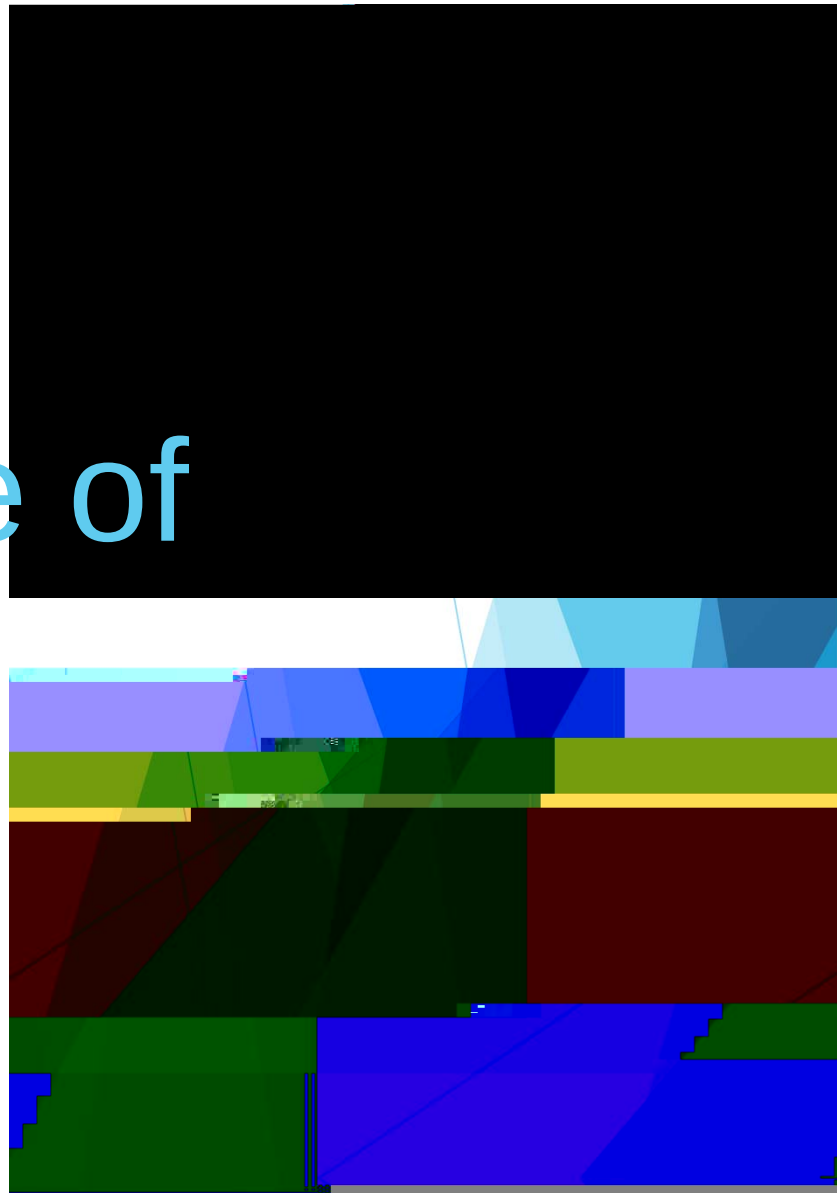
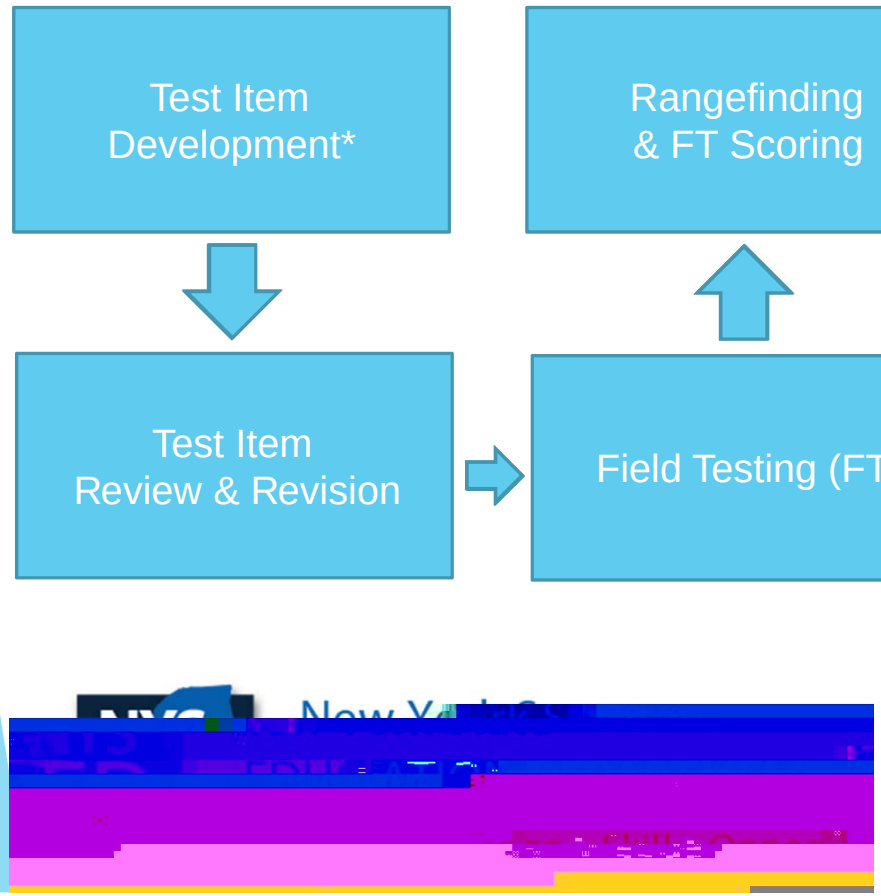
The Life Cycle of Test Items

