

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

An Introduction to the Digital Library Joe Di Garbo



DIGITAL LIBRARY

Alliance District Convening
January 2015



EDUCATOR LEARNING GOALS

I understand...

- the Formative Assessment Process is an integral component of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System.
- the Smarter Balanced Digital Library will support the formative assessment process.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

I can...

- explain how the Formative Assessment Process is an integral part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System.
- use resources found in the Smarter Balanced Digital Library to support teaching and learning.

Smarter Balanced

A Balanced Assessment System

How do we get from here...

...to here?

Common Core State Standards specify K-12 expectations for college and career readiness

Summative assessments
Benchmarked to college and career readiness

Teachers and schools have information and tools they need to improve teaching and learning

All students leave high school college and career ready

Educator resources for **formative assessment practices** to improve instruction

Interim assessments
Flexible, open, used for actionable feedback



Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Formative Assessment Process Defined



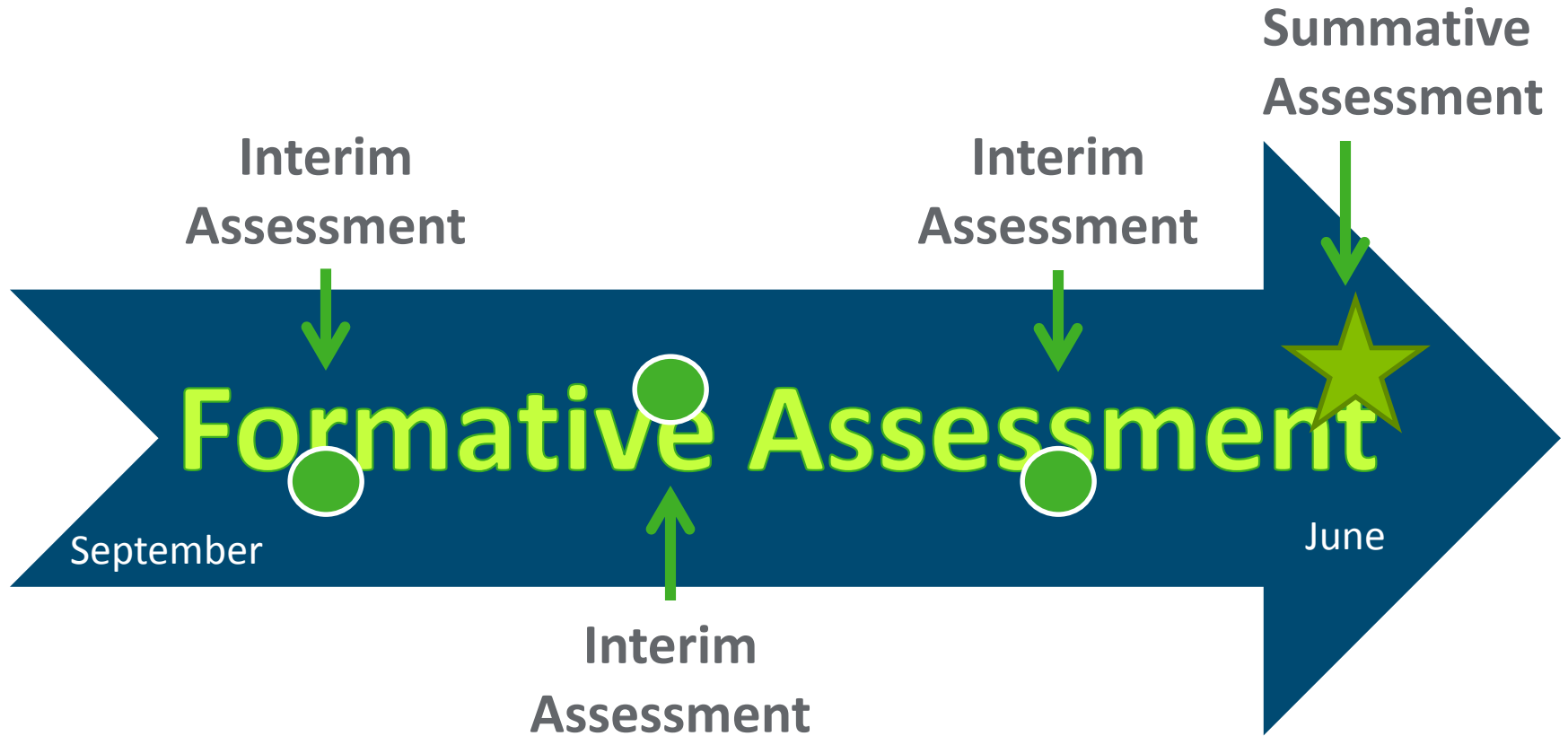
Formative assessment is a **deliberate process** used by teachers and students **during instruction** that provides **actionable feedback** that is used to **adjust** ongoing teaching and learning strategies to improve students' self-assessment, reflection and attainment of curricular learning targets/goals.

