



# Assessment Transition

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Presentation to the  
State Board of Education

May 8, 2013

Deborah V.H. Sigman  
Deputy Superintendent  
District, School & Innovation Branch  
California Department of Education

# California has a clear and inspiring vision for public education, focused on great instruction and grounded in the Common Core State Standards

## California's vision for career and college readiness

- **High quality teaching and learning in every classroom, where assessments guide planning and progress in the classroom for great instruction**
- **Built on the Common Core State Standards, which bring California's standards up to date and from good to great**
- **And reinforced by practical supports for teachers that give them the information and the tools to meet students where they are and help them to learn more**
- **So that we can help more students who are already proficient reach the next level and help students who are not close the gap**
- **...with the goal of ensuring that all students, regardless of where they are from or where they live, graduate prepared for college and careers in the global economy of the 21st century**

# The new vision is generating a lot of excitement...

**81% of California teachers surveyed are excited about CCSS and Smarter Balanced<sup>1</sup>**

**"I'm very excited about the new assessments, especially because they are so reflective of how I teach. For the first time in a state assessment, my students will be asked to interact with information, moving things around, highlighting things, manipulating data, just as they do when I'm teaching them ...**

**In the past, I found there was a disconnect between what they learned in class and what they were asked to do or know on the test. I would often have to stop high quality teaching and try to explain how they would be asked about this on the test. Really, only about 50% of the test looked like the kinds of work students did in my classroom."**

*–Rebecca Mieliwocki, 2012 California and National Teacher of the Year*

**"It is crucial that our students demonstrate their mastery of core academic content by thinking critically to solve complex problems and working collaboratively. Our future workforce must be able and motivated to...continue to develop and produce results for their future employers."**

*–CA's 20 business and economic development entities, joint letter*

**"[We] believe that the adoption of a new accountability system that assesses whether ...education [institutions] are creating an engaging learning environment and preparing students with 21st Century and Deeper Learning skills ...is critical to producing a globally competitive workforce."**

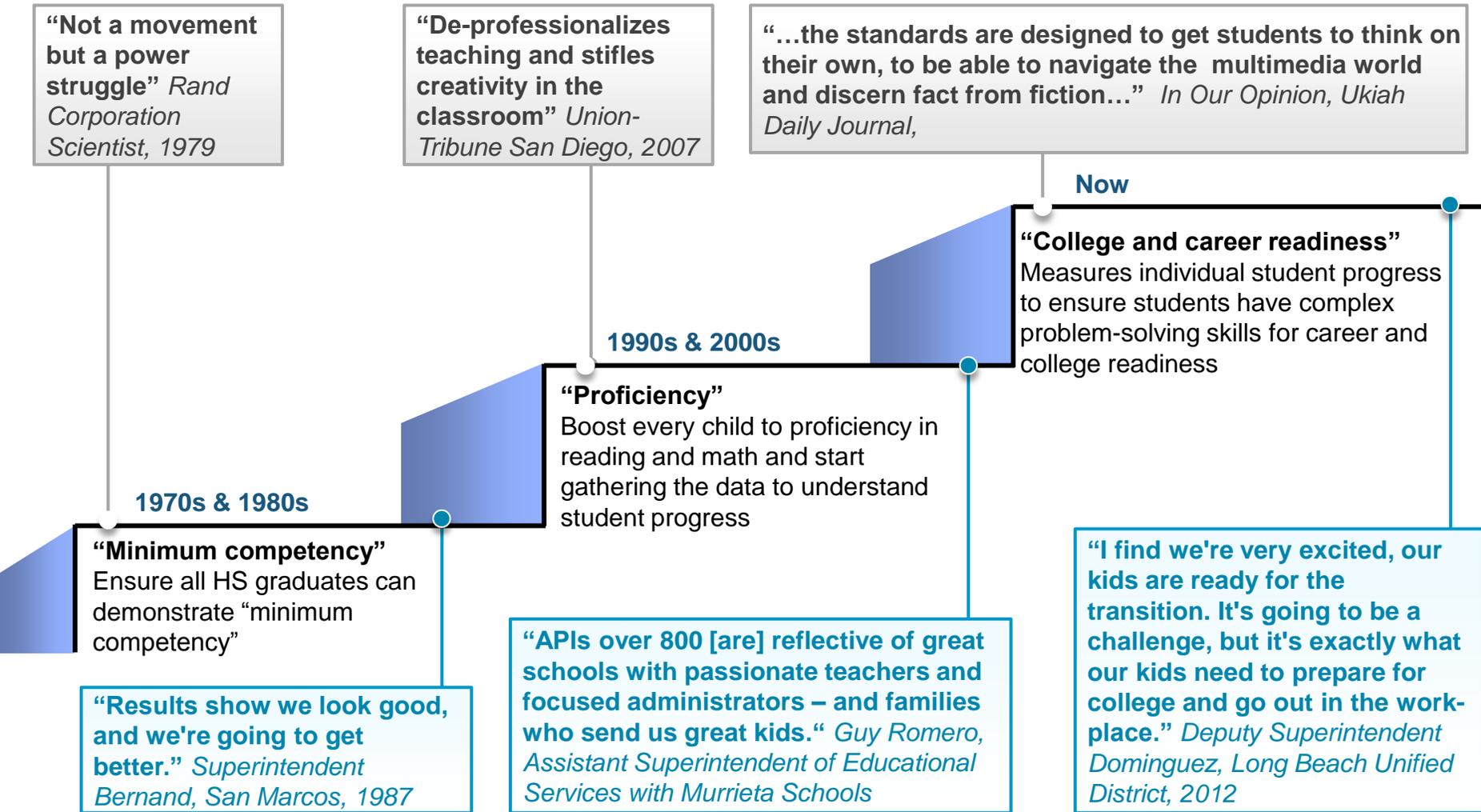
*– National Metropolitan Business Alliance*

