Developing an Accountability Plan for the Consortia-based Assessments
Drawing from Research

“There was a terrible fire, Dad, but I managed to keep it confined to my report card.”

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Overview

• The Movement Toward Better Standards and Assessments
• Consortia Assessment Examples
• Challenges for New Assessments
• Developing an Accountability Plan
Criticisms of Current Standards

• Rigor

• Comparability
Criticisms of Current Tests

• Do not measure more complex skills
• Narrow the curriculum
• Consume too much instructional time
• Miss many subjects and grades
• Achievement levels are highly variable
• Results may be used inappropriately
State Tests – California and Texas

Percent of Grade 8 students proficient or above

- TX STATE READ
- TX STATE MATH
- CA STATE READ
- CA STATE MATH

2003 2005 2007 2009
State NAEP – California and Texas

Percent of Grade 8 students proficient or above
Good Assessments…

• Are aligned to high quality standards that matter to colleges and employers

• Motivate and engage students

• Adjust to students prior knowledge and skills

• Contribute to student learning during and after the assessments

• Provide the public with comprehensive information about school quality
Will Consortia Assessments Be Better?

“If your friends told you to fly into a windshield, would you do that too?”
The SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Design

Beginning of Year

Interim Assessment

Computer Adaptive Assessment and Performance Tasks

Interim Assessment

Computer Adaptive Assessment and Performance Tasks

End of Year

Performance Tasks

End of Year Adaptive Assessment

Digital Clearinghouse
Multiple Choice

Which one of the numbers below has the same value as 3.5 \times 10^{-3}?

a) 35 \times 10^{-4}
b) 3.5 \times 10^{3}
c) .00035
d) 3500
Short Items

If $x$ and $y$ are positive integers, and $3x + 2y = 13$, what could be the value of $y$? Write [or enter] all possible answers.

$x=1$, $y=5$

$x=3$, $y=2$
Stimulus Text:

Brianna is running for class president. She has written a speech to present to the 4th grade class but needs to revise it first. Read the draft and then answer the question that follows.

Hi, my name is Brianna. I am running for class president, and I hope you will vote for me. I am involved in many activities, including track and theater. If I am elected, I will hold several fundraisers during the year so that all students in the 4th grade can go on a trip at the end of the year. If you want a class president who will work hard for you and listen to your needs, please vote for me next week! Also, we can donate a portion of the money to a charity of our choice.

Item Prompt:

One sentence is out of order and needs to be moved. To move that sentence, click the sentence to select it. Next, move the pointer to the new position and click again to place the sentence.
If I am elected, I will hold several fundraisers during the year so that all students in the fourth grade can go on a trip at the end of the year. Also, we can donate a portion of the money to a charity of our choice. If you want a class president who will work hard for you and listen to your needs, please vote for me next week.
Problem Solving Tasks

You are asked to design a new set of coins. All the coins must be circular, and they will be made of the same metal. They will have different diameters, for example:

Researchers have decided that the coin system should meet the following requirements:
Problem Solving Tasks

The diameter of a coin should not be smaller than 15mm and not be larger than 45mm.

Given a coin, the diameter of the next larger coin must be at least 30% larger.

The machine that makes the coins can only produce coins whose diameter is a whole number of millimeters, so for example, 17mm is allowed but 17.3mm is not.
Problem Solving Tasks

You should start with a 15mm coin and your set should contain as many coins as possible. Write the diameters of all coins in your set.
Counting Trees

The diagram shows some trees in a plantation.

The circles ⬜️ show old trees and the triangles ▲ show young trees.

Tom wants to know how many trees there are of each type, but says it would take too long counting them all, one by one.

1. What method could he use to estimate the number of trees of each type? Explain your method fully.
2. Use your method to estimate the number of:

(a) Old trees.

(b) New trees.
Oliver was a dog that lived in a small town near a lake. He loved to play outside. Oliver liked to play fetch, but his favorite thing to do was to chase leaves. He loved chasing leaves so much that his favorite time of year was fall when the leaves fell off the trees.

One beautiful fall day, Oliver and his owner, Jeff, went for a walk around the lake. They were enjoying the sunshine and the lake when suddenly a dragonfly flew past. For a moment, Oliver forgot where he and Jeff were and what they were doing. All of a sudden there was a big splash.

Write an ending for the story by adding details to tell what happens next.

Oliver thought that the dragonfly was a leaf. Excitedly he chased the insect but lost track of where he was and fell into the lake. Splash! Jeff, his owner laughed, then playfully jumped into the lake with Oliver! Fall is the best time of year.
Five swimmers compete in the 50-meter race. The finish time for each swimmer is shown in the video.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time (seconds)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Men's 50 Meter Freestyle

Explain how the results of the race would change if the race used a clock that rounded to the nearest tenth.

They would be the same.
Technology-Driven Assessments

- Save Patch
- WikiJones

Divide each unit into 4 equal pieces.
Challenges for New Assessments

• Short time frame
• Reporting *(results likely to be dramatically lower)*
• Validity especially for high stakes use
• Lack of scores for all subjects and grades
Potential Scoring Challenges

- Time and Cost
- Teachers
  - Limited Resource
  - Scheduling
  - Declining effect if used as professional development
- Cheating
Other Consortia Challenges

- Funding
- PARCC and Smarter Balanced not comparable
- School Technology
- Non-CCSS states
Transitioning to Common Core

"Of course you’ve seen that essay before, I’m repeating the 5th grade."
A Master Accountability Plan

1. Standards and Assessments Task Force
2. Dedicated time and leadership
3. What do you have now?
   a) State
   b) Benchmark
   c) Formative
4. Strengths and Weaknesses
A Master Accountability Plan

5. Where do you want to go? Set primary and secondary goals

6. How will you increase knowledge and share?

7. How will you build teacher capacity?

8. Timeline

9. Measure technology and capacity for new assessments

10. Evaluate and improve
Resources

- Smarter Balanced Web Site
- IT Readiness Tool
- New Assessments for the Common Core State Standards-ETS

✓ http://www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Coming_Together_April_2012_Final.PDF