



The River Activity: Setting the Stage

2015–16 CAASPP Institutes



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Overview of Module

- Purpose of the River Activity.
- Using elements of a river to help describe your team's journey.
- Sample river.



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

The River Activity

- The “river” is a visual depiction of your team’s experience implementing one or more of the action steps identified in the fall.
- Highlight areas that were successful, those that presented barriers, how those barriers were addressed, and the current status of implementation.



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

The River Activity, cont.

- **Rapids** represent obstacles that were tricky, but were solved.
- **Boulders** represent obstacles that were too difficult to solve and remain unsolved to this day. Perhaps a boulder caused your team to switch directions.



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

The River Activity, cont.

- ***Forks*** in the river can represent shifts in direction from your team's original plan.
- ***Calm pools*** represent areas of your team's implementation plan that went as well or better than expected.



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

The River Activity, cont.

- ***Whirlpools*** represent areas where your team and others around you weren't sure about which direction you were heading (i.e., your team was "swirling").



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

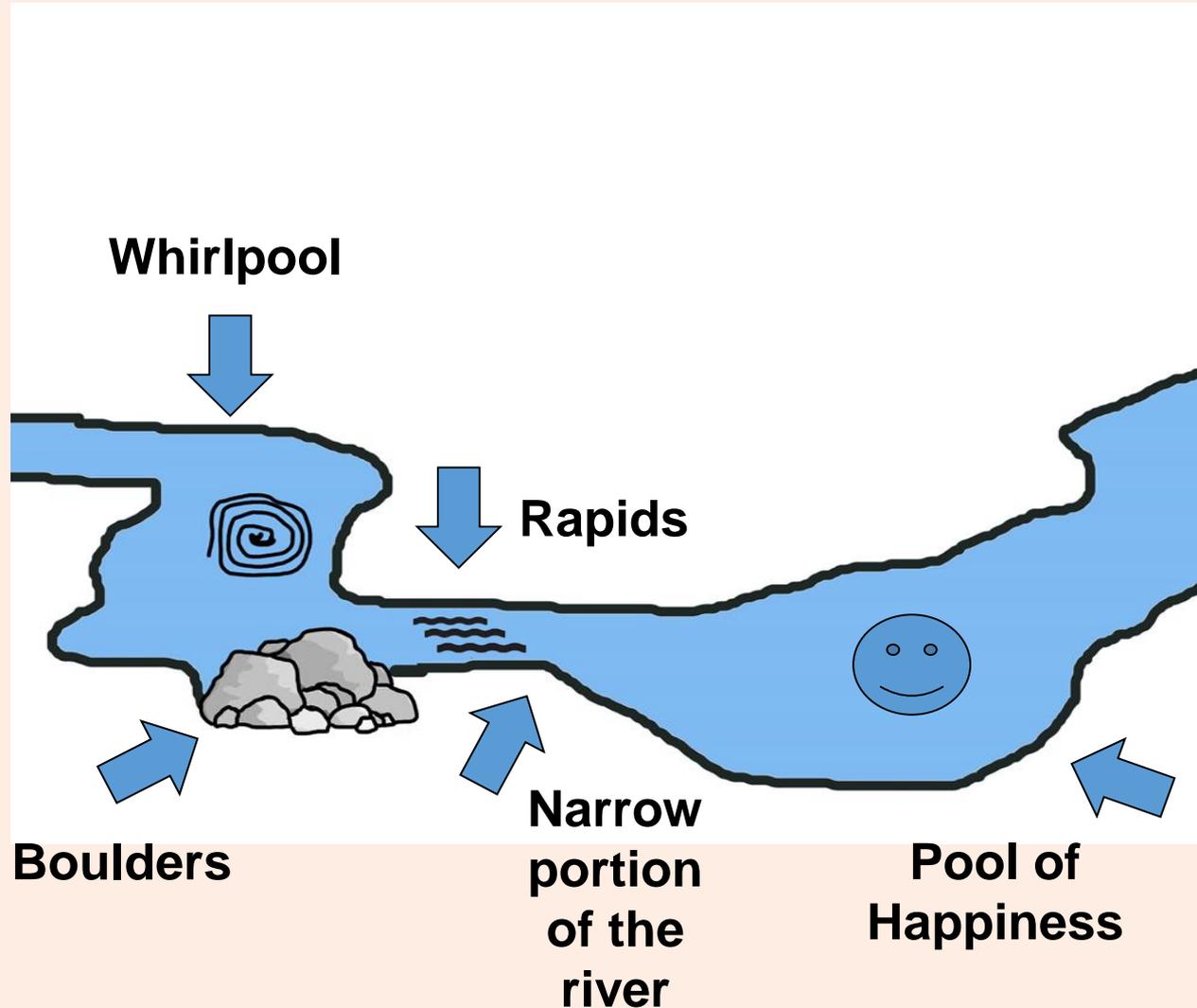
The River Activity, cont.