Key Features of Formative Assessment



- This is a **process**, not a “thing”
- It is used by **both teachers and students**
- Formative-assessment practices occur **during instruction** (literally)
- It provides **immediate assessment-based feedback** to teachers and students
- The function of this feedback is to help teachers and students make **immediate adjustments** that will improve students’ achievement of the intended learning.

Balanced Assessment System



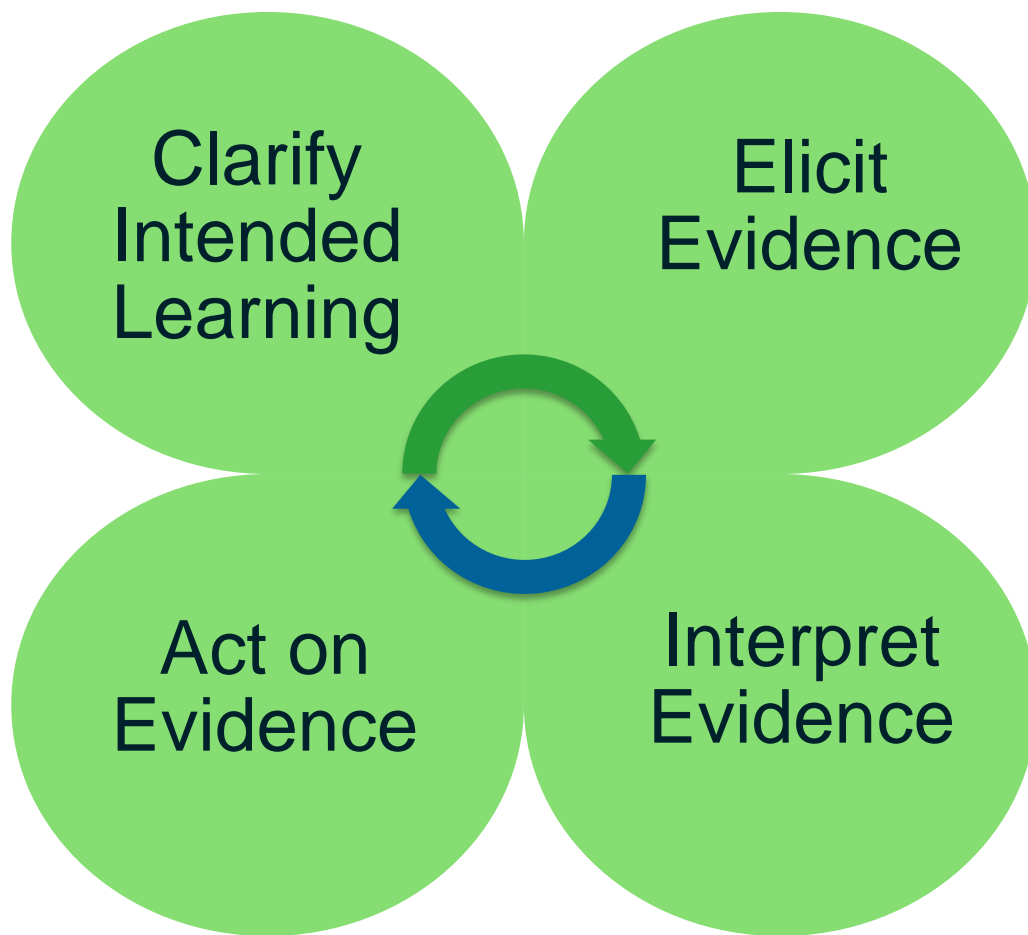
Scope, sequence, number and timing of assessments are locally determined



The Formative Assessment Process is NOT

- It is not a test.
 - Not Common Formative Assessments
 - Not benchmark assessments
 - Not end-of-course assessments
 - Not analysis of test data to make adjustments
- It is not random observations.
- It is not just good instruction.