**More than 11,000 employers who collectively provide more than 3 million California jobs support Smarter Balanced<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> CCSS survey, November 2012

<sup>2</sup> Regional Economic Association Leaders of California (R.E.A.L.) public letter of Support for Performance and Deeper Learning, July 2012

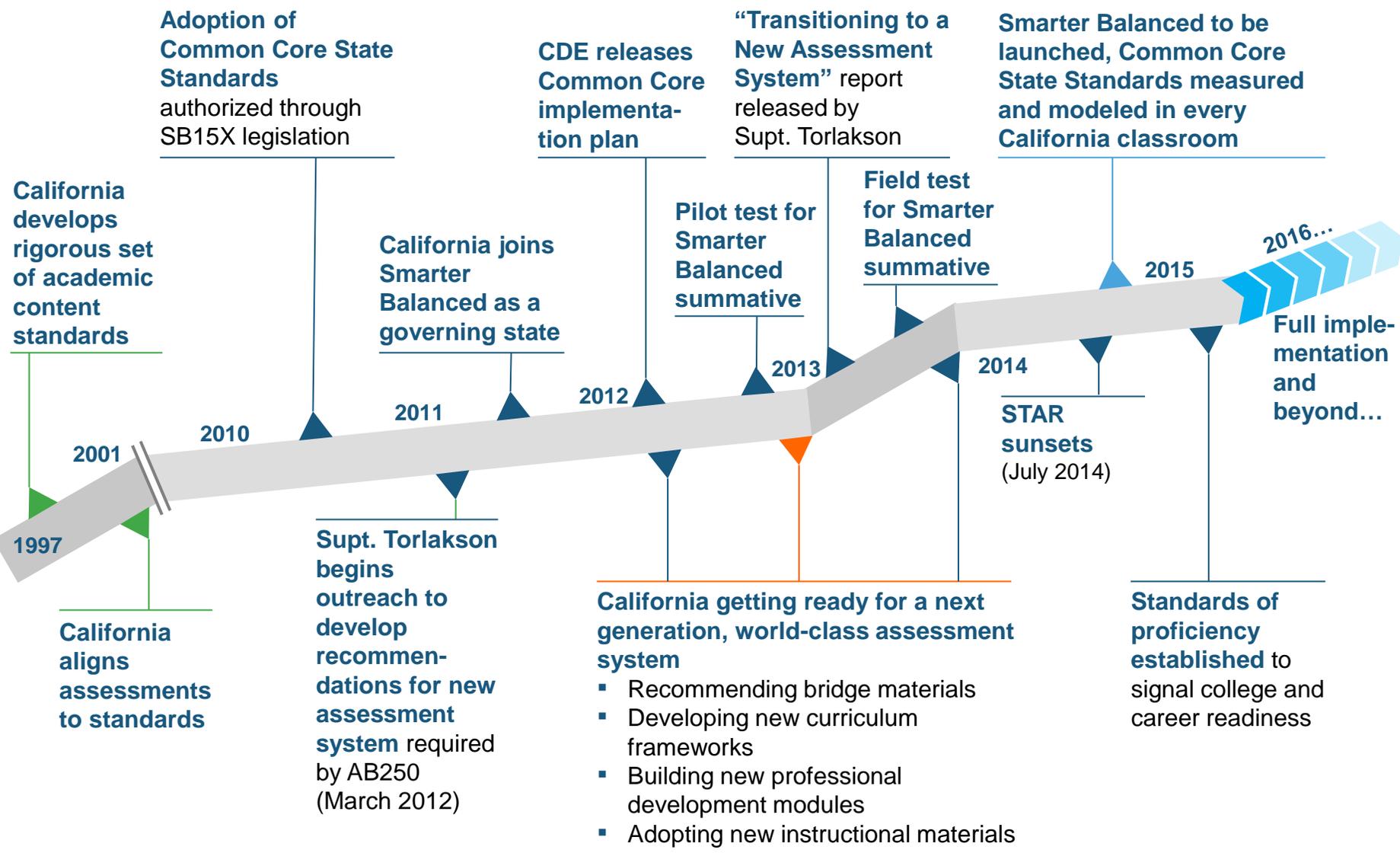
# Education has never been stagnant; the Common Core and Smarter Balanced are part of the normal, important progression



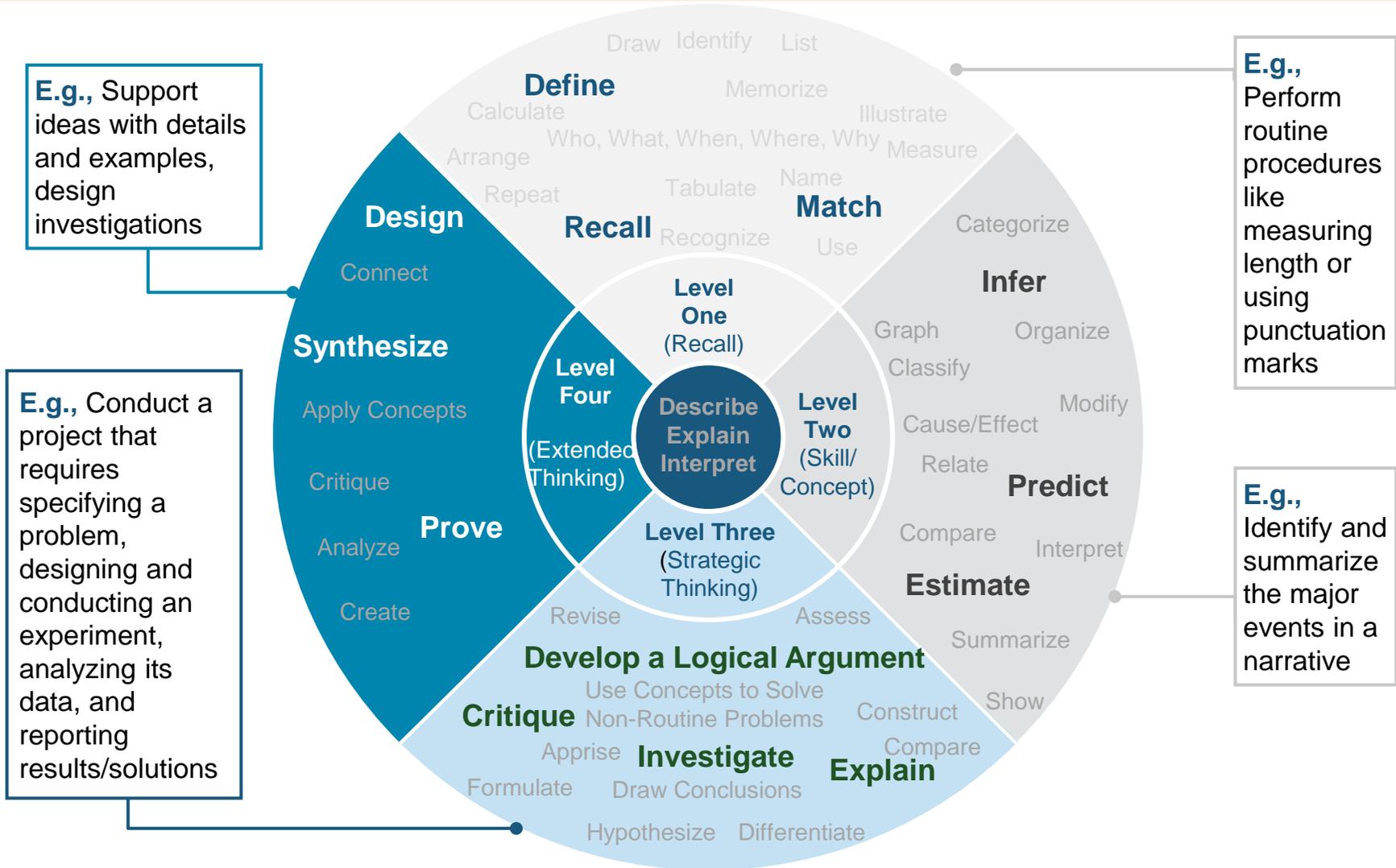
**At each inflection point people have been nervous, but each time it has been the right thing to move forward**

