



**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
Newsletter from the Clark County School District (CCSD)
Issue 4 - Week of May 6, 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>

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Smarter Balanced Practice Tests

From the CDE Update: On May 29, 2013, Smarter Balanced will release a set of computer-based Practice Tests for grades 3 through 8 and grade 11. For each grade, a Practice Test will be available in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The Practice Tests will include an array of item types, including selected response, constructed response, and performance tasks, and will be built using test blueprints similar to those for the operational tests. The Practice Tests will support several accommodations including: text-to-speech for mathematics and ELA tests (not including ELA passages); Braille for mathematics and ELA tests; and, for mathematics tests only, Spanish pop-up glossaries for construct-irrelevant terms and American Sign Language. The Practice Tests will be publicly available on the Smarter Balanced Web site and will be accessible until the implementation of the operational Smarter Balanced assessments in the 2014–15 school year.

Please note: The change from a Volunteer Pilot Test to a Practice Test does not impact the Scientific Pilot Test. All schools registered for the Scientific Pilot Test will continue to test as scheduled.

Curriculum Engine Update

SBAC resources have been added to the math and ELA unwrapped standards in Curriculum Engine for grades 3-12. In the "Smarter Balanced (SBAC) Resources" tab you will find a link to various resources released by SBAC. Additionally, many standards include direct links to sample items and performance tasks aligned to the standard (curriculum.wiki-teacher.com).