March 28, 2018



Milestone Events in Test Item Development



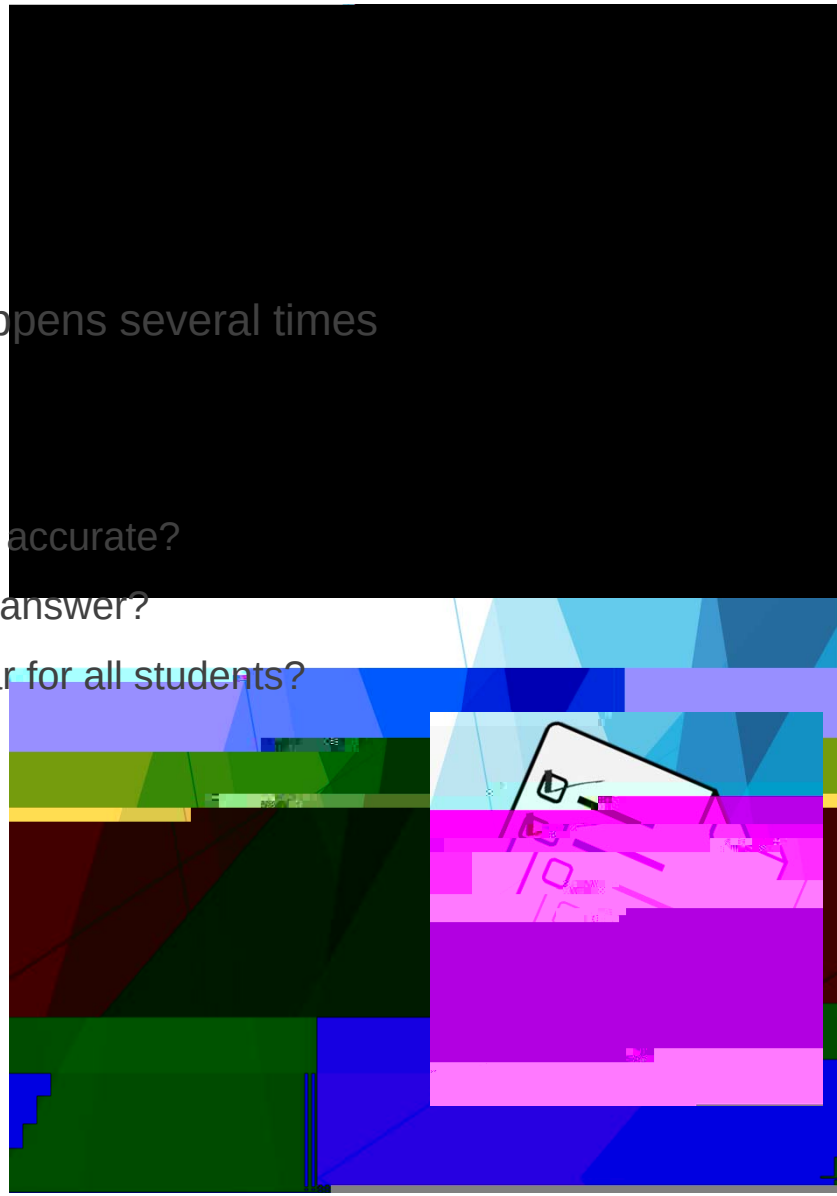
*For the English Language Arts tests, item development is preceded by passage selection.