- Also consider varying the width of your river to represent different feelings your team experienced during implementation.
 - Narrow portions can represent times of uncertainty, stress, or anxiety.
 - Wider portions can represent calm and peace.



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

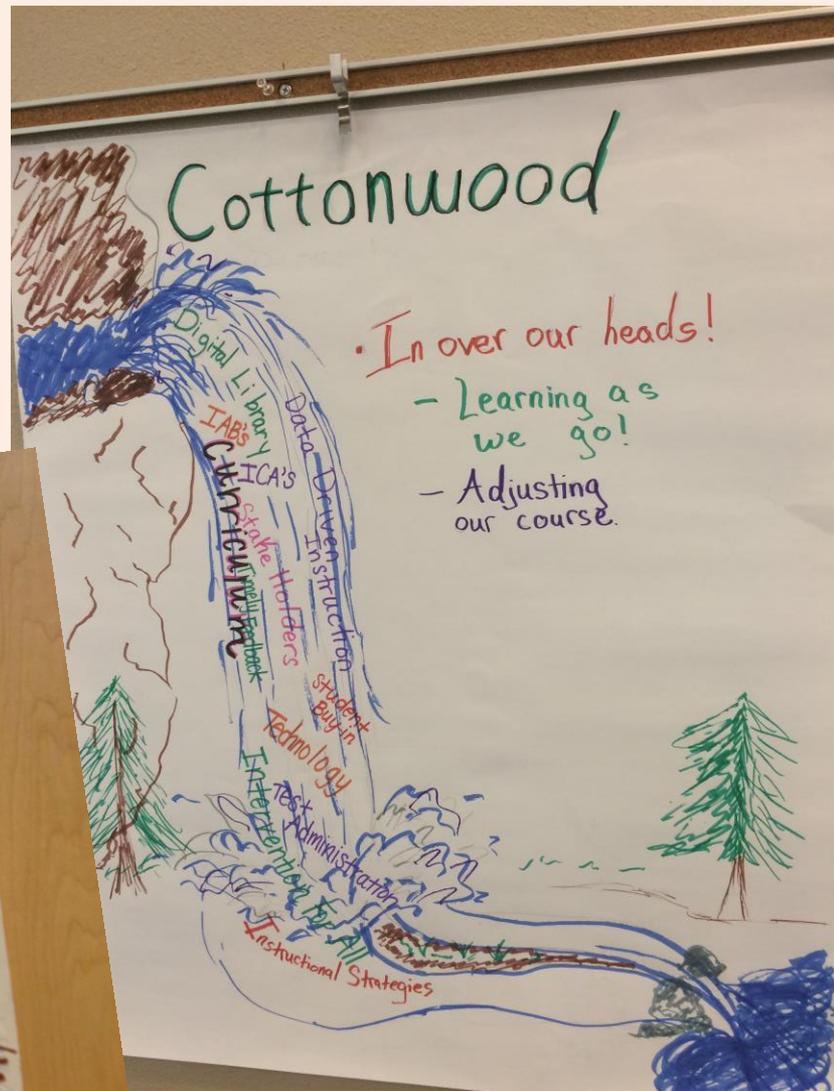
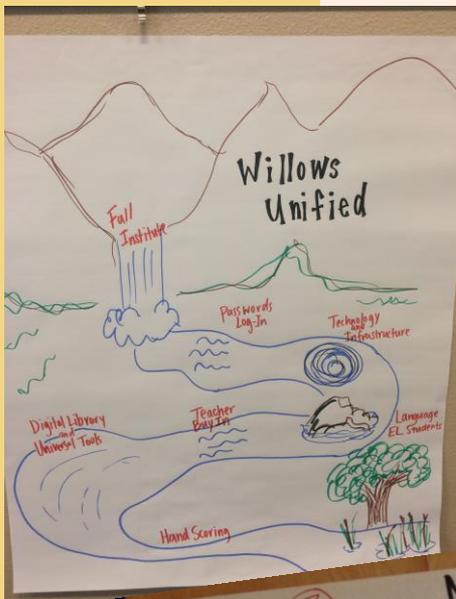
A Sample “River”





TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

River Examples from CAASPP Institute Participants



Ororille City Elementary



• Prepared Materials to have teachers discuss assessment targets, claims, & DOK

• Assoc Supt. shared info on assessment targets, DOK, River to the materials of Grade-level Facilitators, who in turn, shared w teachers.

