



Post-Training Report



December 2018



Introduction

The 2018–19 CAASPP Institute was designed as a professional learning opportunity for classroom practitioners, such as teachers, coaches, teachers on special assignment, etc. This was the fourth annual CAASPP Institute offered since the introduction of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) system.

The CAASPP Institute featured a combination of plenary and breakout sessions that focused on the following aspects of the CAASPP:

- Summative Assessments
- Interim Assessments
- Formative Assessment Process
- Accessibility Resources
- Assessment Literacy
- Family Engagement

In addition to the plenary and breakout sessions, which were provided by experienced and knowledgeable trainers from leading educational organizations in California, the attendees also had an opportunity to hear from their peers during an interactive panel discussion. The panel discussion focused on highlighting the current practices of local educational agencies (LEAs) in California and sharing tips, tricks, successes and challenges associated with the implementation of the whole CAASPP system.

This report contains feedback received from the CAASPP Institute participants, as well as recommendations for future CAASPP trainings.

Summary of Participants

816 total registered attendees

The CAASPP Institute was specifically intended to be a professional development opportunity for classroom practitioners and over 50% of participants had a clear connection to the classroom.

26% response rate

Upon completing the CAASPP Institute, participants received an email with a link to a feedback survey. Over 26% (213) of attendees responded to the survey providing feedback on presenters, training venues, training materials and their intended future use of the training materials.

Additional participant information is illustrated in Appendix A, Figures 1 through 4.

Findings

Trainers Were Knowledgeable and Locations Were Conducive to Learning

- **96%** said the trainers were knowledgeable and effectively answered their questions. Additionally, nearly 84% said the information was presented in a clear and engaging manner.
- **88%** said the training locations were convenient and conducive to learning.

Presenters are experienced, very articulate, and willing to answer all questions.

– Participant in San Diego

Training Increased Participants' Understanding of Assessment Topics

- **85%** said the content of each session enhanced their understanding of the topic, while 80% stated that the content of training sessions met their expectations.
- **91%** expected to apply the knowledge they gained during this training in their classrooms, schools and districts.

This is the best training in education I have ever been to! I loved having multiple breaks and engaging presenters!

– Participant in Pasadena

Training Content and Materials Will Be used By Participants at Their LEAs

- **90%** thought that the knowledge, tools and resources gained during training would help them support all levels of learners.
- **95%** stated that they intended to share the knowledge, resources and strategies gained during this training with others at their schools or districts.
- **89%** believed that the knowledge and resources they gained during training would help them communicate about the CAASPP with members of their educational communities.

Thank you. I gained crucial insights toward integrating CAASPP into our curriculum planning and classroom instruction.

– Participant in Sacramento

Majority of Participants Found the Institute to Be a Valuable Learning Opportunity

- **79%** agreed that the CAASPP Institute was a good use of their professional development time.
- **82%** stated that they would recommend the CAASPP Institute to fellow educators, but only 72% were interested in attending this training in the future.

I learn something new and in more depth every time I attend.

Thank you.

– Participant in San Diego

Additional details are illustrated in Appendix A, Figure 5.

Summary and Recommendations

In summary, most of the feedback received from the CAASPP Institute participants was positive and provided helpful suggestions on what topics and aspects of the CAASPP system to cover in future trainings. Those suggestions included:

- More hands-on practice with the various assessment administration and data systems
- More LEAs sharing of assessment-related best practices
- More differentiation between material intended for classroom practitioners versus other educators, such as administrators

Based on the comments and suggestions provided by the survey respondents, the SCOE puts forth the following recommendations for future educator trainings:

- Continue to offer a separate professional development opportunity specifically designed for classroom practitioners
- Focus on creating opportunities for participants to hear from their peers about the assessment-related LEA successes, challenges and best practices
- Create opportunities for hands-on exploration of the assessment tools and systems

A complete list of all participant comments and suggestions is available in Appendix B.

