to consider whether this test is the right test for its multiple high-stakes needs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the OIG's performance review, the OIG has recommended that CPS overhaul its procedures for administering and monitoring this untimed, high-stakes test by:

- Reducing durations, preferably by establishing test time limits for general education students.
- Taking concrete steps to shrink pause counts.
- Finding an auditable way to record each test's proctor, preferably in a test data field, so test results can be analyzed by proctor.
- Using new proctor data to identify which proctors to audit during testing, rather than which grades and subjects per school.
- Barring those Math and Reading teachers whose evaluations are tied to the growth of their students' test results from being their students' sole proctors.
 Even the test vendor recommends two proctors in high-stakes situations.

- Bolstering CPS test training and a five-question quiz that must be passed to proctor the test. Clear examples of improper behavior should be covered. The OIG should be cited as an office to be contacted about test-irregularity concerns.
- Inserting penalties for test cheating in the Test Security Agreement all proctors must sign.
- Hiring a test security expert to help CPS implement these and other reforms, including improving the criteria for identifying classrooms to be flagged and/or audited as well as the auditor checklist, and expanding CPS's test data information. If the testing company cannot provide needed reforms, the test security expert should help CPS write an RFP for a new test contract.

CPS RESPONSE

CPS has committed to implementing all OIG recommendations with the support and guidance of a test security expert.

METHODOLOGY

The OIG analyzed CPS Reading and Math tests, grades 2 to 8, given in the Spring of 2016, 2017 and 2018, focusing mainly on 2018 tests and durations, pauses and score gains. The OIG then interviewed 20 students and 10 teachers, almost all in schools with unusual results, and spoke with the test vendor and other testing experts.

TEST STAKES

The test in question is so integral to so many aspects of CPS that the accuracy of its results is paramount.

This tests' results impact, in varying degrees: student promotions in third, sixth and eighth grades; for seventh graders, admission to selective enrollment high schools and programs; the teacher evaluations of Math and Reading teachers; principal evaluations; Independent School Principal status; and the School Quality Rating Policy levels set annually for most schools in the system. The test results of students from four "Priority Groups" carry extra SQRP weight.

The tests' results also help drive curricular decisions on the school and district level that can involve CPS resources.

DISTINCTIVE TEST FEATURES

The test in question is CPS's primary assessment for grades 2 through 8. The Math test contains 52 or 53 questions. The Reading test contains 42 to 43 questions. The test's distinctive features include:

Untimed — Both Diverse Learners and Non-Diverse Learners can take as long as they need to complete the untimed test. The test vendor expects the test to be finished in 45 to 75 minutes, according to one company blog. A sample testing schedule created by CPS generally allots one hour for the test.

To guide school districts, in August of 2018 (after CPS took the tests analyzed in this report), the test vendor released the average duration of each test by grade and subject. In that document, the national average duration for Reading and Math tests in grades 3 to 8 ranged from 57.7 minutes to 70.7 minutes, based on all students nationally who took the Spring 2017 version of the test.

Computer-adaptive — The test is administered on a computer and adapts to a student's ability level. Thus, a correct answer is followed by a harder question and an incorrect answer is followed by an easier question. Students are expected to get half the questions at their achievement level right and half wrong.

Pauses — A proctor can pause the test while a question is on the screen if a student needs a bathroom, water, lunch or wiggle break. Once a proctor resumes the test, a question appears that is of similar difficulty to the paused one. This feature is designed to ensure breaks cannot be used to obtain answers to pending questions.

Time-outs — Generally, after 25 minutes without an answer a test will "time out" and send students back to the login page. The proctor then must resume the test, resulting in a new question of similar difficulty.

DURATION FINDINGS

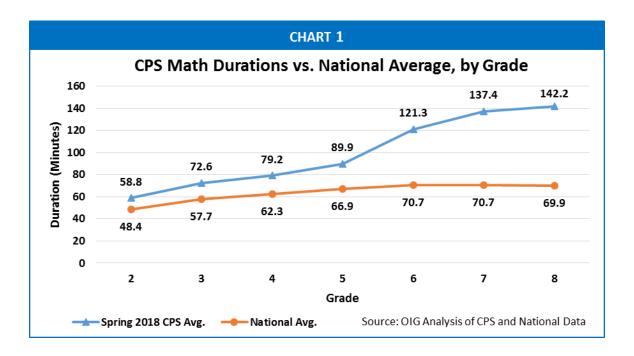
The OIG found that in the Spring of 2018, in every tested grade, the average CPS student took longer than the national duration¹ average to complete their tests. **Chart 1** shows these results for Math; Reading results are similar.

