



Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
Newsletter from the Clark County School District (CCSD)
Issue 3 - Week of April 1, 2013

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/sbac>

In this issue:

- **Spring 2013 Pilot Testing – Scientifically Selected Schools**
- **Adoption of the Initial Achievement Level Descriptors**
- **Smarter Balanced Sample Items and Performance Tasks**

Spring 2013 Pilot Testing – Scientifically Selected Schools

Smarter Balanced has recruited over one million students to participate in the Spring 2013 Pilot test. Forty-eight (48) CCSD schools with over 21,000 students will participate in the pilot from February to May 2013. Participating schools that have questions about the scientific pilot test should contact the American Institutes for Research help desk by phone at 866-815-7246 or by email at smarterbalancedhelpdesk@air.org.

Adoption of the Initial Achievement Level Descriptors

On March 20, 2013, the Governing States of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium approved the initial achievement level descriptors (ALDs), which make a distinction between the levels of student performance in English language arts/literacy and mathematics on the Smarter Balanced assessments.

The complete article can be found on the Smarter Balanced website:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/news/smarter-balanced-approves-initial-alds-and-sustainability-plan/>

The initial ALDs can be found at:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/achievement-level-descriptors-and-college-readiness/>

Smarter Balanced Sample Items and Performance Tasks

The sample assessment items and performance tasks can be viewed on the [Smarter Balanced website](http://www.smarterbalanced.org).