Four Attributes of the Formative Assessment Process



Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Digital Library



- An online collection of instructional and professional learning resources contributed by educators for educators.
- Resources are aligned with the intent of the Common Core State Standards (CT Core Standards) and will help educators implement the Formative Assessment Process to improve teaching and learning.

Formative Assessment Practices and Strategies

- Are the basis for a digital library of professional development materials, resources, and tools.
- Are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.
- Are research-based instructional tools available on-demand.
- Help teachers address learning challenges and differentiate instruction.

Digital Library Resources

Assessment Literacy Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
- Resources for educators, students and families
- Frame Formative Assessment within a Balanced Assessment System
- Articulate the Formative Assessment Process
- Highlight Formative Assessment Practices and Tools

Exemplar Instructional Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
- Instructional coaching for educators
- Instructional materials for students
- Demonstrate/support effective implementation of the formative assessment process
- Focus on key content and practice from the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts

Education Resources

- High-quality vetted instructional resources and tools for educators
- High-quality vetted resources and tools for students and families
- Reflect and support the formative assessment process
- Reflect and support the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts
- Create Professional Learning Communities

Resources in the Digital Library

Assessment
Literacy Modules

Exemplar
Instructional Modules

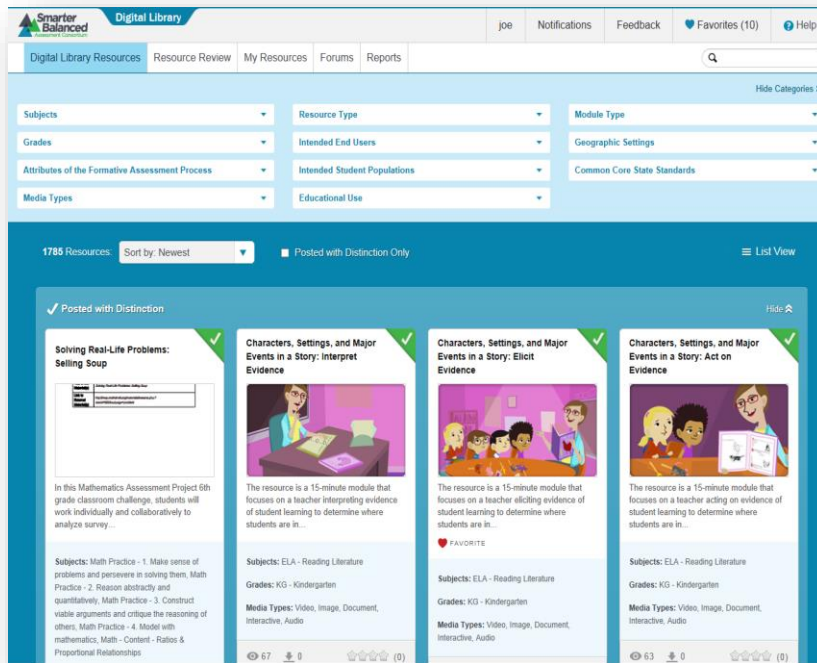
Education Resources



- Not an assessment bank
- Not an item bank
- Not a learning management system where educators can register for training or receive credit by completing specific online courses
- Not a library for general public (will require registration and login)
- Not a site where any resource can automatically be posted; all resources must be vetted through the Quality Criteria