CPS's high durations were not driven by Diverse Learners who needed extended time. In fact, as indicated in **Appendix A**, an OIG analysis found that Diverse Learners were less likely to have long tests than non-Diverse Learners.²

In particular, the gap between national duration norms and CPS average Math durations significantly increased in grades six, seven, and eight — all of which carry stakes for students.

¹ Durations reflect the time spent on questions that students actually answered. All time spent on questions that eventually timed out or were paused is excluded from duration counts.

² A similar analysis conducted by the OIG after the performance review was completed indicated that English Learners also were less likely to take longer tests than other students.



There could be many benign reasons for long durations, including the high stakes some CPS students face. However, even if long durations are benign, some unusually long tests can be an inefficient use of student and teacher time. In addition, long durations can be problematic for other reasons.

The test vendor warned that it compares CPS's results to those of a national norming sample so "for the inferences from that comparison to be accurate, CPS testing conditions should be reasonably reflective of testing conditions of other schools" that take this test. Durations that vary excessively from the norms "may pose a risk to the accuracy of inferences" made from CPS results, the test vendor said.

An OIG analysis of Spring 2018 CPS duration data found that tens of thousands of CPS tests well exceeded national duration norms, as shown in **Table 1**.

One in four CPS tests took at least twice the national norm to complete; some took three, four and five times the national average.

Plus, tests with long durations tended to concentrate in certain schools. Twenty percent of tests that were at least three times as long as the national norm were clustered in three percent of schools, an OIG analysis found.

In addition, about 30 percent of CPS's Spring 2018 tests took multiple days to complete, the OIG found. Some students and teachers described tests that took a week or more.

Table 1: CPS Test Durations vs. National Norm

2018 Test Duration vs. National Norm	# of Tests	% of Tests	Students*	Schools**
All CPS 3rd – 8th grade tests	320,561	100%	160,906	498
At least 2 times the national norm	82,824	25.8%	55,630	495
At least 3 times the national norm	24,269	7.6%	17,853	482
At least 4 times the national norm	7,448	2.3%	5,832	401
At least 5 times the national norm	2,388	0.7%	1,966	258

^{*}Reflects number of students with the indicated duration ratio on at least one test.

Source: OIG Analysis of CPS Data and National Duration Data.

Importantly, CPS's duration problem is getting worse over time.

The average duration of CPS tests in every grade 3 to 8 was above the national duration norm in the Spring of 2016, and those durations increased every year in every grade in both 2017 and 2018.

Table 2 shows the double-digit increases in each grade over those three testing cycles. In each subject, the biggest duration hike was in seventh grade, where results impact selective-enrollment high school admissions.

Table 2: Increases in Avg. CPS Spring Durations from 2016 to 2018

CPS Math Reading Grade **Increase** Increase 3 12.4% 17.2% 4 12.5% 21.7% 5 10.7% 22.6% 17.4% 6 18.5% 7 22.2% 24.0% 8 18.0% 18.5%

Source: OIG Analysis of CPS Data.

A more recent OIG analysis indicated that CPS's average durations increased yet again in the Spring of 2019 in every grade and subject tested.

Thus, if no action is taken, CPS durations may continue to move farther and farther from national norms, putting the accuracy of some results at increasing risk.

In addition, some might contend that spending multiple days on a 53-question test that the average student nationally completes in roughly an hour is a questionable use of instructional time. Even the test vendor warns in a blog that "An efficient measure of student learning shouldn't have the student away from the classroom for several hours at a time."

The test vendor has suggested that CPS reserve the right to retest students whose test durations are too long, but was unable to tell the OIG what it considered an excessive or problematic duration as it had not done research on this issue.

^{**}Reflects number of schools with at least one test with the indicated duration.

Two independent testing experts told the OIG that they do not favor using an untimed test in a high-stakes situation.

Marc Weinstein, chief of investigations at Caveon Investigative Services, recommended that high-stakes tests be administered in a single setting or in discrete, timed parts. "There are too many things that can happen during those breaks that can affect the validity of the test results," Weinstein said.

Gregory Cizek, a professor of educational measurement and evaluation at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and past president of the National Council on Measurement in Education, told the OIG that he "would definitely set a time limit" for tests that carry stakes for teachers. With an untimed high-stakes test, this expert said, "Educators have absolutely no incentive to tell kids to finish. If I know my rating depends on this, I'm gonna tell them to keep checking their work and taking their time. I'm not going to pressure that kid to finish."