Appendix A

Figure 1. Attendee survey response rates by location

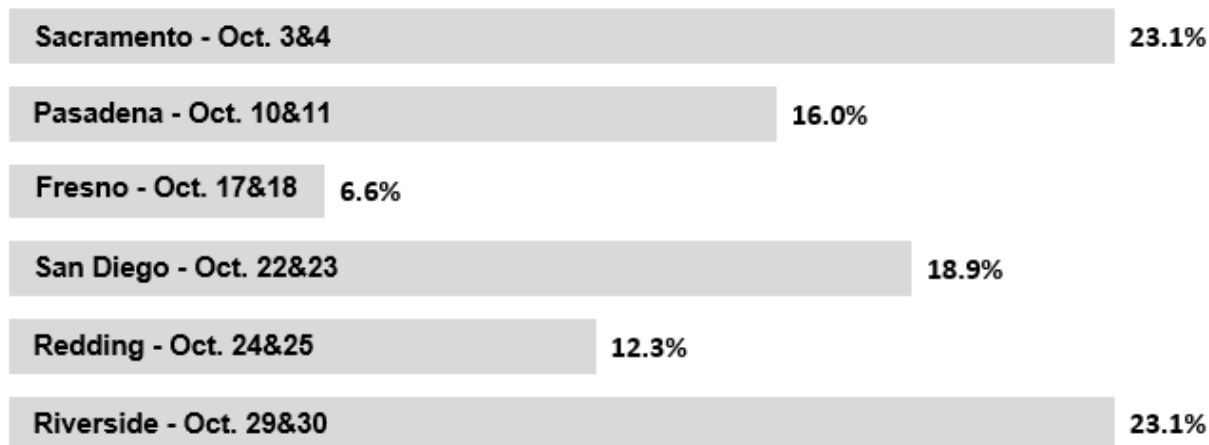


Figure 2. Attendee years in position

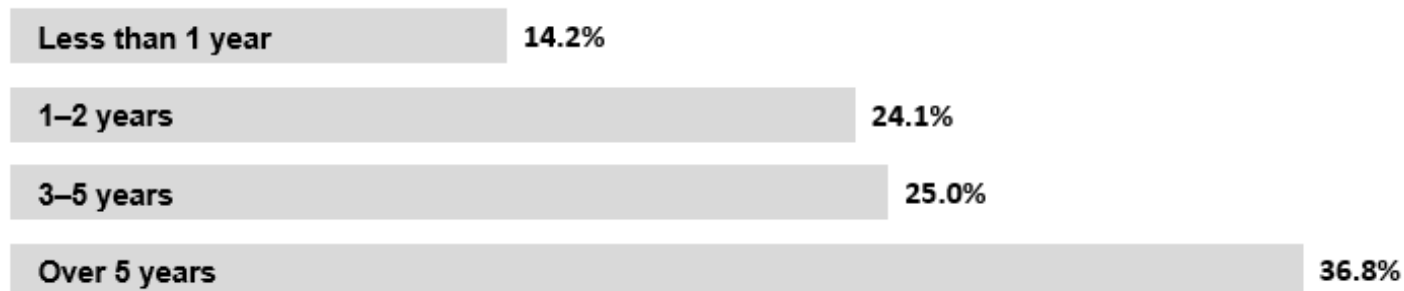


Figure 3. Attendee roles

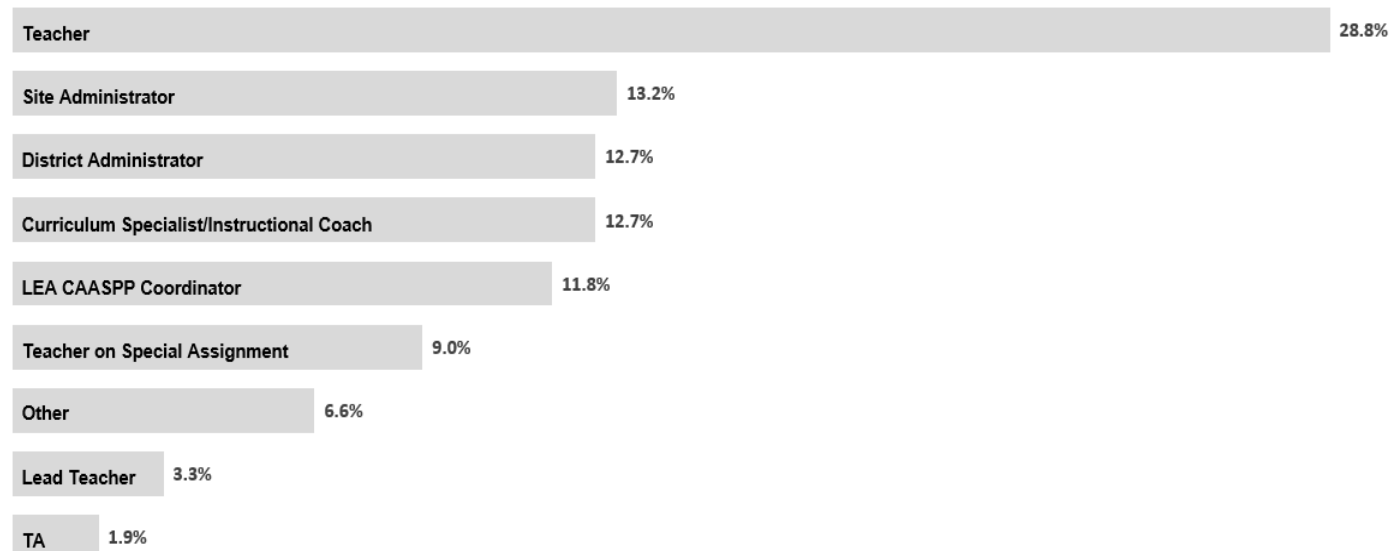


Figure 4. Attendees by LEA type

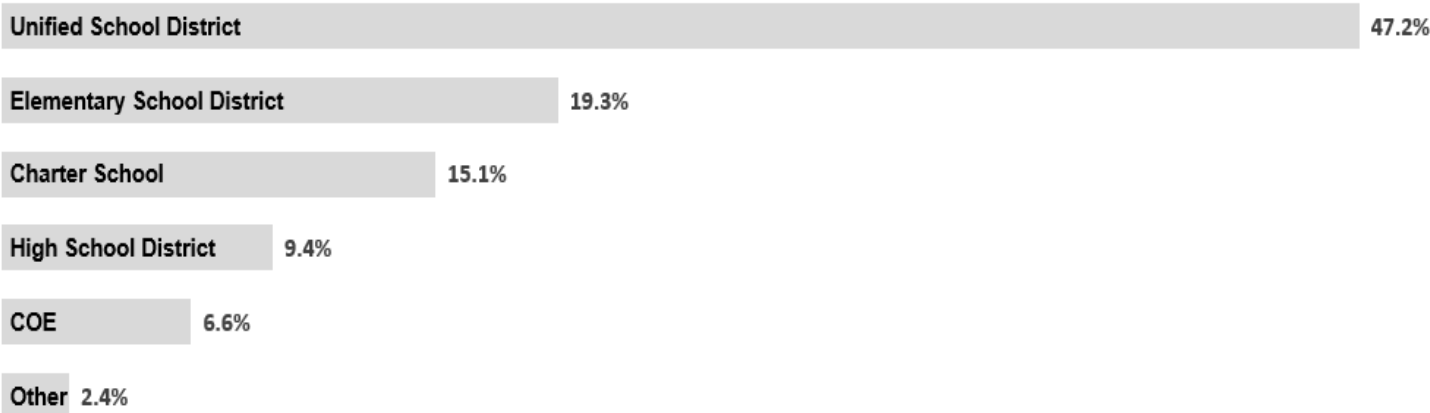
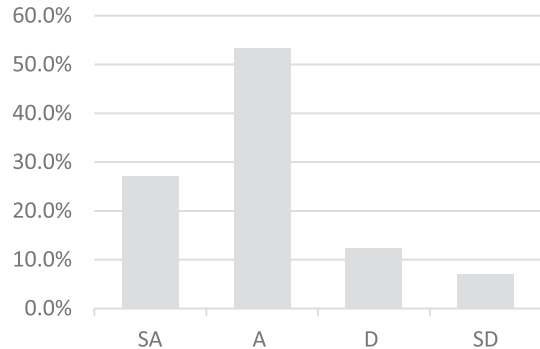
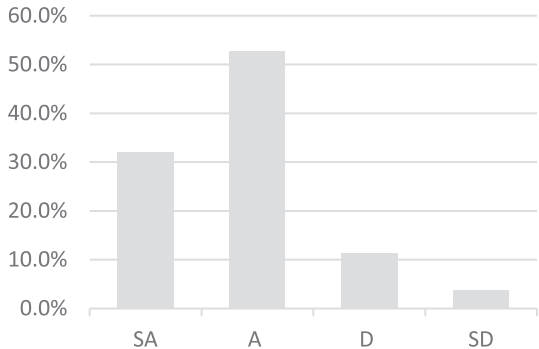