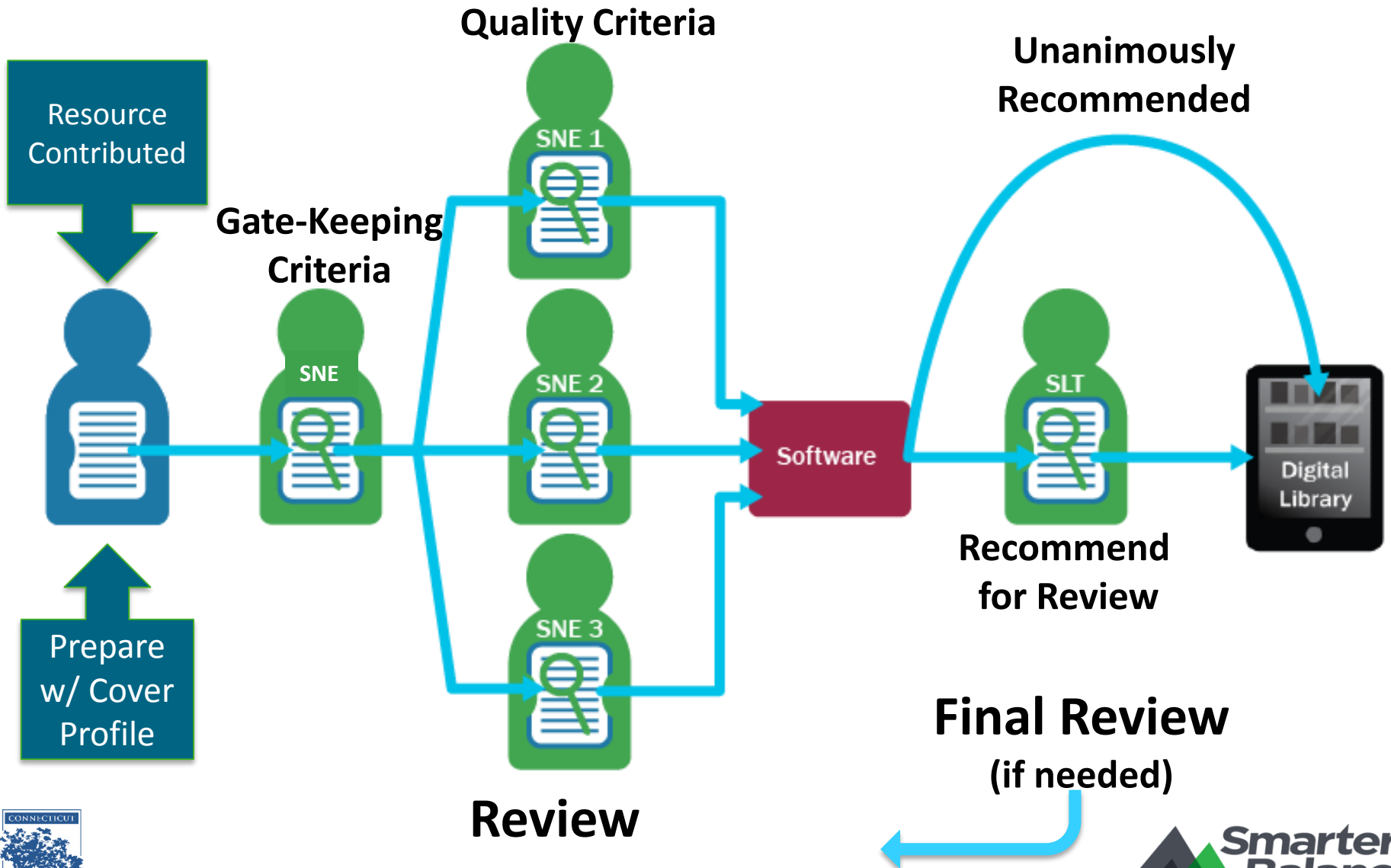
Digital Library Functionality

Uses state-of-the-art tagging, filtering, and search features to locate, view, download, favorite, and rate resources to:



- Expand educator practice to differentiate instruction for diverse learners
- Increase educator understanding about assessment literacy
- Promote engagement of students in their own learning
- Design professional development opportunities
- Compile materials for Professional Learning Communities

How Resources Enter the Digital Library



Cross-State Collaboration

Innovative collaboration features that promote collegial conversations across the country. These features:

- Encourage educators to rate resources
- Promote how the resources can be used
- Provide online forums for educators to share their expertise with and pose questions to colleagues

The screenshot displays the Smarter Balanced Digital Library interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Digital Library' selected. Below this, there are tabs for 'Digital Library Resources', 'Resource Review', 'My Resources', 'Forums', and 'Reports'. The 'Forums' tab is active, showing a list of forums. The forums are sorted by 'Most Participants' and include a search bar. The forums listed are:

Forum Title	Facilitator	Last Activity	Discussions	Posts	Participants
The Lowdown on the Digital Library	Consortium	Oct 20th, 2014 10:49 pm	4	90	62
Finding, Adapting and Discussing Resources for Diverse Learners	Consortium	Aug 20th, 2014 6:09 pm	4	9	8
Grade 9 - 12	Consortium	Sep 11th, 2014 7:33 pm	4	10	8
Suggest Future Enhancements	Consortium	Nov 1st, 2014 11:36 am	3	6	7
Grade 6 - 8	Consortium	Sep 11th, 2014 7:33 pm	3	3	6

Interactive Modules

More than 100 multi media modules for:

- Assessment literacy
- English language arts/literacy instruction
- Mathematics instruction
- Score reports



Assessment Literacy Module



Resource Title → Understanding the Smarter Balanced Assessment System

→ **Posted with Distinction**

Image of Primary Material →

Brief resource summary → This module provides an introduction to the three core components of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System — summative assessments,...