To address the duration issue, the OIG recommends that CPS try to establish time limits for general education students. If the test vendor will not sanction such limits, CPS may want to consider setting rules for the retest of students whose durations exceed a certain amount of time or weigh switching to a different, timed test.

DURATION UPDATE

In the wake of the OIG's performance review, which involved multiple exchanges with the test vendor, the test vendor published new December 2019 guidance on maintaining the integrity of its test, including more specific duration information.

The vendor noted that between Spring 2014 and Spring 2018, the test's average national duration had increased by 21 minutes in Reading and 17 minutes in Math. Pressure on teachers to improve scores could be one reason for this, the vendor said. It added: "We are increasingly concerned that assessments may be taking longer to complete than is necessary to produce an accurate score."

In this new guidance, the vendor recommended that districts create procedures stating that:

- Average test durations of classrooms and grade levels "should not substantially differ" from its published norms.
- Durations should "remain relatively consistent across terms."
- Durations should be monitored periodically to ensure consistency across schools, classrooms and terms.

The updated guidance did not set a clear standard for excessive durations, but did offer examples of problematic durations. That included one fifth-grade class that averaged 150 minutes on a Spring test in an unnamed subject. The class's 2.5-hour

average was beyond the 99th percentile for fifth-grade tests nationally, and was "unreasonably long, given that there is no reason for students to need to average 2.5 hours to complete [the test]. Durations this long invalidate comparisons between [these] students' test results and [the test's] norms, because the conditions vary so much from the typical test durations."

This latest guidance makes it all the more imperative that CPS find a way to rein in its durations to protect the validity of comparisons to national norms and therefore the utility of CPS test results.

PAUSE FINDINGS

CPS rules for administering its high-stakes test allow even general-education students to take "frequent breaks," according to CPS training materials. Bathroom, water or wiggle breaks are only supposed to occur while a test is paused.

Also, generally, if a question is on a computer screen for 25 minutes without an answer, the test will time out and send the student back to the login page. The proctor must then resume the test.

Both pauses produced by proctors to provide testing breaks and time-outs resulting from student inactivity were counted as pauses in custom reports requested by the OIG. Current data does not distinguish between the two.

Current CPS rules allow even general education students to take their tests over "several days," according to CPS training materials. To continue the test a second day, it would have to be suspended at the end of the first day — an action the test vendor counts in custom reports as a pause.

Nearly 48 percent of CPS tests in Spring 2018 involved no pauses at all, and thus were taken in one sitting without any breaks or pauses. Conversely, about 52 percent of tests had at least one pause.

More importantly, as indicated in **Table 3**, more than 12,000 tests had at least five pauses. More than 1,600 had at least 10 pauses and more than 200 tests had 20 or more pauses. At a handful of schools, some individual tests had more than 40 pauses, according to special counts provided to the OIG by the test vendor.

Some might question whether pauses were mostly taken by Diverse Learners whose IEPs allowed breaks. This was not the case. A much larger percentage of non-Diverse Learners' tests had at least 10 pauses than those of Diverse Learners, as indicated in **Appendix B.**

As with longer durations, higher pause counts tended to cluster in certain schools: 20 percent of tests with at least five pauses were concentrated in 1.7 percent of schools.

Table 3: CPS Tests by Number of Times Paused or Timed Out

	Total	0	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20+
Tests	302,993	145,424	145,388	10,524	1,149	290	218
Students*	152,128	91,221	94,309	8,904	1,053	268	180
Schools*	463	459	462	401	165	60	24

^{*}Reflects students and schools with at least one Reading or Math test in the indicated pause range.

Note: The OIG did not receive pause data for some tests. Those tests are excluded from this analysis.

Source: OIG Analysis of Spring 2018 CPS Data from Grade 3-8 Tests

One OIG analysis made clear that the percent of CPS tests with at least five pauses increased as grade levels increased.

Table 4: Pct. of Tests w/ 5 or More Pauses by Grade

Grade	% of Tests w/ 5+ Pauses
3	1.7%
4	1.8%
5	2.3%
6	4.6%
7	7.0%
8	7.1%
All	4.0%

Note: The OIG did not receive pause data for some tests, which are excluded from this analysis.