Figure 5. Percentage of participants that Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Disagreed (D), or Strongly Disagreed (SD) to the following statements

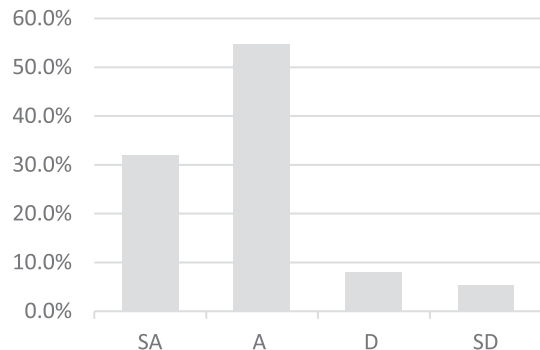
The content of each session met my needs and expectations.



The content of each session enhanced my understanding of the topic.



The knowledge I gained will help me improve teaching and learning in my classroom, school, or district.



I expect to apply the knowledge I gained in my classroom, school, or district.

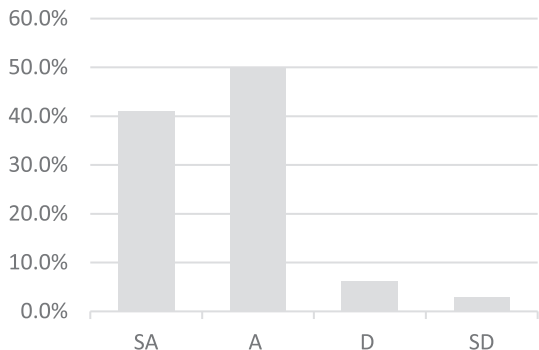
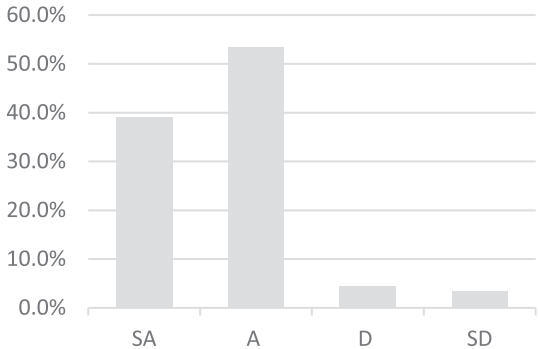
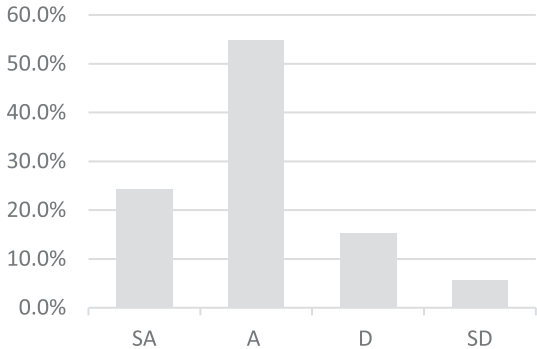


Figure 5 (cont'd). Percentage of participants that Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Disagreed (D), or Strongly Disagreed (SD) to the following statements

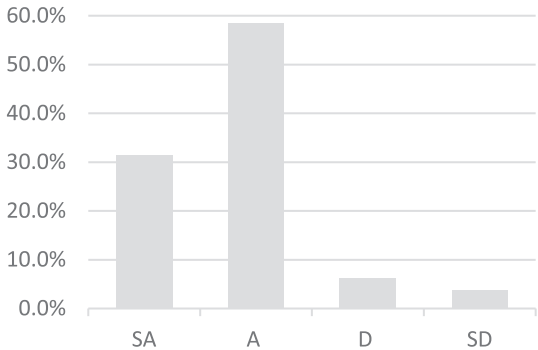
I expect to use the tools and materials I received during training in my classroom, school, or district.



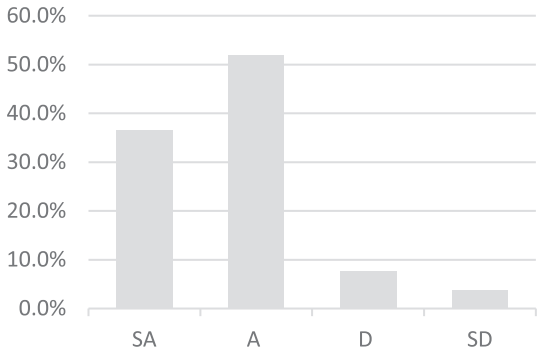
The use of real-world scenarios enhanced my learning.



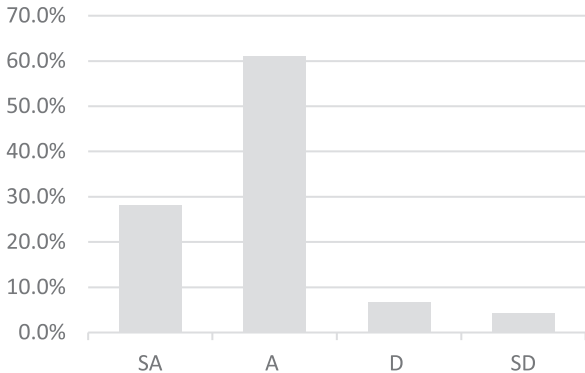
The knowledge, tools and resources I gained will help me support all levels of learners.



The knowledge, tools and resources I gained will help me support educators at my school or district.



The knowledge and resources I gained will help me communicate about CAASPP with other members of the educational community.