Test Item Development

- Target of measurement must be clearly defined
  - Blueprints and other documentation developed prior to the first test
- (ELA only) Selection of passage based on established criteria
- NYS educators that have been trained write test items aligned to the learning standard assignment and quality/fairness criteria

Test Item Review & Revision

- Items are reviewed by multiple NYS educators – this happens several times
  - Checking for:
    - Validity: does the test item measure what is intended?
    - Content: are the item and its co rrect answer factually accurate?
    - Quality: does the item have on e and only one correct answer?
    - Fairness: is the item accessible and the language clear for all students?

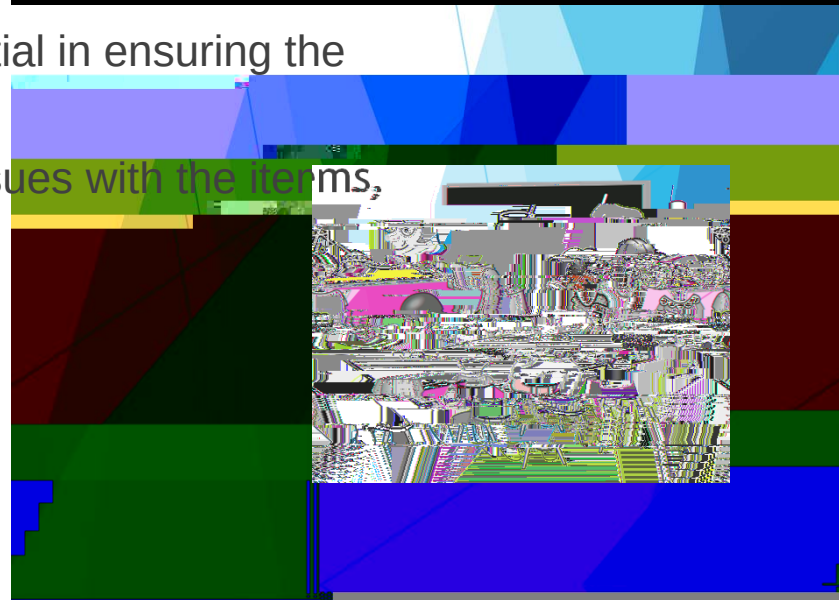


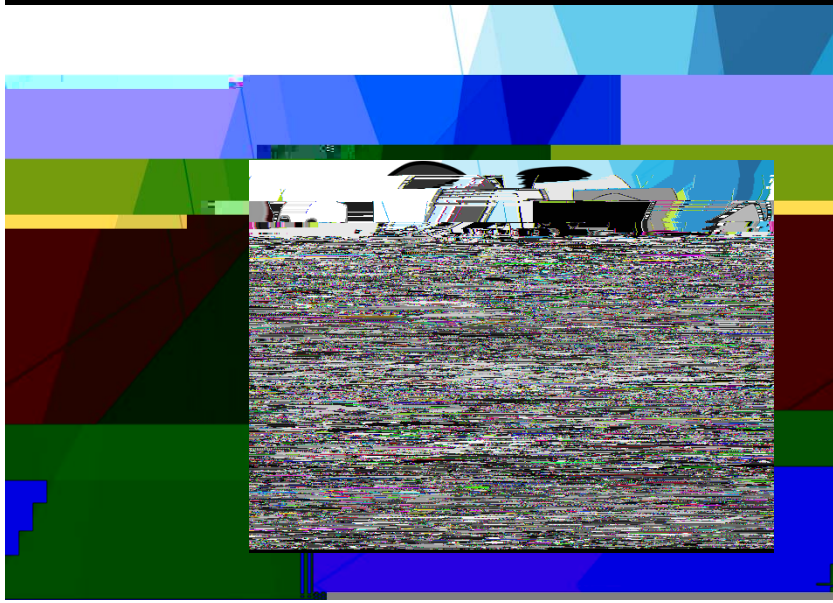
Field Testing

- Following multiple rounds of review

School and student participation in field testing is essential in ensuring the quality and fairness of the test items

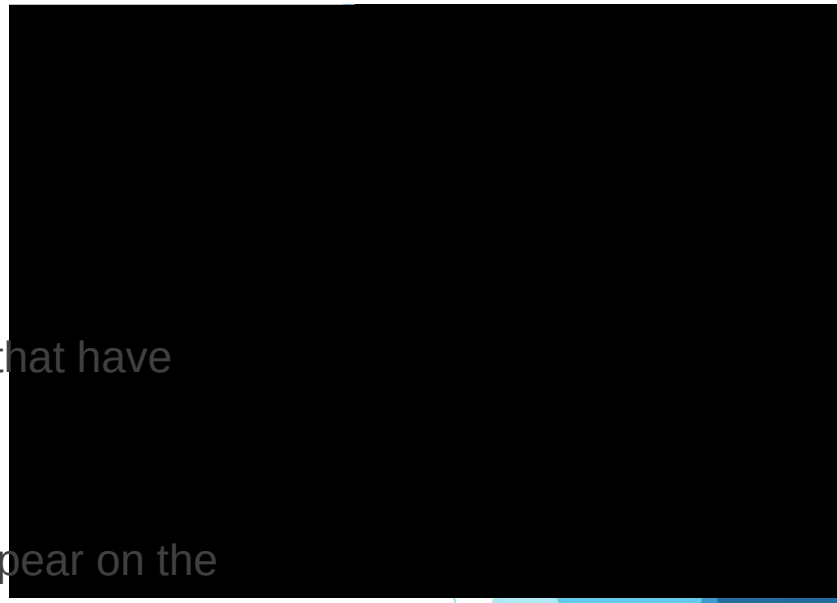
Statistical analysis of field test result s identifies any issues with the items.

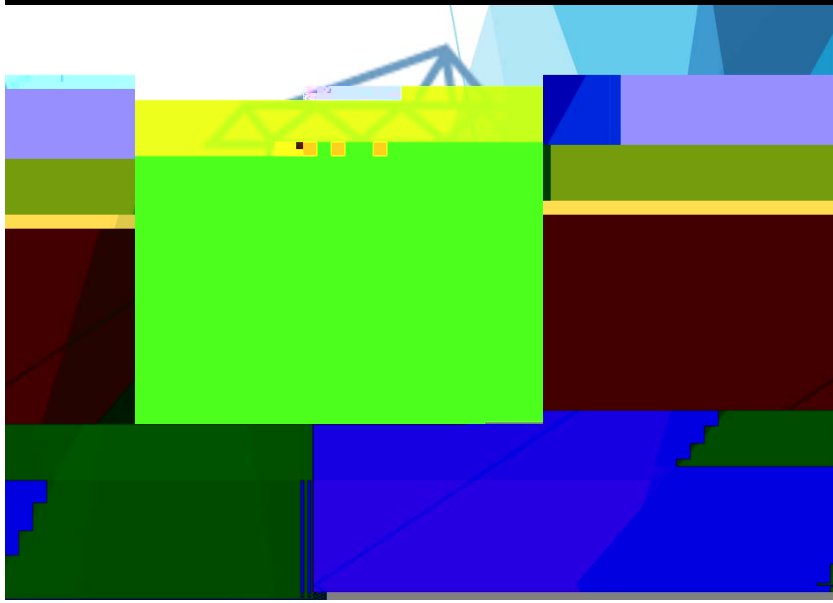




Forms Construction

- Field test results are used to establish the pool of items that have acceptable statistical properties
- NYS educators select and approve the items that will appear on the operational test from this pool

