TEA's focus for 2015-2016 is to help everyone understand that STAAR A is an accommodated version of STAAR but NOT the same test. They cannot start accommodating items until the test questions are chosen.

STAAR A versus STAAR:
- STAAR A is NOT the same as STAAR - has all the same test bank questions that are eligible to be tested but not the same test.
- Because they are different test questions, the raw score was different than STAAR because of difficulty levels (conversion) (i.e., STAAR A might have had easier question so needed to get more correct or harder questions so had to get fewer correct)

2014-2015 Information

STAAR A 2014-2015 Results:
- 20% who took the test passed:
  - SE eligible, previously STAAR M: 3.78%
  - SE eligible, previously STAAR: 6.19%
  - not SE eligible, previously STAAR: 9.45%
- 80% who took the test did not pass:
  - SE eligible, previously STAAR M: 54.74%
  - SE eligible, previously STAAR: 28.11%
  - not SE eligible, previously STAAR: 16.75%

2014-2015 STAAR A Paper Requests
- Some requests were not processed because they were inappropriate (i.e., asked for paper because student did not like computers).
- TEA asked questions when they received requests
  - Because STAAR A in paper and online are not the same (not the same accommodations), unlike STAAR L which is essentially the same for online and print, TEA scrutinized the paper requests for STAAR A more closely than they have other assessments
- Some examples of paper requests that were approved
  - Homebound student, no access to Internet
  - Seizures triggered by computer screen (and this was supported by a doctor's note)
  - Visual impairment that could not provide access to the online version (after using tutorials, etc. to ensure the student did not have access)

2014-2015 Miscellaneous Information:
- TEA noted a large discrepancy between the number of paper STAAR A administrations requested versus number given. (Total for paper administration for the year was approximately 575.)
- TEA allowed for flexible scheduling during testing, but it was a small number/percentage of LEAs who actually used this option.

2015-2016 Information

Due to change to ETS from Pearson (to CA&L from TestNav):

- TEA does not know when tools will be available for teachers
  - Will not be available early
  - Likely January before we know anything about the new system
- TEA is considering planning to pull down the old website because it will not be used
- December 2015 STAAR A EOC will be 100% on paper

Upcoming Website:
- www.texasassessment.com
  - Expected to go live on 9/28/2015
  - Will include all state assessments with clickable links to each (pictures/logo of the assessments as the links)

STAAR A Paper Administration (December 2015)

- The December 2015 administration is an EOC restest only, so is expected to impact a relatively small number of students.
- The secure STAAR A Paper Administration Guide provides specific instructions for how embedded accommodations are to be provided.
  - Note: This document is secure because it includes test questions for purposes of accommodating these questions. Therefore, it will not be available early like most testing manuals.
- Accommodations may include definitions, synonyms, graphics, rewording of text, or indication by the test administrator of certain parts of the selection, test question, or reference materials.
- The test administrator may read aloud text as needed by the student. The student’s test booklet will indicate text (“do not read” icon) that cannot be read aloud.
- Students may also be eligible to use accommodations allowed in the accommodation triangle.
- Student responses from a paper administration are recorded in the test booklet and must be entered into an online transcribe form for scoring.
- FAR FEWER accommodations in the paper test than in the online version.
- TEA “To the Administrator Addressed Correspondence” dated August 19, 2015:
  - The December 2015 STAAR EOC assessments will be administered in paper format only. Therefore, there will be no registration for online testing for this administration. Beginning in spring 2016, all EOC administrations will be offered both online and on paper.

ARD Implications of December 2015 STAAR A Paper Administration

- Information from TETNs held August 26 & 28, 2015 about state assessment contract changes:
  - No need to hold an ARD to determine level of oral administration for the paper administration of STAAR A
  - No need to hold an ARD to change a student from online STAAR A to paper STAAR A

TEA is hoping to have information/dates finalized by the first Fall TETN:

**September 17, 2015; 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
Title: Assessments for Students w/ Disabilities  
Event#: 36603  
Summary: This TETN will provide updates about STAAR A, STAAR Alternate 2, and assessment accommodations for students with disabilities for the 2015-2016 school year.