



Update on Smarter Balanced Activities

State Board of Education Meeting

January 14, 2015

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Smarter Balanced System

| Component | Purpose |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Summative | Tests used for end-of-year accountability and evaluation |
| Interim | Tests used for timely and periodic information based on local needs/goals |
| Digital Library (Formative) | Educator resources that support measuring student learning in real-time during instruction |



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Digital Library

The screenshot shows the Smarter Balanced Digital Library website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium logo, the text "Digital Library", and user options: "Pete", "Notifications", "Feedback", "Favorites (5)", and "Help". Below this is a search bar and a "Digital Library Resources" tab. The main content area features several filter dropdown menus: "Subjects", "Grades", "Attributes of the Formative Assessment Process", "Media Types", "Resource Type", "Intended End Users", "Intended Student Populations", "Educational Use", "Module Type", "Geographic Settings", and "Common Core State Standards". A "Hide Categories" link is also present. Below the filters, it displays "1830 Resources:" with a "Sort by: Newest" dropdown and a "Posted with Distinction Only" checkbox. A "List View" icon is on the right. The resource list shows three items, each with a green checkmark in the top right corner:

- Calculating Volumes of Compound Objects**: This resource involves the students
- Ferris Wheel**: This is a ready-to-use resource that teachers
- The New England Fishing Industry: Sea Changes in a Community**: This unit on primary sources chronicles the

Each resource card includes a small table with "Title", "URL to Resource", and "Intended Audience". The third resource also includes a table for "Common Core State Standards" with columns for "Grade", "ELA/Literacy", and "History/Social Studies".



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Interim Assessments

- Available late January 2015
- Two types-
 - The interim comprehensive assessments (ICAs) are full assessments based on the same blueprints as the summative assessments.
 - The interim assessment blocks (IABs) are shorter-more focused assessments.
- Reporting results-
 - Interim comprehensive results will consist of an overall scale score, achievement level and claim score. Interim assessment block results will consist of one score- above standard, at or near standard, and below standard.
 - Interim assessment results are reported locally, not to the state.

Achievement Level Setting for Smarter Balanced Assessments



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- **Online panel** (October 6-17) allowed K-12 educators, higher education faculty, parents, and other interested parties to participate virtually in recommending achievement levels.
- **In-person workshop** (October 13–19) with panels of educators and other stakeholders working in grade-level teams made recommendations for the thresholds of the four achievement levels.
- **Vertical articulation committee** (October 20-22) a subset of the in-person workshop, examined recommendations across all grades to consider the reasonableness of levels.
- **Approval of achievement levels** (November 2014) Member States approved the proposed achievement levels and Smarter Balanced released the document, *The Interpretation and Use of Scores and Achievement Levels*.

Reporting Summative Results for 2014-15



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- Individual student results available electronically within four weeks
- Delivery of results takes into account machine scoring and hand-scoring.
- Results include an overall scale score, performance level and claim level.