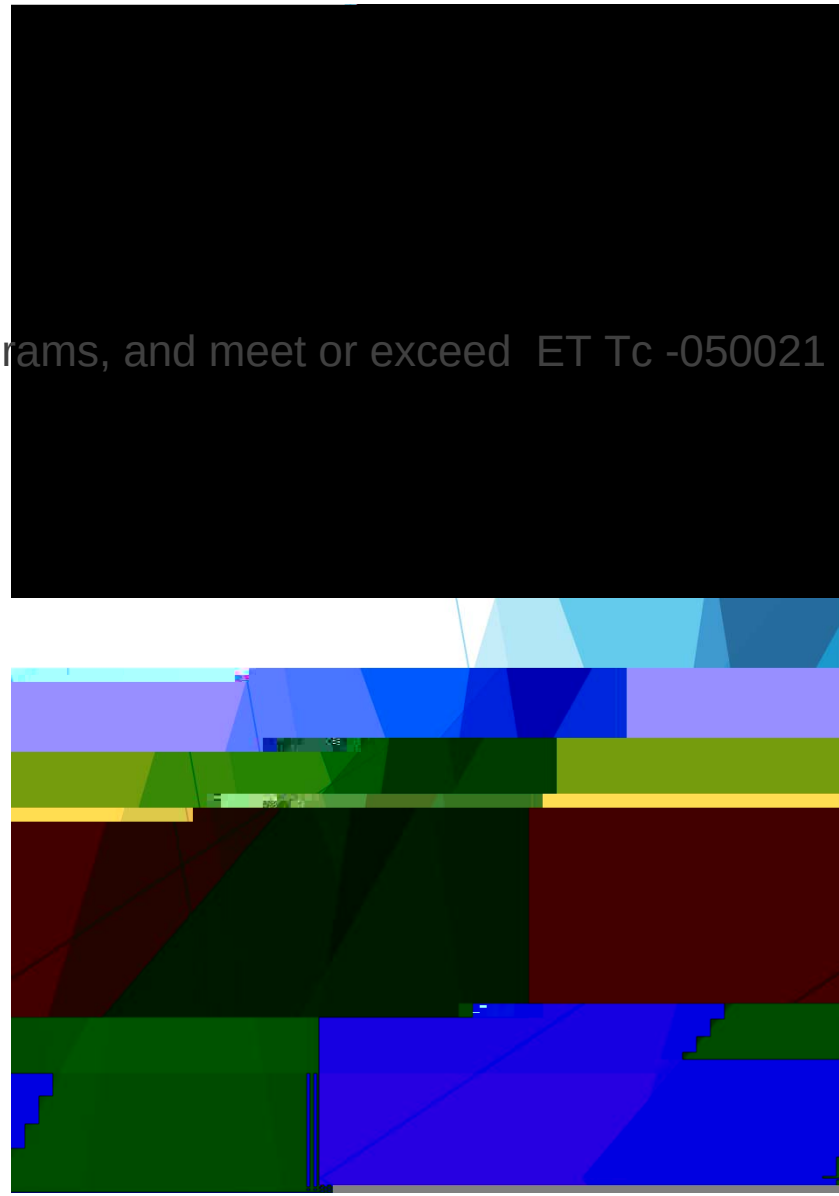


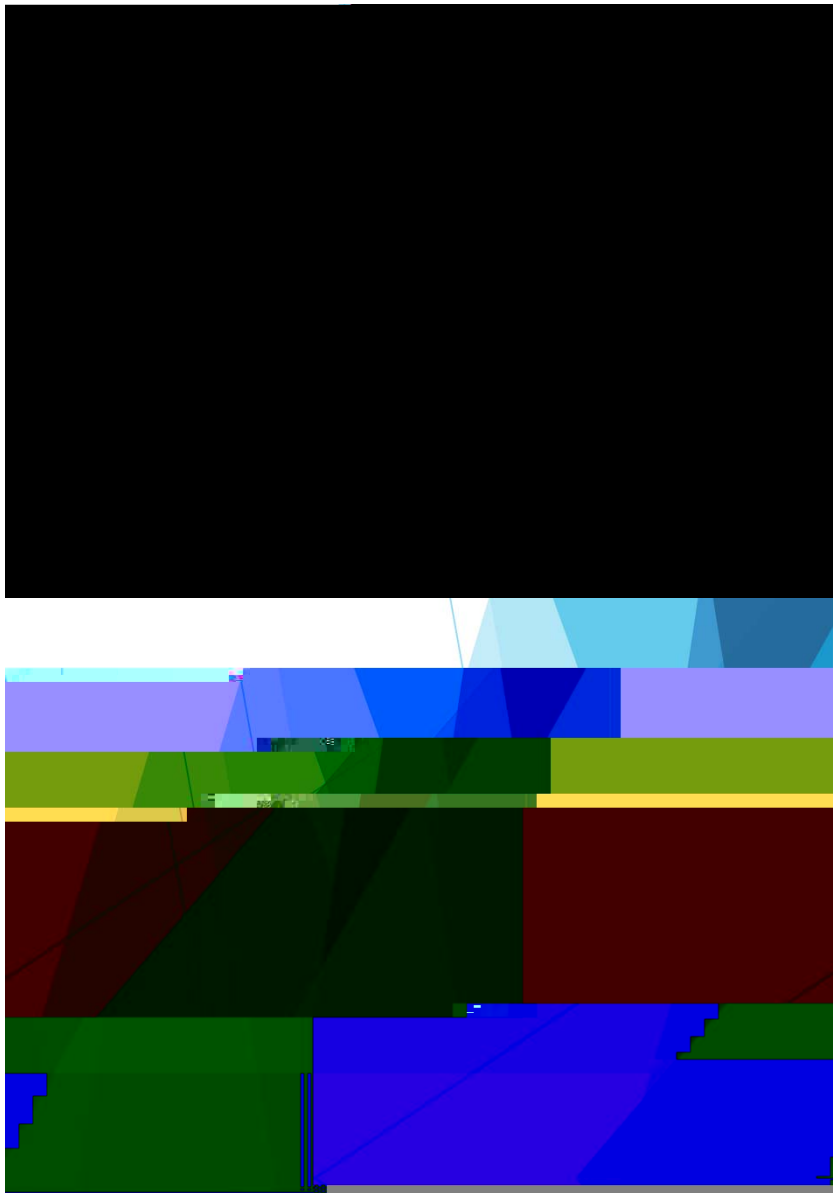


Final Eyes

- NYS educators review final operational test that was selected by other educators at forms construction
- The educators take the test and re cord answers to all test items
- Focus is on ensuring that all of the test items that were selected for inclusion on the