The knowledge and resources I gained will help me communicate about CAASPP with parents.

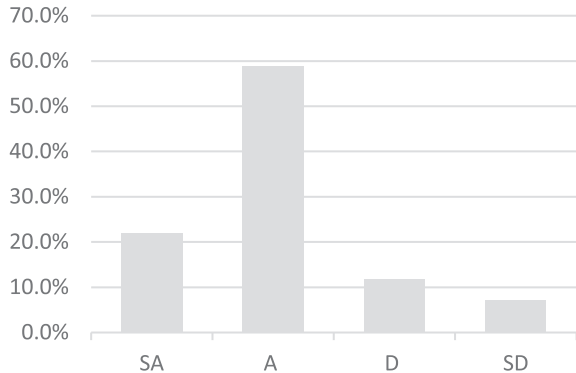
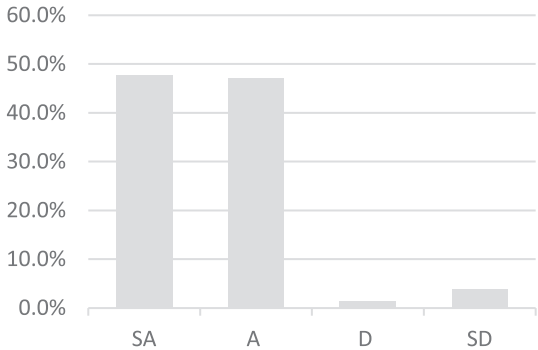
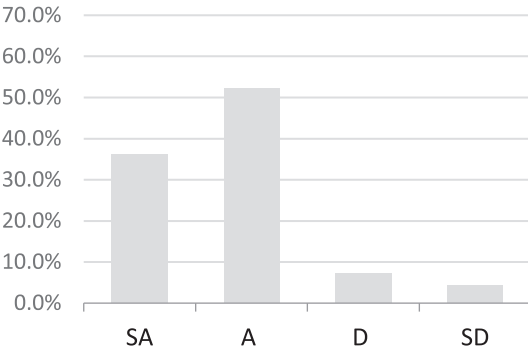


Figure 5 (cont'd). Percentage of participants that Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Disagreed (D), or Strongly Disagreed (SD) to the following statements

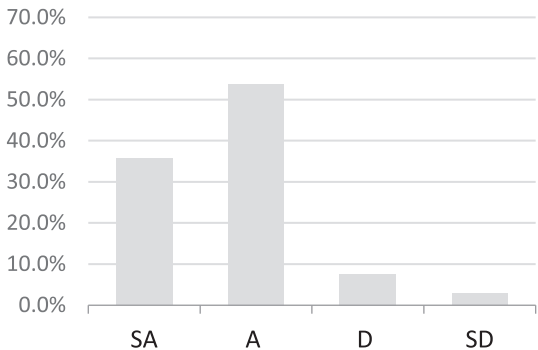
I plan to share the knowledge, resources and strategies with others at my school or district.



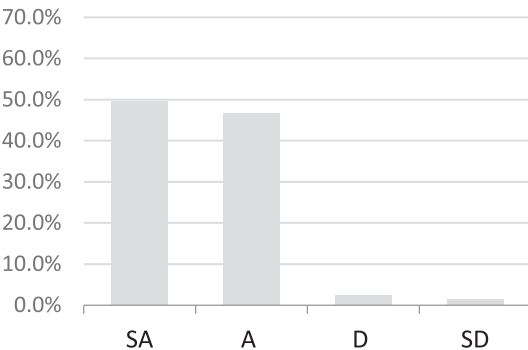
The training location was convenient.



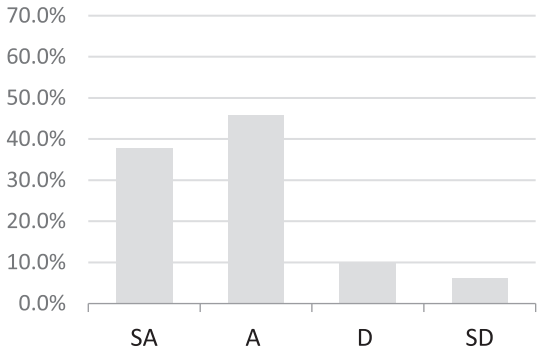
The training venue was conducive to learning.



The trainers were knowledgeable and effectively answered participants' questions.



The information was presented in a clear and engaging manner.



I was able to share ideas and contribute knowledge during the sessions.

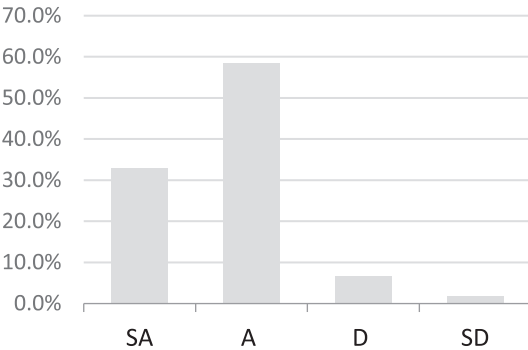
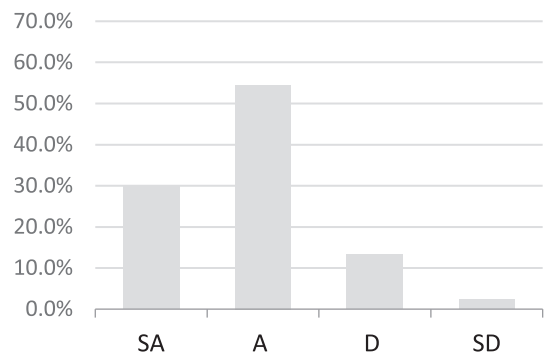
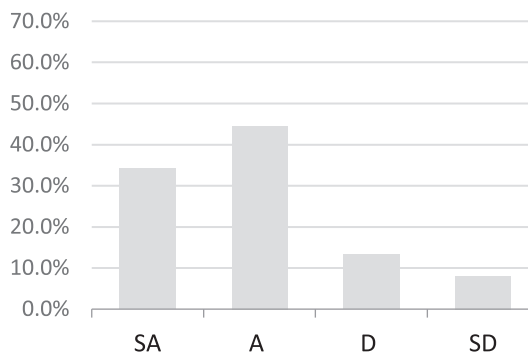


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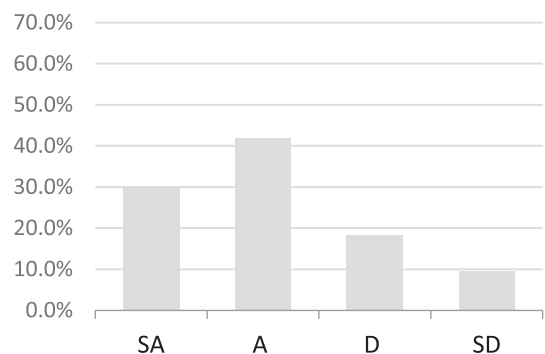
There was adequate time for interaction and practice of the newly gained content.



