Assessment Transition

Presentation to the State Board of Education

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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.”

“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.

1 CCSS survey, November 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.
We are in the midst of our journey toward Common Core implementation

- Adoption of Common Core State Standards authorized through SB15X legislation
- California develops rigorous set of academic content standards
- Supt. Torlakson begins outreach to develop recommendations for new assessment system required by AB250 (March 2012)
- California joining Smarter Balanced as a governing state
- CDE releases Common Core implementation plan
- "Transitioning to a New Assessment System" report released by Supt. Torlakson
- Standards of proficiency established to signal college and career readiness
- California getting ready for a next generation, world-class assessment system
  - Recommending bridge materials
  - Developing new curriculum frameworks
  - Building new professional development modules
  - Adopting new instructional materials
- Full implementation and beyond…

Smarter Balanced to be launched, Common Core State Standards measured and modeled in every California classroom
Common Core State Standards bring more breadth and depth by emphasizing the full range of thinking skills.

**Level One** (Recall)
- Describe
- Explain
- Interpret

**Level Two** (Skill/Concept)
- Design
- Synthesize
- Prove

**Level Three** (Strategic Thinking)
- Level Four (Extended Thinking)
- Develop a Logical Argument
- Critique
- Investigate
- Explain

**Level Four** (Extended Thinking)
- Infer
- Predict
- Estimate
- Explain
- Differentiate
- Use Concepts to Solve Non-Routine Problems

**Example Activities**
- Perform routine procedures like measuring length or using punctuation marks.
- Identify and summarize the major events in a narrative.
- Support ideas with details and examples, design investigations.
- Conduct a project that requires specifying a problem, designing and conducting an experiment, analyzing its data, and reporting results/solutions.
“Not just another test”…Smarter Balanced is critical to helping California achieve its vision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Preparations for a changing world</th>
<th>Supports teachers with a practical suite of resources</th>
<th>Connects learning to life after high school – career or college</th>
<th>Provides meaningful information to guide student growth</th>
<th>Keeps California educators in the driver’s seat</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Assessments model instruction and prepare students for the new economy</td>
<td>Tools for instruction and information are integrated to promote and inform great teaching</td>
<td>Aligned with college curricula and employer expectations</td>
<td>Actionable and timely data for teachers, parents, and students</td>
<td>State Educators, researchers, policymakers helped build Smarter Balanced</td>
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The main pieces of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System

Teachers, schools, and districts have access to high quality and highly accurate student data and teaching resources, through the digital library throughout the year and across years to improve teaching and learning.

Summative assessments
Longitudinal measures benchmarked to college and career readiness

End of year assessment of student learning, consisting of computer adaptive tests and computer administered performance tasks aligned with Common Core; assesses annual progress.

Interim assessments
Flexible, open, used for actionable feedback

Optional assessments, administered at locally determined intervals to provide educators with actionable information about student progress throughout the year; will be computer adaptive and include performance tasks.

Professional development materials, teaching resources for differentiated instruction and an item bank for developing and aligning assessments to Common Core and Smarter Balanced claims and assessment targets.

Teacher resources for formative tools – practices to improve instruction.
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: 206 inches