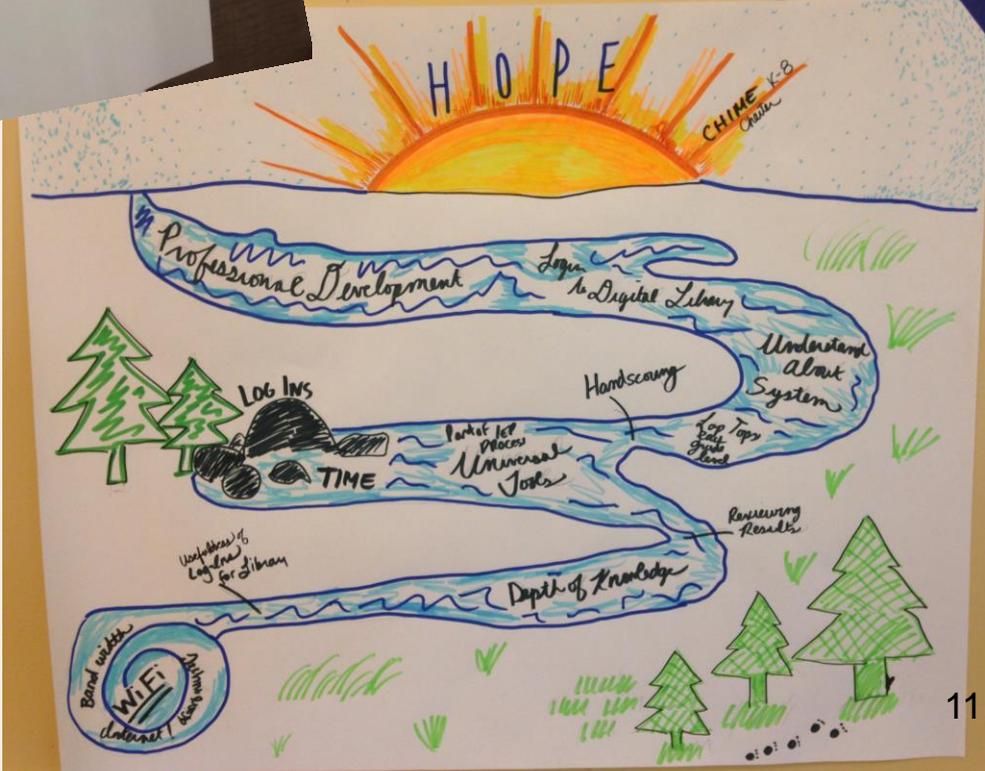
• Teachers are still trying to figure out what the assess. targets mean - hours use them to inform instruction

