Sensible Assessment Practices Webinar Series: Instruction and Assessment Cycle

This document provides an annotated list of resources included in the Sensible Assessment Practices Webinar Series: *Instruction and Assessment Cycle*. Foundational resources are categorized first, followed by resources referenced in the webinar. Additional relevant ancillary materials related to webinar topics are also provided.
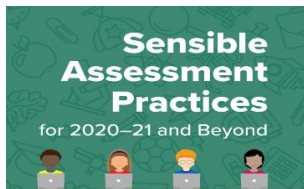
Foundational Resources:

- ▶ Sensible Assessment Practices for 2020-21 and Beyond This document offers guidance to educators on how they can "assess" their incoming students when schools re-open without necessarily having to "test" them. The assessment and instructional practices in this document are intended to apply to all students, including students with disabilities and English learners.
- ▶ Plan for Reimagining CT Classrooms for Continuous Learning The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for developing local Continuous Learning Plans to support the reopening of schools, allowing for continuity of learning.
- ▶ Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together This is intended to be a fluid document that will evolve based on the public health data trends as well as an understanding of the best way to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- ▶ To close the digital divide in Connecticut and empower students across the state to learn from home, Governor Lamont recently announced this initiative Everybody Learns Initiative to fill any device and/or connectivity gaps that may still remain.

Webinar Specific Resources:

Webpages

- ▶ Universal Design for Learning Guidelines: This document, offered by CAST, includes descriptions of possible activities and the research associated with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.
- ▶ The Types and Purposes of Student Assessment in Education: An FAQ: The CSDE published this resource to clarify the different assessment types and purposes.
- ▶ Volume 3: Resources to Support Student Learning: The CSDE published four volumes of resources to support lesson development and learning activities in response to COVID-19. Volume 3 offers a variety of resources that focus on assessment and instruction.
- ▶ Volume 4: Resources to Support Student Learning: The CSDE published four volumes of resources to support lesson development and learning activities in response to COVID-19. Volume 4 offers a variety of resources that focus on tiered instruction, SRBI, and MTSS Behavioral Resources.
- ▶ Fundamental Insights about Formative Assessment: This document, developed by FAST SCASS, describes key components of formative assessments and identifies ways in which in a coherent and balanced assessment system, the formative assessment process positively impacts teaching and learning while promoting equitable learning for all students.
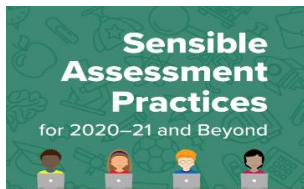
- [NCEO Five Formative Assessment Strategies to Improve Distance Learning Outcomes for Students with Disabilities](): This brief describes the use of formative assessment processes with students with disabilities during distance learning and presents five formative assessment strategies that can be used to support student understanding of their own learning.
- Scientific evidence is substantial for a number of areas central to children's school success and well-being, such as reading, language development, some areas of mathematics and social-emotional learning. Visit the CSDE's dedicated [webpage]() to access training, tools and resources related to SRBI.
- Smarter Balanced [Tools for Teachers](): Educator-created lessons, activities, strategies, and professional development to help tailor instruction and boost learning.
- [Better Lesson](): Provides professional learning, instructional strategies, and lesson plans to support in-person and remote learning. A few examples include [Analyzing Student Data to Inform Instruction]() and [Choice Boards for Student Agency]().

Articles

- [7 Classroom Management Mistakes—and the Research on How to Fix Them]() Edutopia, August 7, 2020. This article provides embedded research and links to help facilitate better classroom management practices.
- [5 Hand Signals for Managing Class Discussions Online and Offline](): Edutopia. This visual aid provides hand signals that can be used in person and remote to promote student engagement.
- [4 Keys to Making Online Learning Work](), Smart Brief, July 23, 2020. This article defines important factors for effective online learning.
- [Goalbook ToolKit](): Goalbook Toolkit guides educators working with specialized student populations to vary the levels of instructional support. We recommend reviewing their suggestions for instructional strategies and tools that support Universal Design for Learning ([UDL-aligned strategies]()).
- [Overview of Instructional and Assistive Technology: Critical Tools for Students who Struggle](), International Dyslexia Association. This fact sheet offers an overview and some general recommendations for selecting appropriate tools for learning or practicing skills and for allowing independent performance of a function that would be difficult without assistive technology.

Resources Related to Interim Assessments

- [Support Distance Learning Using Interim Assessments](): Interim Assessments for Smarter Balanced and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessments can be used

in a variety of ways to support student instruction while educators plan for and conduct distance learning opportunities. This brochure provides information on how teachers can use interims to support student learning remotely.

▶ Quick Guide to Administering Smarter Balanced and NGSS Interim Assessments Remotely: Given that some students are learning at home through distance learning, the Connecticut State Department of Education will allow students to take Interim Assessments at home using the Cambium Secure Browser as had been required, the SecureTestBrowser iPad app, or Chrome or Firefox web browsers. This document describes how Test Administrators (TAs) can remotely administer the Interim Assessments and how students may access and participate in an Interim Assessments.

▶ Next Generation Science Standards Interim Assessment Quick Guide: This quick guide provides the following information related to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Interim Assessments.

▶ Using Smarter Balanced and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Interim Assessments Remotely Considerations for Non-Embedded Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations: This document provides considerations for students who may need the provision of external materials to access the optional Interim Assessments remotely during distance learning.

▶ Assessment Viewing Application User Guide: This guide supports users of the Assessment Viewing Application (AVA), a secure online system that allows authorized users to view the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs), including the Focused IABs, and the Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) for administrative or instructional purposes.

▶ How to Activate a Test Session: Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments: This document provides instructions on how to activate a test session for the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments using the Test Administration (TA) Interface.

Videos

▶ Learn more about the Formative Process video.