Favorite → FAVORITE

Select Tags → **Subjects:** Not Subject Specific
Grades: Not Grade Specific
Media Types: Video, Image, Interactive, Audio

Number of Views and Downloads → 2 0

Star Rating and Number of Reviews → (0)

Mathematics Instructional Module



Proportional Relationships: Elicit Evidence

Score Report Module



Two Types:

1. Score Report Types and Features
2. Using the Smarter Balanced Reporting System Data

Resource from the Digital Library

Descriptive Feedback Helps All Students Meet Standards

Combination of Instructional and Professional Learning Resource

♥ Add to Favorites

Author: Susan McCray, Casco Bay High School, Portland ME

Owner: Expeditionary Learning



What's next?

A user of the Digital Library will:

- Have access to innovative, comprehensive modules
- Use resources to support the formative assessment process in the context of the Common Core State Standards
- Rate and review resources
- Share experiences of using the resources
- Collaborate with colleagues across the consortium states





How could you use the **Digital Library** to support **Teaching and Learning?**



How will you use the
Formative Assessment Process
as an integral part
of improving
Teaching and Learning?



Evidence Generally Collected Through In-Class Observations

Domain Classroom Environment, Student Engagement and Commitment to Learning²

1

Teachers promote student engagement, independence and interdependence in learning and facilitate a positive learning community by:

- 1a.** Creating a positive learning environment that is responsive to and respectful of the learning needs of all students.
- 1b.** Promoting developmentally appropriate standards of behavior that support a productive learning environment for all students.
- 1c.** Maximizing instructional time by effectively managing routines and transitions.

Domain Instruction for Active Learning

3

Teachers implement instruction to engage students in rigorous and relevant learning and to promote their curiosity about the world at large by:

- 3a.** Implementing instructional content for learning.
- 3b.** Leading students to construct meaning and apply new learning through the use of a variety of differentiated and evidence-based learning strategies.
- 3c.** Assessing student learning, providing feedback to students and adjusting instruction.

Evidence Generally Collected Through Non-Classroom/Reviews of Practice

Domain Planning for Active Learning

2

Teachers plan instruction to engage students in rigorous and relevant learning and to promote their curiosity about the world at large by:

- 2a.** Planning of instructional content that is aligned with standards, builds on students' prior knowledge and provides for appropriate level of challenge for all students.
- 2b.** Planning instruction to cognitively engage students in the content.
- 2c.** Selecting appropriate assessment strategies to monitor student progress.

Domain Professional Responsibilities and Teacher Leadership

4

Teachers maximize support for student learning by developing and demonstrating professionalism, collaboration and leadership by:

- 4a.** Engaging in continuous professional learning to impact instruction and student learning.
- 4b.** Collaborating to develop and sustain a professional learning environment to support student learning.
- 4c.** Working with colleagues, students and families to develop and sustain a positive school climate that supports student learning.

Find out More

www.SmarterBalanced.org



The screenshot shows the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium website. At the top left is the logo. A navigation bar includes links for ABOUT, SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS, K-12 EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION, PARENTS & STUDENTS, and RESOURCES & EVENTS. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area features a 'Teachers' section with a photo of a teacher and students, a 'PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES' section with a star icon, and a 'TWITTER' section with a bird icon. A green arrow points from the URL above to the website.

This document is titled 'FOR TEACHERS' and features the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium logo. The main heading is 'Smarter Balanced and Teachers: Preparing Students for Success'. Below the heading is a sub-heading: 'The Smarter Balanced assessments are a key part of implementing the Common Core and preparing all students for success in college.'