Source: OIG Analysis of CPS Spring 2018 Test Data

As shown in **Table 4**, a significant jump in the percent of tests by grade with five or more pauses occurred in seventh and eighth grade. These tests can impact high school admissions and eighth-grade graduation, so they have especially high stakes for students.

The OIG interviewed a small sample of students and teachers from schools with unusual results, including high pause counts, to probe why high pause counts might be occurring.

In doing so, the OIG was told that in a few classrooms, proctors were pausing the test to allow students to skip difficult questions.

Such tactics are an improper use of the pause function, the test vendor said. "The validity of the assessment can be compromised if tests are paused for the purpose of producing a new question," the vendor told the OIG.

In several interviews, both students and teachers told the OIG that in some cases kids were intentionally timing out questions so they could get new questions.

For example, one CPS seventh grader told the OIG that her classmates would rather let a question time out than guess and be wrong. "We were so worried about high school," the seventh grader said. "Guessing — we would never do that."

According to the test vendor, an "assessment's validity may be compromised" if students intentionally time out hard questions so they can get new questions.

"In general, there is no reason for a student or proctor to allow a question to time out," the vendor told the OIG. Doing so "should be considered a possible 'gaming' practice."

As a result of these findings, the OIG is recommending that proctors be given clear instructions during training on how the pause function works and how to prevent its abuse. The test vendor has suggested that proctors be required to document all time-outs and that students with excessive pauses be required to retake their tests. However, given the closeness of CPS Spring tests to the end of the school year, presumably large numbers of retests would be difficult to manage.

UPDATED PAUSE GUIDANCE

Recent guidance from the test vendor, released in December of 2019, publicly affirmed some of the information the vendor had shared with the OIG concerning pauses. This new public guidance stated that pausing a test in order to replace a hard question with another question is an "unsupported" practice that "could affect the validity of the assessment."

As an adaptive test, the guidance said, the test was designed "with the expectation that students would be given challenging items that they were likely to get wrong about half of the time, and with the expectation that students would attempt those items. If the pause function is used to skip items that are perceived to be too difficult, then item responses that are essential to the accuracy of the measure are not considered in assessing the student's achievement. This could make the resultant score invalid."

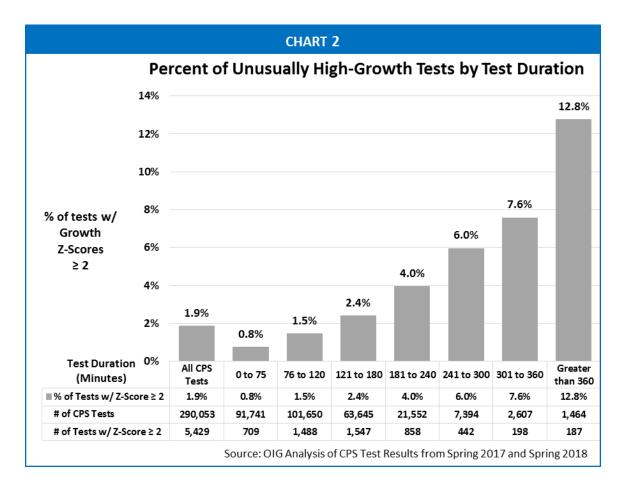
This new guidance makes it clear that CPS must rein in improper pause tactics to protect the validity of its test results.

GROWTH FINDINGS

There are many legitimate reasons why a student's test may show unusually large gains. This can include that the student's previous test was uncharacteristically low; the student made large strides in language proficiency from the previous year; the student was diagnosed with a learning disability and given needed accommodations for the first time; or a student clicked with a particularly effective teacher, a new curriculum or a new learning strategy.

However, an OIG analysis found that a higher percentage of high-growth tests occurred among very long-duration tests, as indicated in **Chart 2**.

The OIG analyzed student growth by comparing each test's score gain from Spring 2017 to Spring 2018 to that of other CPS tests in the same subject and grade with the same Spring 2017 score.



The OIG defined "unusually high growth" as two or more standard deviations above the average growth of comparable tests — also known as a "z-score" of at least 2. Only 1.9 percent of CPS 2018 tests in grades 3 to 8 met this standard.

An OIG analysis found that a larger percentage of high-growth scores occurred among tests that were much longer than the typical nationwide test. The OIG's analysis looked at the frequency of high-gaining tests broken down by duration ranges and found that as durations increased, so did the occurrence rate of high-gaining tests.

