



**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
Newsletter from the Clark County School District (CCSD)
Issue 16 - Week of June 2, 2014**

The Clark County School District SBAC Newsletter is a monthly e-mail that reports on current and upcoming Smarter Balanced development activities. To join the CCSD Smarter Balanced Newsletter, visit the website:

<http://ccsd.net/divisions/assessment-accountability-research-school-improvement-division/assessment>

In this issue:

- **Preview SBAC Digital Library**
- **New Features of the Smarter Balanced Practice Test**

Preview SBAC Digital Library

SBAC is offering a preview of the Digital Library from June 3 through September 30, 2014.

- During the preview, educators can become acquainted with the functionality of the Digital Library.
- A limited set of initial resources will be available to view, which will display the future utility of the Digital Library.
- Users will also become familiar with user rating, review, and comment features as well as collaboration features that encourage conversation among educators across the consortium.

New Features of the Smarter Balanced Practice Test

The refreshed Practice Test scheduled for release in May 2014 includes new questions and performance tasks. Enhancements also include additional embedded universal tools, designated supports and accommodations. New features include:

- Questions that are expected to appear on the operational assessment (Math and ELA)
- Improvements in wording, formatting, and directions (Math and ELA)
- Questions that span a range of difficulty from "very easy" to "very difficult" (Math)
- Performance tasks that utilize more open-ended response types to explain complex, real world problems (Math)
- New or revised reading and listening passages (ELA)
- Revised scoring rubrics for teacher use (ELA)
- Glossaries in 10 languages and several dialects
- Full stacked Spanish translation for math in every grade level

To access the refreshed Practice Test: <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>