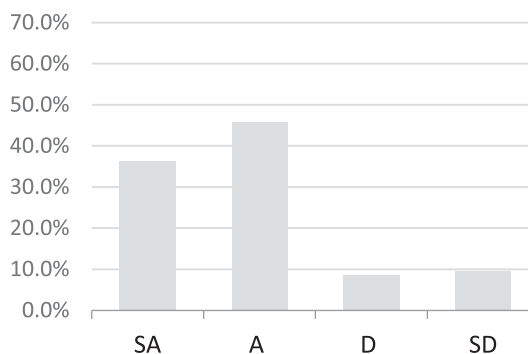
The CAASPP Institute was a good use of my professional development time.



I'm interested in attending the CAASPP Institute in the future.



I will recommend the CAASPP Institute to fellow educators.



Appendix B

The comments listed below are verbatim feedback provided by the survey respondents. They have not been changed or edited in any way in order to maintain the integrity of the feedback.

Questions, Comments, Suggestions, and Recommendations for Future CAASPP Trainings

Training Structure and Delivery

- Very useful and extremely information.
- The information from the last session (Claims, Targets, and Standards) was a bit confusing, especially the chart entitled "Relationship among Content Claims, Content Categories, Assessment Targets, and Standards." This chart was not explained clearly. Was ELA and Math info on the same chart or was that chart just for ELA or just for Math? There were no labels for ELA or Math on it, but the presenter said something to the effect that this part was for ELA and this part was for Math, but that didn't really make sense in my mind.
- Last year was better with more breakout sessions and not so many general sessions.
- This is the best training in education I have ever been to! I loved having multiple breaks and engaging presenters!
- The Institute was NOT for teachers, but should have only been for District Decision makers and Principals for implementation.
- I learn something new and in more depth every time I attend. Thank you.
- Thank you. I gained crucial insights toward integrating CAASPP into our curriculum planning and classroom instruction.
- There was a lot of repeated information between the 101 and the breakout sessions. I would have just done the breakout sessions. They covered everything that the 101 did and gave more detail and time to practice.
- I like how they divided us into groups and keep it interesting with different presenters & topics.
- I felt that it went a bit too fast.
- Network with other districts would be valuable. Thanks.
- The secondary resources were not very deep. The suggestion of tapping into the lower-level resources may work, but if middle school teachers are using them, those will become exhausted as well. The lessons on the CDE website were okay guidelines, but in reality, we adopted a new curriculum and it just seems too time consuming to ever use them.
- The breakout sessions were very similar, not really giving much variety in choice. The general sessions felt very large for some of the activities we were supposed to attempt. There was not always a lot of connection between what the speaker said/did and the notetaking guides.
- Thank you for the organized binders!
- Presenters are experienced, very articulate, and willing to answer all questions.
- The gentleman in the bow-tie was very knowledgeable and fashionable.
- Excellent presentations. However, the lunch on the second day was horrible. The wrap was soggy and uneatable.
- Having been a CAASPP Coordinator in my previous district, I appreciated the opportunity to dig deep into the Accessibility Resources and be reminded of our moral obligation as educators to provide these resources to remove barriers and support students' needs including the Gen Ed students.
- Please do it again. That was the best one I've been to so far!
- The time provided to dig into the features that were presented was very effective.

- I know why you did it, but the first morning was A LOT of information to take in. I was exhausted by lunch. But because we did that, I felt I had a better understanding of my breakout choices. It was just hard on my brain.
- A lot of the information was repetitive. Sessions talked about the same information that was already given.
- Important for teachers and administrators who are new to the system. For others attending perhaps more opportunities to experience other avenues.
- Very knowledgeable presenters and very professional.
- All speakers were great presenters.
- The training sessions were not engaging. We were asked to discuss the same question over and over again.
- I've been heavily involved with CAASPP for the last five years and found the CAASPP Institute better for people who are new to CAASPP testing.
- This could have been a one-day training. Most of the participants were not new to the idea of CAASPP or IABs. The breakout sessions took the first thirty minutes to rehash what was already presented in the general session. The general session on day two was unnecessary. In fact, most of the general sessions could have been rolled into one and then had the three breakout sessions. The RCC needs to upgrade its WiFi.
- I am a science TOSA and was hoping to learn more about the upcoming CAST assessment but the event mostly covered the Math and ELA tests.
- Great delivery from knowledgeable people.
- I was disappointed with the lack of discussion of what was in the CAASPP. A lot of time was dedicated to more philosophical rumination on the CAASPP.
- Great institute. I attend for past several years and it's great to reconnect and allows deeper understanding and implementation.
- I thought it was good that the Digital Library was a focus.
- You hit a home run with this training. This is the best CAASPP Institute I have ever attended. Thank you! All the stop and think time was extremely valuable.
- At the start of each session be more specific on what will be covered. Go over the acronyms. :)
- I liked that we had time to try out some of our new knowledge and to be able to apply some of the concepts learned. This will help in bringing back this information to our staff.
- Would like more answers to questions.
- It may be useful to ask some attendees to curb their questions until the end so that it doesn't derail the topic and focus of the larger group.
- The "new" information was valuable. However, this is my 3rd or 4th Institute and I felt much of the material was repetitive and I am not sure I will attend next year.
- Presenters were comical, professional, informative and to the point.
- This was long overdue. We've been waiting for more in-depth reports (Target report) and clarity with accommodations, supports, etc.. Much appreciated. Excited to go back and implement new learnings. Thanks!
- Great info, good use of time.
- Everything was excellent EXCEPT groups of people at tables who would NOT stop talking during presentations. Perhaps teams need a separate room and can engage with slides and perhaps a facilitator; it was so bad at one point I almost walked out. Those same teachers would probably never accept such behavior from their students. Perhaps norms need to be addressed at each session. Thanks for a great two days!
- It was very good. I was hoping to learn a little more about scoring that colleagues had learned at another institute, but I learned a lot about other areas.

