

11.06.2025

Memo

TO
TEA Help Desk

FROM
Scott Montgomery

RE
IMRA Reviewer
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Over the past few weeks, we have been working with additional team members to conduct a more rigorous review of the feedback provided to Renaissance throughout the IMRA review process. This comprehensive review helped us identify both areas of strength and areas for improvement in our math offerings. While we understand that the review process is complete, we would like to address several key findings that may inform the board's final decision.

Nearpod

- Nearpod Demo Site access: Our investigation suggest reviewers may have accessed an improperly configured demo site. Many of the errors and feedback mentioned appear to reference the general Nearpod library or other program versions, not the specific Nearpod Math program under review. These other sites may have been accessed through a free account or a less secure version of the account provided. The appropriate demo account (credentials below) restricts access to only appropriate content and requires a direct link for other materials, including those that link to outside sources. When clicking on the links provided in the report, you can access the content, but a teacher or student without direct links would not have access. More importantly, students can only access content launched by a teacher further preventing exposure to any inappropriate materials.

Texas IMRA review demo site: www.nearpod.com

UN: npmath+texas+demo@nearpod.com

PW: DemoSchool2025!

- YouTube access: We acknowledge the valid concerns about YouTube access. While Renaissance employs Google's SafeSearch and YouTube SafeSearch, these filters aren't foolproof. We're currently reviewing YouTube integration our products. In the meantime, districts can disable YouTube access in Nearpod using the instructions outlined in this document:
https://support.renaissance.com/s/article/Disabling-YouTube-in-Nearpod-1752689625710?language=en_US

Freckle

- Audio Issues: We cannot replicate the reported sound problems and suspect they may have been device-specific. Our engineering team continues investigating these concerns.
- Video Quality: Many comments were made about the quality of the videos included throughout Freckle. While we initially indicated that videos couldn't be updated, your feedback highlighted their importance to our user experience. Therefore, we are in the process of updating videos for key topics, starting with Grades 3 – 6 and continuing from there.

This expanded review has enabled us to address many additional reviewer comments. We welcome the opportunity to discuss any remaining findings and appreciate the team's thorough evaluation. This process has been invaluable in helping us enhance Renaissance resources to better support educators and students.

Thank you for your partnership in this process