test do not have any critical issues that would adversely affect students' test taking experience (e.g., more than one correct answer)

consistent w8 5.5stent all state and national testing programs, and meet or exceed ET Tc -050021





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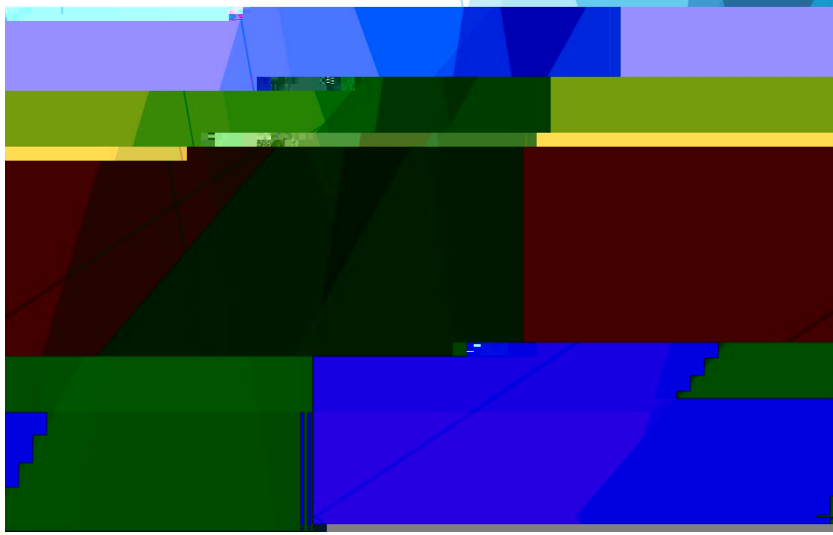
And now, our next presentation…