- The first day was EXTREMELY long. It was too much to have someone speaking while we ate lunch. We didn't have an adequate break. Also, some of the sessions were stretched out into way more time than they needed to be. They could have been shortened by a lot of time.
- All of the presenters were engaging and knowledgeable. I really appreciated having a variety of presenters to match the variety of topics.
- I would have loved to know exactly what room the training was being held in. Lots of talking to on the first day, that was not very helpful
- The information given was stretched over two days, when it could have been given in one day- maybe even half a day.
- The information and resources are going to be very useful when training the staff in my school.
- The presenters were very knowledgeable and able to answer questions. Is it possible to include a session that include all current year updates? How can you include more time to hear best practices from all? Maybe post-it notes or group posters? Sometimes people have great ideas, but don't feel comfortable sharing whole group.
- I will be able to use the ICAs with my group of students.
- Wanted more time.
- There was a fair amount of overlap with the Summer Institute, but also some new information as well.
- I need help, but it wasn't forthcoming at this conference. Platitudes, but no constructive ideas/materials/approaches.
- The CAASPP Institute was well planned and met my expectations.
- Some of the links do not work on the slides shared with us. Please check them again to make sure they all work, especially in the Practical Approach to Accessibility Resources presentation. Several of those do not work or do not go where the presenter said they would.
- It was great! Very informative. Thank you!
- I loved the note taking guide, wish more people would participate.
- Always very informative and worthwhile
- Thank you, the presenters were clearly knowledgeable.
- Useful pd.
- The instructors were professional and well-prepared.
- The training was very useful in our school for implementing the assessment.
- Unfortunately the vast majority of the institute focused on things I was already very familiar with and could have presented myself. The content was excellent but below my skill level. It'd have been better if it were more differentiated.
- I felt like the information I received was just touching the surface. I actually got more out of the day when I went into quiet area and worked with my colleague using the tools. We were able to explore the components of the digital library and find resources that can be used at school site level. More time to explore is a better suited way of learning for me.
- While everything at the institute was handled in a professional manner, it seemed geared towards people who had never seen the test before. With all due respect, it made it tedious for someone who has given the test to sit through. As someone who was hoping to get information about coordinating the exam at my school rather than lots of information about interim assessments, I found the institute repetitive.
- The short breaks throughout the day were helpful. The rooms got cold when we separated into smaller groups. The discussion prompts were not always helpful, but I really did appreciate the time to discuss as we were learning as we went along.
- Really informative.
- I truly appreciate the time and considered thought that went into planning this event.

- An 8 AM start time is difficult for those of us driving from a distance. Engagement while eating lunch is highly problematic, at least for me. While I appreciate the desire on the part of the CAASPP training staff to want to make efficient use of time by trying to provide additional information during that time, I believe it was generally ineffective as I feel that the audience, while compliant was not particularly engaged. Problems that many in the audience had trying to log onto the CAASPP website demonstrates a need to impress upon school districts the importance of them providing the CDE with the necessary information for instructional and administrative staff to be able to access the site early in the school year. If LEAs are not acting on this, it is a potential sign that educators are likely not using any of the resources available to them and therefore likely not providing students the access and interaction they need with practice exams, IABs and ICAs.
- The sessions were slow and there were too many breaks. The pace could move a lot faster and more information could have been covered.
- It was good. This was my third time attending, so I feel competent in the different areas of the CAASPP system.
- The difficulty in getting a CAASPP password was a significant hindrance to the value of the institute. Repeated attempts to get a password link sent via email were not responded to. Presenters minimized this issue, but access is of central importance to this work.
- The materials presented were more basic and general than I had hoped for. For example, I did not need time to learn about the difference between summative and formative assessments. I did not need to discuss the importance of parent engagement. What I would have preferred in both cases would be how to strategies as they pertain to student success on the assessments. Additionally, some of the analogies used (the car) were not an effective/efficient use of time. Lastly, the panel discussion on the second date had some useful information, but for the most part felt like a sales pitch.
- I feel that we spent way too much time on the same topic. At the very end, the presenter mentioned the Summative assessment blueprint, and I feel that would have been a valuable addition to our learning
- The time for each session was great i.e. 45 min for 101 sessions and 1.5 hr for longer sessions.
- I like how the sessions are broken up into smaller time slots.
- I was surprised there wasn't more information about the summative tests.
- This was not helpful, I already knew about things discussed here. This was nothing new if you've been to a previous CAASPP training. In addition, working through lunch is awful to do when we've had to sit all day. This was like a big sales pitch for the digital library, very disappointing.

Suggestions for Future Trainings

- Shorter more direct workshops.
- Ideas of how to administer change at a district and school site. Time to go in a dive deeper into the resources available. Come up with clear game plan for implementation.
- A lot of the information was on the CAASPP website. It would be helpful to learn more about the questions and strategies to teach them in the classroom. Also it would help to learn what successful strategies other districts are using such as curriculums, classroom strategies, etc.
- I really wanted more time to work with the resources in the digital library. A better use of my time would have been to get into content / grade level groups and investigate the resources in the library and see how both those AND the IABs could better support instruction and learning. Also, the Universal Tools accessibility training was not very effective-- it would have been MUCH better if we had been shown what the tools are, how they change the IAB/ICA interface for a kid, etc. Just being given a list wasn't very useful.