By the time a student was taking 5 or 6 hours (or 301 to 360 minutes) to complete the test — most likely spilling over into at least a second day of testing — 7.6 percent, on average, were posting unusually large gains. That's four times the system-wide average of 1.9.

Students who took more than 6 hours to complete their tests were producing more than 6 times as many high-gaining tests as the average 1.9 percent systemwide.

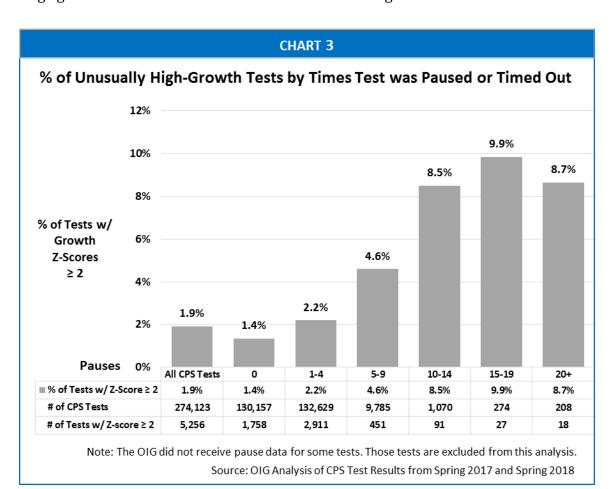
Although Diverse Learners had a higher rate of achieving an unusually high-growth score in each duration band, both Diverse and non-Diverse Learners who spent

longer on their tests produced a higher rate of high-gaining scores than those whose durations were typical nationally.

CPS has emphasized that the OIG's analysis does not show a systemwide correlation between duration and academic growth. However, this was not the purpose of the OIG's analysis. Instead, the OIG sought to determine whether those CPS tests that were very long had a greater frequency of unusual growth. According to Cizek, an educational measurement expert, a correlation analysis "masks the relationship between these variables" while the OIG's charts "describe the relationship in the most accurate way." Cizek said the OIG's charts depict a "strong relationship" between these variables.

As with durations, the OIG analyzed the distribution of unusually high-gaining tests among those with high pause counts.

CPS tests with 5 to 9 pauses had unusually high growth nearly 2.5 times more often than CPS tests overall, **Chart 3** shows. Tests with 10 or more pauses had unusually large gains 4 to 5 times more often than the CPS average.



The occurrence rate of unusually large gains among both Diverse Learners and non-Diverse Learners was higher for those with more pauses. This is curious, because as one testing expert told the OIG, other than for students with special needs who require accommodations involving breaks, there's "no educational explanation for why pauses would improve scores."

When the OIG talked to students and teachers in schools with unusual results to probe possible reasons for high pause counts and long durations, the OIG was told of some tactics that could have boosted pause counts or durations and could have improved scores.

These interviews occurred with a very small subset of the more than 150,000 students who took the test, and were not intended to reflect a representative sample of the district. However, in several cases the OIG heard similar concerning anecdotes involving multiple schools or multiple classrooms within the same school.

Some pauses clearly could be benign, but the way that high pause counts tended to cluster in certain schools and the comments of students at some of those schools indicated that the pause function was being abused in some cases.

All of the improper techniques described to the OIG occurred at the instigation of, or with the acquiescence of, the test proctor. Therefore, the OIG strongly recommends that CPS find an auditable way of recording the proctor of each test.

The test vendor does not currently provide such data, but two other major testing companies have told the OIG that they do. The OIG believes that collection of this data alone would serve as a deterrent to improper practices. The OIG has recommended that such information be used to identify classroom audit sites, rather than tying one year's audits to how a certain grade in a school performed in a certain subject the previous year.

CPS AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

In April of 2018, the CPS Office of Internal Audit and Compliance released an audit concerning the testing protocols and detection methods used by CPS during the administration of the test. This Audit had been done at the request of the CPS Departments of Student Assessment and School Quality Measurement and Research.

This audit found that CPS's "detective controls" surrounding the administration of the high-stakes test as well as its "preventive controls" needed strengthening. Audit proposed a long list of recommendations to address these issues.

As a result, among other things, CPS boosted its preventive training efforts, created a new method of detecting unusual test results that warranted audits in a joint effort among several departments, and audited a much larger number of classrooms in 2018 and 2019 than in 2017.

While the CPS Audit clearly resulted in reforms, the OIG also found that some key Audit suggestions were never executed, were partially executed or were inadequately executed.