Source: (1) ASCD Journal, 1979, [http://www.ascd.org/ASCD/pdf/journals/ed\\_lead/el\\_197905\\_newman.pdf](http://www.ascd.org/ASCD/pdf/journals/ed_lead/el_197905_newman.pdf); (2) Griffin, Vern. “Tests show San Marcos on upgrade | Results please school district.” *San Diego Union-Tribune*. 22 September 1987; (3) The Californian. “NCLB law panned in UCR study.” *San Diego Union-Tribune*. 3 April, 2009. (4) Kabbany, Jennifer. “Temecula, Murrieta districts post top county test scores.” *San Diego Union-Tribune*. 1 September 2006; (5) Staff. “In Our Opinion – New Standards Apply to Everyone”. *Ukiah Daily Journal*. 20 April, 2013. (6) Puente, Kelly. “Long Beach district to phase in Common Core over 3-year period.” *Press Telegram Long Beach*. 4 August, 2012.

# We are in the midst of our journey toward Common Core implementation



# Common Core State Standards bring more breadth and depth by emphasizing the full range of thinking skills



# “Not just another test”...Smarter Balanced is critical to helping California achieve its vision

**1** Prepares California's students for a changing world

Assessments model instruction and prepare students for the new economy

**2** Supports teachers with a practical suite of resources

Tools for instruction and information are integrated to promote and inform great teaching