• some teachers shared back charts w parents & colleagues

• some teachers' lessons have deeper levels of questioning based on DOK choice

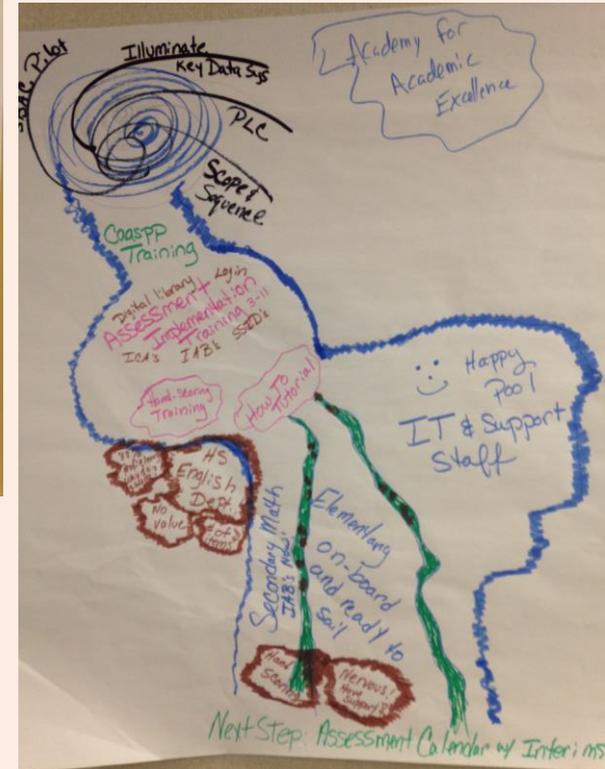
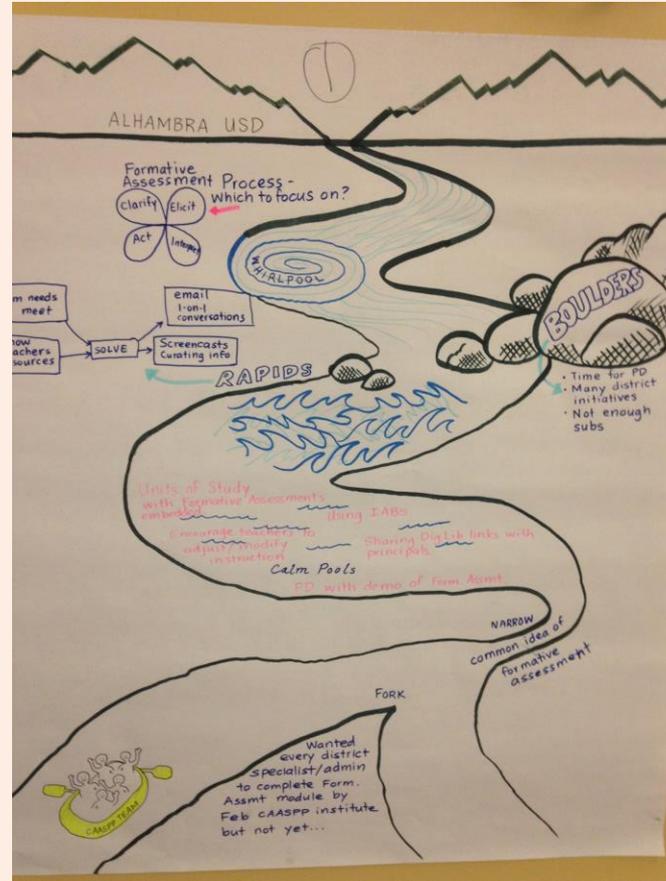
• Principals still need time to share assess targets, claims & standards aligned w staff