- More opportunities to hear from other districts and share with other districts how the tools are being utilized in the classroom and at the systems level.
- I would have appreciated more processing time. It was a lot of information, especially the first day when we worked through lunch as well.
- I wish there was a sandbox for the Interim Reporting System so we could actually see how you create groups and what the information looks like.
- I wish there were more beginning sessions. It seemed that the assumption was that everyone had experience with the testing. As a new administrator, I really needed more nuts and bolts and scaffolding. Also, square tables would have been more appropriate for learning and note-taking. Finally, there should be consideration for those that come without a team. Team time and site conversations were not applicable.
- Possible breakout session during the morning of day 1, for Teachers who are actively assigning and accessing IABs/Summative. (Seemed like a bit of review - for those folks)
- I think there needs to be a consolidation of all the resources to make it easier for us to bring back to our schools, leaders, and teacher.
- As a high school math teacher, I was hoping to discuss the Grade 11 test more specifically. I appreciate the sharing of resources, but this institute felt like it was geared more to the administrative side of schools. I wanted to talk with high school teachers that have administered the Interim assessment and how they implement it, either successfully or unsuccessfully. Or even hear from math teachers at high schools that are experiencing success on the state test. I recognize my expectations were not reasonable for what this institute is, and I appreciate everyone's hard work. But I would not recommend this to other high school teachers because all I really got from this is how to use the website interface and access to the digital library. That did not need two days.
- A streamlined version of this training would be helpful. Something that we could take back to the school or district level. I am a teacher and the only one from my district to attend. I will use the information myself but would also like to help inform others.
- I think the Institute would have benefited greatly from differentiation between different groups present (i.e teachers, elementary vs high school, administrators). It was difficult to stay engaged or to find some of the material directly relevant to our context because the content was generalized to be accessible to all roles present. Our group in particular has received some PD from our District so a lot of material, especially the 101's, honestly did not feel helpful. The breakout sessions were a little better, but again, because they were not designed for a target demographic, the material presented felt vague, generalized, and not concrete enough to feel viable.
- Consider grouping tables by LEA/Site size.
- I would have appreciated more instructional time instead of being directed to talk to people at my table so often.
- Interaction has to be structured in different ways.
- How the SBAC is administered to new comers? Needed to find out who do we directly give our feedback.
- Would have liked more interactive activities and opportunity to discuss how to use reports to help sites/districts take action
- Networking with other districts to get a better idea on how they would implement and how it is supporting their students.
- I think integrating how children should be processing the type of thinking and questioning should have also been more of a focus. Best practices when it comes to analyzing texts can be overwhelming and getting into more effective strategies for struggling students is something most districts need.

- I need specific training on setting up groups (interims). I did not realize this until I got into them after the training. Perhaps 6 weeks after a training there could be a follow up training.
- Need to offer a strand that specifically provides a step-by-step process for overseeing the administration of CAASPP at the district level. * Need a step-by-step presentation of entering designated supports/accommodations for students with disabilities into the system.
- What teachers need: We need to practice administration of the test. This includes direct instruction on accessing the test. Basically, we needed to "do" more and listen less.
- I would like to go more in depth in administering the summative tests, especially the Performance task.
- Regarding the interim assessment blocks and the reports. I would have loved to be able to see like a mock demo of going into the system, playing with the resources on the reports. Powerpoints are good, but being able to explore with actual reports a mock report.
- Better ways to help train our staff on test administration.
- More feedback from schools implementing the tools and sharing their success.
- There are many aspects of the IABs/ICAs that I feel were not addressed. Some sessions seemed repetitive and I think that time could have been better utilized for new/deeper learning.
- More interactive training with testing accommodations.
- Have another institute for teachers by subject matter. This institute should review in greater detail, how to use the interim assessments, summative assessments, and using the digital library. Also, how to analyze and use the data from these assessments to inform instruction.
- More districts presenting or sharing in small amounts of time...especially applicable practices such as building schedules for CAASPP and ELPAC, how are we training and administering the 1:1 speaking part of ELPAC, etc
- All handouts and power points in the folders and in email. The internet connection was awful and I had to keep charging my laptop because it was constantly searching.
- Mini workshops showing how you can incorporate tools in classrooms and district level that exhibit a real situation in real time.
- Have an Institute or Breakout sessions on the new information that's come out since the last school year or last Institute. For example, this year there are electronic score reports and yet there was no session dedicated to this!
- More direct, showing teachers and principals to use the tools in CAASPP.
- It would be awesome if there was some type of a dummy portal or account that we could use for these trainings and trainings back at our school sites. It would be great to be able to have participants experience things like the IAB reporting features first hand rather than just having to look at screenshots.
- Detailed instructions on how to use IAB data for instruction.
- I would like to see more information for adaptation for online schools.
- Successful teachers and people who are committed to this model sharing what they know.
- Please provide more information about what successful strategies districts used
- I strongly suggest less lecture and more guided interactive time on the digital resources in general. Breakout sessions for ELA/Math at elementary, middle school, and high school would also have been MOST useful so that we could discuss best implementation for IABs and ICAs and the digital libraries.
- Keep bringing more spotlights or in action reports of schools success stories with CAASPP.
- Please provide exemplar answers on-line for worksheets.
- I would love to see a CAASPP Institute 2.0 for those of us that have already attended this Institute and are ready to dig deeper into things.
- Providing resources on where to find the claims and targets for all grades

