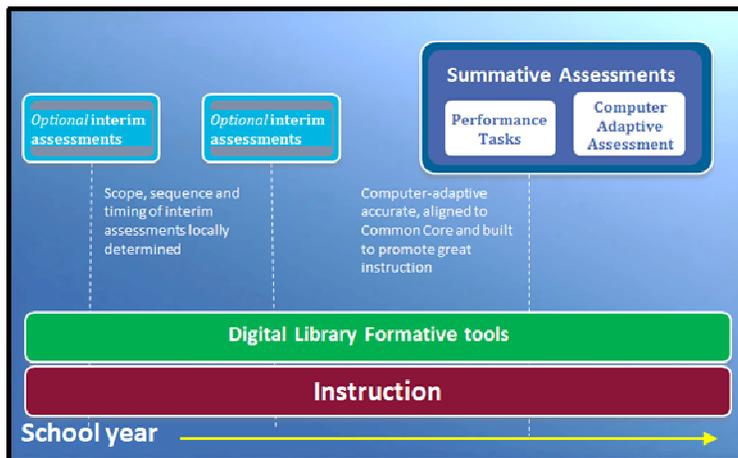


Focus on Assessment

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New Resources for the Smarter Balanced Assessment System



All teachers in the Clark County School District have access to the Smarter Balanced Digital Library. Please contact Mark Oakden at (702) 799-4747 or via InterAct to establish your Digital Library account.

This content is adapted from:
<https://www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/>

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments

The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments are aligned to the Nevada Academic Content Standards and are intended to provide actionable information to inform instruction. These flexible assessments are designed to support teaching and learning, and can be administered at the discretion of the schools. These recommended assessments consist of the following:

- Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) replicate the experience of the Summative Assessment in both length and content
- Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) concentrate on a specific skill and are shorter in length
- Test items for both the ICAs and IABs are developed under the same conditions as those used for the summative assessments
- Most items can be scored by the Smarter Balanced test delivery engine. Constructed-response, brief write items, and performance tasks must be scored by the school

Smarter Balanced Digital Library

The Digital Library is a growing online collection of instructional and professional learning resources. These resources are high quality and should be used in conjunction with the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments to prepare students to be college or career ready upon graduation.

Tagging and filtering capabilities enable teachers to locate resources to:

- Participate in Professional Learning Communities
 - Empower students to set achievement goals
 - Identify professional learning opportunities for their school
- The Digital Library provides a platform for collaboration among educators across the country. These features allow teachers to:
- Rate shared resources and exchange ideas for implementation or adapting resources
 - Participate in online discussion forums to share their experiences and pose questions to colleagues

Cut Scores for End of Course (EOC)

In August, Nevada educators and stakeholders recommended cut scores for the Spring 2016 test administration of the ELA I/II and Math I/II EOC assessments. Achievement Level Descriptor (ALD) Levels 2, 3, and 4 were recommended for meeting graduation requirements. On October 6, 2016, the State Board of Education passed the recommended cut scores for Classes of 2019 and beyond. The four ALDs are listed below:

Level 1	The student has not met the achievement standard and requires substantial and significant improvement to demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed as preparation for success in college and/or career after high school.
Level 2	The student has minimally met the achievement standard and may require specific and targeted improvement to demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed as preparation for success in college and/or career after high school.
Level 3	The student has met the achievement standard and has demonstrated progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills needed as preparation for success in college.
Level 4	The student has exceeded the achievement standard and has clearly demonstrated the knowledge and skills needed as preparation for success in college.



Protection Assurance

For more information see **Whistle Blower Memo 16-17** found in:
 InterAct > District Link >
 Student Assessment >
 Test Security & Administration

2016-2017 Whistle Blower Protection Assurance

Nevada Revised Statutes 390.350 through 390.430 provide for specific rights and responsibilities of school district personnel with regard to the disclosure of irregularities in testing administration and testing security relative to all state and district-mandated examinations. "Irregularity in testing administration" means the failure to administer an examination in the manner intended by the entity that created the examination, as cited from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE).

School officials are encouraged to disclose testing irregularities, and it is the intent of the legislature to protect the rights of a school official who makes such a disclosure. A school official shall not directly or indirectly use or attempt to use his/her official authority or influence to intimidate, threaten, coerce, command, or influence another school official in an effort to interfere with or prevent the disclosure of information concerning testing irregularities.



October 2016

**AARSI Itinerant Testers
 assessed 9,846
 students using the
 WIDA-ACCESS
 Placement Test**

Want to Get Ahead of the Race?

2017 Testing Window for WIDA

Kindergarten	January 9 - March 3
Grades 1-12	January 23 - March 3

Test coordinators may access www.wida.us to obtain all the training materials needed for the annual WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 testing.

As the testing window approaches, the Assessment Department will send support materials to the schools to assist with testing preparation. Questions can be directed to the Assessment Department by calling (702) 799-1041, Ext. 5228 or 5834.