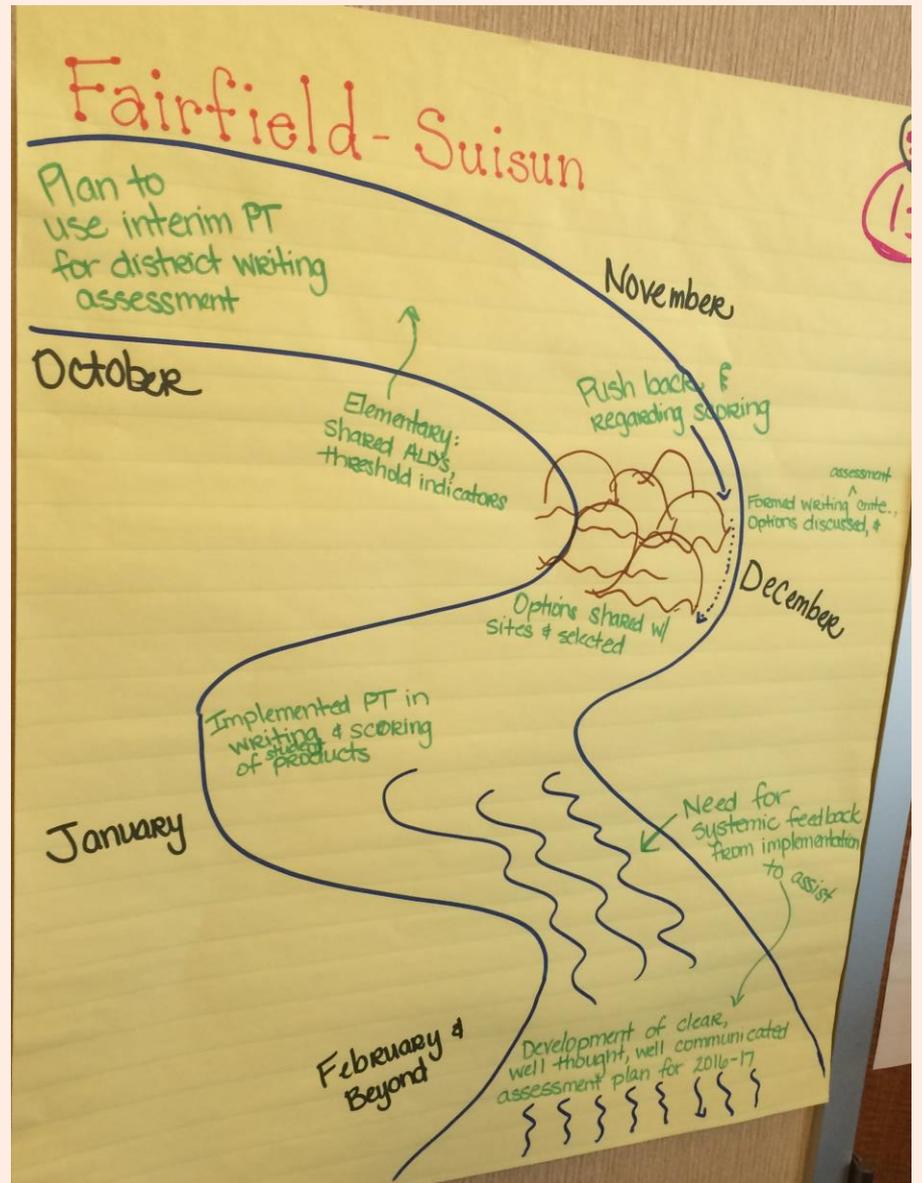
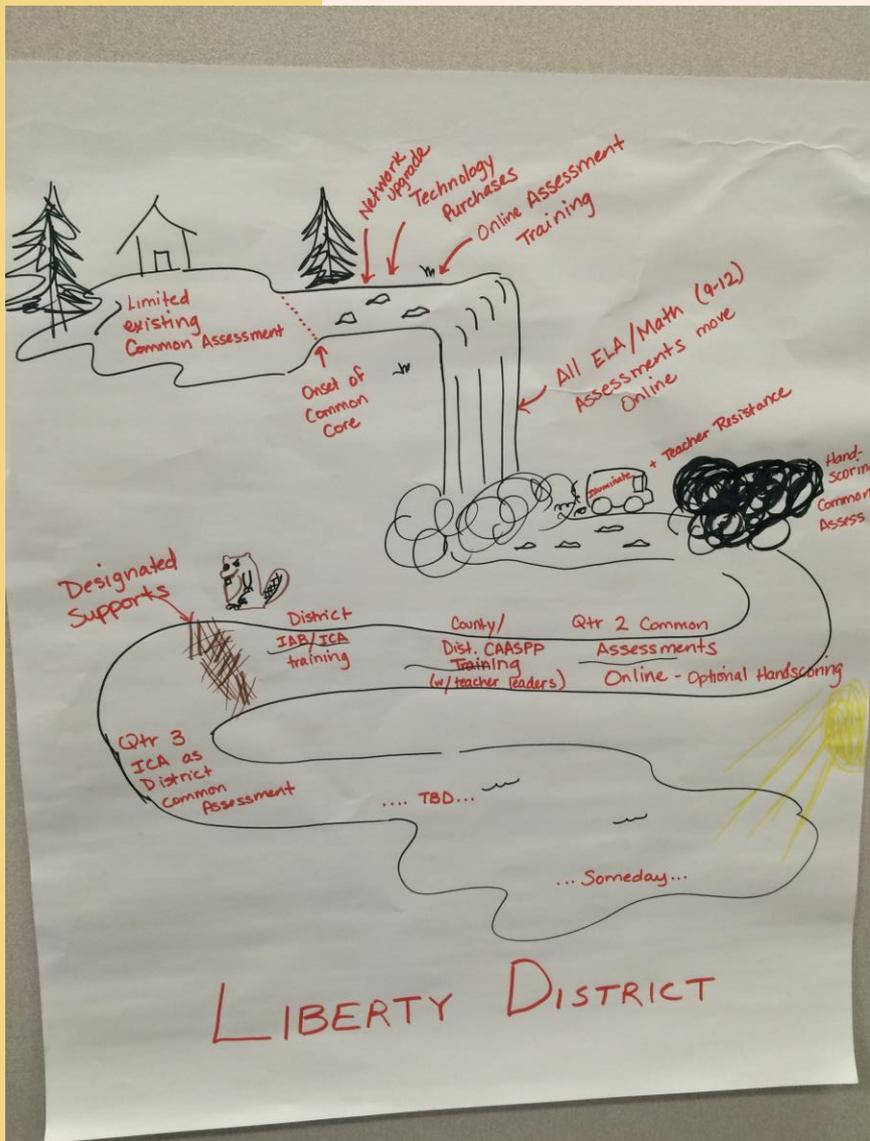
• Admin/Teachers still need time to figure assess targets, claims & standards align w parents





TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction







TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

***This is the end of
this module.***

Thank you for watching!