- More time on Interim Assessment.
- Offered “advanced” content. Also, role-alike collaboration or planning sessions would be great.
- I would like an "advanced" CAASPP Institute for those that already have the basics down and now want to hear how others are applying the tools at the school site. I would also like more time to plan with hands-on presentations.
- The content was similar to the content covered last year. I would love to see the sessions expanded to allow for further growth if you have previously attended in a prior year.
- Is there going to be a training on how to improve assessment literacy?
- Maybe have separate sessions for teachers and administrators? And teacher sessions can drill down to grade level to get more meaningful discussions and experiences.
- Perhaps in the future you can tier the offerings, based on sites' experiences levels with implementation.
- I would find more content about how to collaborate with, and educate, parents valuable. This was touched upon, but could have used its own general session, in my opinion.
- Less Table Talk and more presenter information.
- Differentiation and different groups between teachers, administrators, grade levels, at the very least. For our group personally, less "rationale" and more "practical" strategies or applications
- Be more clear before signing up what you will be offering. I didn't see any info on specific session topics until after I was registered. This was like a big sales pitch for the digital library, very disappointing.
- Rather than just talking about potential models, cull out best practices used by districts of different sizes.
- I would like to attend a training on hand scoring CAASPP mathematics assessments.
- Separate those who have started giving interim assessments from complete newbe's. Have hands on practice tests for teachers to be guided through along with the CCSS the test is targeting.
- I would like to see this format in which you broke us up into small groups and different topics.
- Condense the material into one full day. The Institute seemed to be filled with higher level district people. More teachers need to attend this training so that they are aware of all of the resources available for the IAB and the ICA.
- Spend less time lecturing and more time actually looking at the interim assessments and the digital library.
- Should be more interactive like the ELPAC training was.
- More time to explore the site with working wifi would have enhance my learning.
- If possible, allow time during the 'strand' sessions to actually go into the systems (digital library, interim assessments, etc.) The sessions I attended did not allow time.
- I liked the differentiated break-out sessions. In the future, please continue to differentiate your sessions. Sessions for novice and other for more experienced attendees are appreciated.

Training Logistics

- Shorten the day.
- I feel like all the information could have been delivered in one day.
- It was a great idea to provide lunch! Thank you. Please give us some choice.....
- Offer this training in May/June or in the summer, so administrators can train teachers on the maximum use of the Digital Library and the Accessibility Resources.
- I would like them held closer to home! I'm on the central coast, so one in Santa Barbara would be awesome!
- Perhaps a bit closer would be more convenient.

- It was well organized.
- If possible, could the training be a little closer to Orange County.
- I would have preferred to not pay for parking.
- I know this is picky, but if lunch is offered, have a different lunch the second day. Other than that, this was great :)
- Is it possible to offer all trainings in general sessions? I feel like I missed valuable information by only being able to select one.
- The snacks were no longer available during the break & I couldn't eat the lunch on day 1 because I can't eat sandwiches with mayo & mustard (gag reflex). It was on all choices. Day 2's lunch was great.
- As far as the food goes, maybe have a few more options for lunch. Like sandwiches, leave the toppings off to do a create your own. Pasta was a heavy lunch for the second day.
- A less expensive venue...one presenter instead of the 5 people that were there. All five were very knowledgeable, but redundant. This was such a waste of resources.
- It should be a one day training. I also took the trolley because parking at the convention center/downtown is inconvenient and expensive. Taking the trolley was a better option, but it was still a pain in the butt.
- I will suggest to open more spaces for each LEA so we can take bigger teams.
- The first day's working lunch made it challenging for the afternoon session. My brain needed a break.
- Make this a one day training. Not enough information for two days.
- More lines for lunch time, food was great :)
- With the greatest kindness...I am so allergic to fish...and last year, ugh! Please, normal simple food would be great. Everything else was amazing! Also, not everyone likes Ice Tea...soda options or lemonade would be great too!
- There was a lot of repetition amongst the presenters. I think it would be better to make it into one day and less presenters.
- I feel like the material that was presented at the CAASPP Institute could have been condensed into one day. I didn't really need the information presented at the end of each of the days.
- The venue had problems with power and it was cold! The presenters often had issues selecting and playing the correct videos.
- The hotel is horrible, the pot smell in the halls and room made it really uncomfortable and I had to change rooms.
- The connectivity of devices needs to improve. On two occasions the power went off during the presentation.
- Parking should be included.
- Provide a morning snack with lunch so late. Less carbs in lunch.
- The venue was extremely cold. It was so cold it was hard to concentrate.
- Do not include a session during lunch. The lack of adequate break and debriefing time bordered on inhumane.
- Five presenters? For that? At the San Diego Convention Center? That was such a waste of time and resources. There was possibly 3 hours of information stretched into two days of presentations. It could have been held easily at the County Office of Ed, as opposed to spending money on the Convention Center for what, 80 people on the first day, and maybe 40 on the second. All that, and not once did I see one bit of what was on the CAASPP- just the digital library, which could have been done in half an hour. I am so upset that I was called out of my classroom for this, when it could have been done on video.

Other Comments

- The main reason for attending the training was to get a better understanding of how to incorporate speech to text and word prediction to CAASPP, it was my perception that Special Education students do not have access to these accommodations since most districts use Chromebooks and iPads and these accommodations do not work with these devices. I asked several presenters and no one knew how to do it. They said it was a secure browser issue.
- My two days away from the school site was very productive. I have already talked with the staff about what I learned.
- The biggest take away was how often the presenters said, "California spent A LOT of money on this system, so we need to use it." I don't feel we should have to use something just because the state overpaid on their website. I am not sure if I find their resources useful at all. Some of the playlist lessons were linked to Teachers Pay Teachers!!
- The breakout sessions were not very different; a better variety of options would help address the varied needs of the teachers from different content areas. More information on the CAST would be preferred. The sessions were also not very engaging, it was all lecture style and it was hard to keep my attention.
- Good teaching strategies should be modeled in these trainings.
- The strength of the training depends on the personnel doing the training. So hats off to the expertise shown and shared by all of the training staff that was sent to Redding.
- When will there be the next training?
- How often and how soon is there a calendar shared for future trainings
- The content was fantastic! The food choices did not include any gluten free options. I expected better from the venue, since it's so large and usually accommodating for several dietary needs. Also, being 2 days, it would have been great to ask who drove from where the first day, in an attempt to set up carpools and new collaborative connections with attendees in other districts for the second day.
- A bit of a sterile atmosphere - some breakouts were already covered in 101 sessions.
- The description of the institute might include more information about for whom it was intended. This institute information said it would be useful for administrators, but all the information was geared towards classroom teachers.
- Many of the links provided were broken. You might want to make sure each one is working before publishing the materials. The digital library is awesome, but I needed a lot more time to investigate it.
- Avoid technical problems by highlighting the importance that conference attendees have their CAASPP sign in credentials and login process before attending.
- Thank you for all you do for districts, teachers, and students. Wi-Fi was better during day 2.
- Figure out the password / login issue described in the response to prompt #8 above.
- Great job.