This document is titled 'FOR PARENTS' and features the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium logo. The main heading is 'Preparing Students for Success'. Below the heading is a sub-heading: 'In order to meet the needs, teachers are implementing new academic standards that provide essential guidelines for English and math in grades K-12. These standards are designed to prepare students for college and careers. These new standards challenge students to develop deeper understanding of subject matter, apply their skills, and apply what they are learning to real-world situations.'

Key Features

- ✓ Measures critical thinking with questions that ask students to demonstrate their research, writing, and problem-solving skills.
- ✓ Assessments are online and students can take breaks so that they can do their best.
- ✓ Accessibility means new for all students and accommodations - such as Braille - for those who need them.
- ✓ Developed with input from K-12 teachers, higher education faculty and other experts.

Helping Kids Graduate Ready for College and Career

"[It sets] this is a way teacher to take the test of her, but her this is the only to be in the world."

— *Teacher*

"This assessment will be the best to help me if we can see it as we will be able to use it in our tests, to see if we are ready for college. It is a good test, and it helps to see how the student will be able to do it and to be able to do it."

— *Teacher*

Learn More

- Visit the Smarter Balanced website: <http://www.smarterbalanced.org>
- Follow us on Twitter: [@SmarterBalanced](https://twitter.com/SmarterBalanced)

Take the Test

- Take the test with the test software platform and sample test questions for grades K-12 and 14.
- Take the Practice Test: <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/sample-test/>

Resources in Spanish

www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/como-ayudar-a-todos-los-estudiantes-a-que-tengan-exito/

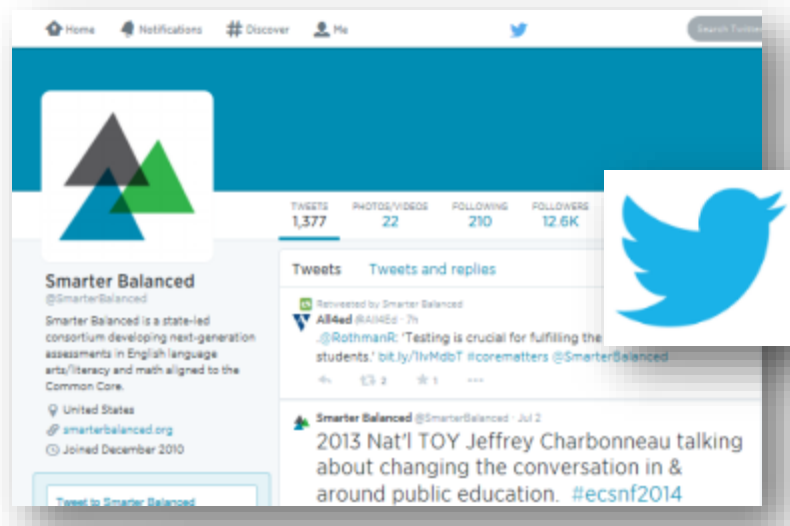
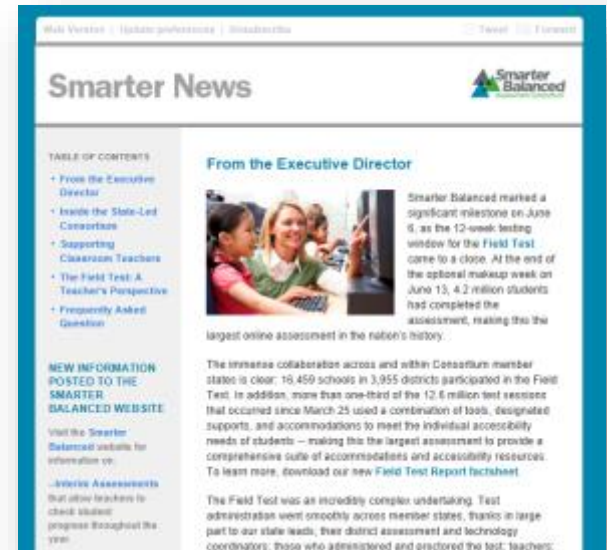


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CTAA

Connecticut Alternate Assessment
(Developed with NCSC)



CMT/CAPT
SCIENCE

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

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CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



CSDE/RESC Alliance Assessment Suite Workshops

Using the Digital Library to Support Teaching & Learning

Connecting the Claims to Classroom Instruction



Connecticut

State Department of Education Web site:

www.ct.gov/sde

Student Assessment

www.ct.gov/sde/StudentAssessment

www.ct.gov/sde/SmarterBalanced

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