**3** Connects learning to life after high school – career or college

Aligned with college curricula and employer expectations

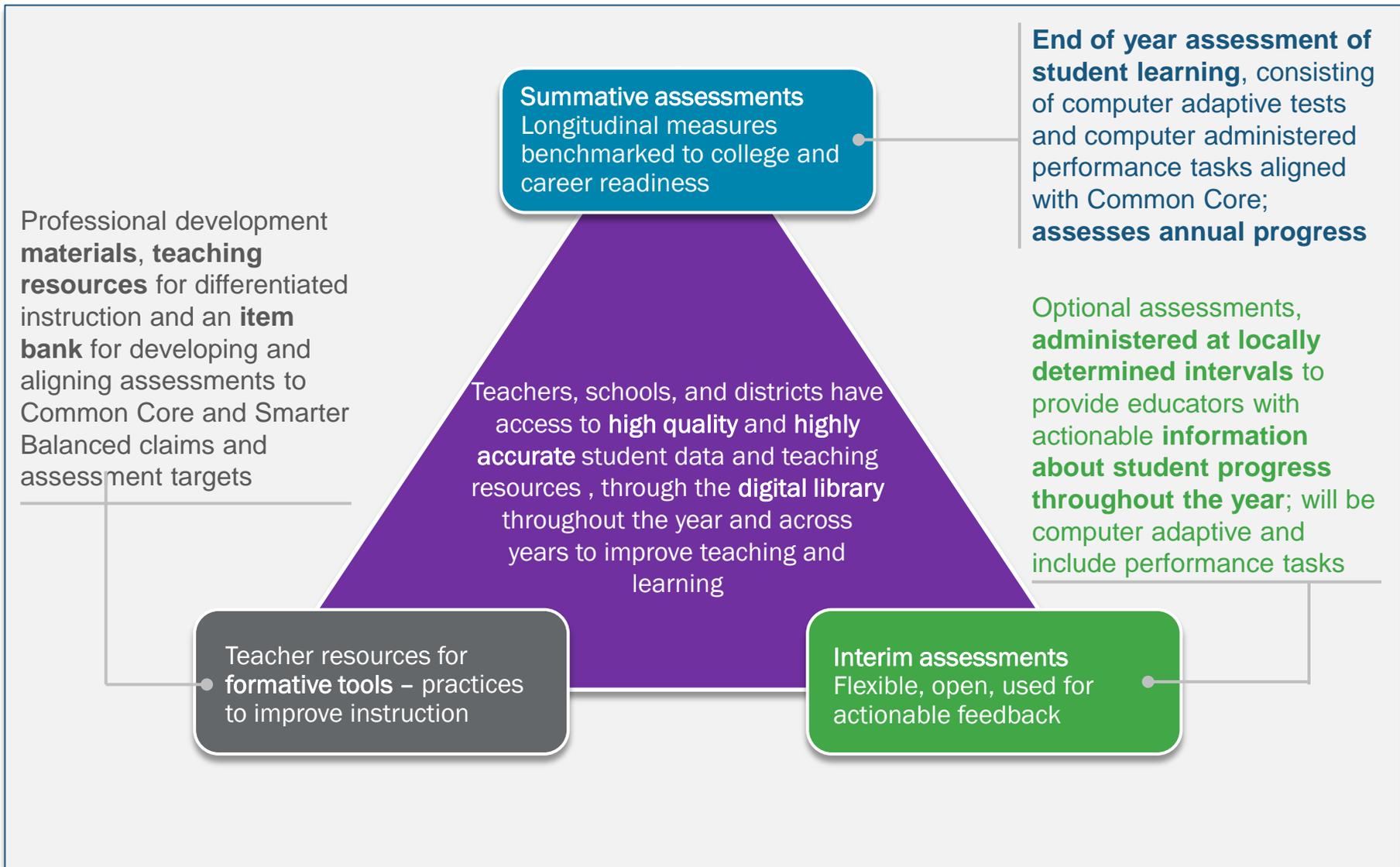
**4** Provides meaningful information to guide student growth

Actionable and timely data for teachers, parents, and students

**5** Keeps California educators in the driver's seat

State Educators, researchers, policymakers helped build Smarter Balanced

# The main pieces of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System



# Side by side comparison of summative items

## Sample Smarter Balanced item

Jared is testing how much weight a bag can hold. He plans to put juice bottles into three bags. He wants each bag to have a total weight within the given range.

- Drag juice bottles into each bag so that the weight is within the given range.
- Leave the bag empty if the given range is not possible using juice bottles.



Correct answer:



## Sample STAR item

The total length of a vehicle is 205.83 inches. What is the length of the vehicle rounded to the nearest whole number?

- A 200 inches
- B 205 inches
- C 206 inches
- D 210 inches

Correct answer:

23.  A  B  C  D