For example, CPS did not implement Audit recommendations or suggestions that:

- CPS try to rotate proctors so teachers would not be proctoring their own students. In guidance on giving high-stakes versions of its test dated January of 2017, the test vendor recommended that teachers of record be accompanied by a second proctor with no direct stake in the test.
- the Test Security Agreement that all proctors were required to sign include a warning of the penalties for violating test administration rules.
- CPS use pause³ data as part of its process for identifying unusual results.
 This was one of about seven test data points the audit suggested. CPS ultimately used only 3 of them, and two of the three were redundant, according to one test security expert.

Although CPS improved its training methods as a result of the CPS audit, the OIG found that the new training and the five-question proctor quiz that had to be passed to proctor the high-stakes test did not adequately cover the test's unique features, proper and improper testing behaviors or how to prevent certain test irregularities. CPS proctors need clearer rules and new guidance on how to prevent time-outs and unusually long durations.

In addition, as a test security guidebook published by the Council of Chief State School Officers recommends, proctors need "clear examples of what behavior is unacceptable" because "One source of cheating by staff is lack of understanding about what are acceptable and unacceptable behaviors."

Student interviews also indicated that some irregularities could be occurring during small-group testing, including of general-education students, which is not allowed under current CPS rules. Therefore, CPS's audit checklist should include monitoring of whether small-group testing is being used correctly.

INSUFFICIENT DATA

The OIG also found that the comprehensive data file currently provided by the vendor is missing certain information that would be helpful in flagging unusual test results.

This includes, as mentioned, who proctored each test; who paused a test; whether a pause was a time-out due to student inactivity or a pause instigated by a proctor; the

³ CPS would likely have had to pay the vendor extra for a custom report with pause data.

number of pauses on each test; how many days each test took; the length of each test session; and which dates the test was worked on.

CONCLUSION

The test discussed here carries so many stakes for so many CPS parties that its accuracy is absolutely critical. Concerning patterns in the data and comments from a small sample of students and teachers in schools with unusual results indicate that swift action must be taken to tighten up the administration of this test. The area is so complex and technical that the help of an independent test security expert is warranted.

This expert can advise CPS on improving its test administration rules, training, proctor quiz, criteria for flagging unusual results, audit checklist and the test-related data CPS collects, as well as shrinking CPS durations and pause counts. This expert also should help CPS write new requirements into its testing contract.

If the current vendor cannot provide the recommended changes, the expert should assist CPS in writing a proposal for a new test contract after the current \$2.2 million contract expires at the end of June 2020.

Appendix A: Spring 2018 Tests by Duration and Diverse Learner Status

Duration (Minutes)	Total	0 to 75*	76 to 120	121 to 180	181 to 240	241 to 300	301 to 360	Greater than 360
Total Tests	320,561	105,682	111,308	68,386	23,010	7,839	2,764	1,572
Tests by DLs	45,243	21,043	13,663	7,214	2,189	723	257	154
Tests by non-DLs	275,318	84,639	97,645	61,172	20,821	7,116	2,507	1,418
% of DL Tests		46.51%	30.20%	15.95%	4.84%	1.60%	0.57%	0.34%
% of non-DL Tests		30.74%	35.47%	22.22%	7.56%	2.58%	0.91%	0.52%

^{*}An article on the testing company's website says that, in general, it expects students to complete a test in about 45 to 75 minutes.

Note: The OIG identified Diverse Learners using 2017-18 data from CPS's Special Education indicator, which is based on whether the student has an Individualized Education Program.

Source: OIG Analysis of CPS Data from Grade 3-8 Tests

Appendix B: Spring 2018 Tests by Pauses* and Diverse Learner Status

Pauses	Total	0	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20+
Total Tests	302,993	145,424	145,388	10,524	1,149	290	218
Tests by DLs	42,760	19,014	21,944	1,649	112	26	15
Tests by non-DLs	260,233	126,410	123,444	8,875	1,037	264	203
% of DL Tests		44.47%	51.32%	3.86%	0.26%	0.06%	0.04%
% of non-DL Tests		48.58%	47.44%	3.41%	0.40%	0.10%	0.08%

^{*}The test company's data does not distinguish between pauses and time-outs.

The OIG did not receive pause data for some tests, which are excluded from this analysis.

Note: The OIG identified Diverse Learners using 2017-18 data from CPS's Special Education indicator, which is based on whether the student has an Individualized Education Program.

Source: OIG Analysis of CPS and Vendor Data from Grade 3-8 Tests