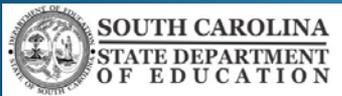


# Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

## Overview



Policy and Legislative Committee Meeting  
State Board of Education  
June 12, 2013

# Summer 2010

- The SBE and EOC adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as South Carolina's state standards.
- S.C. joined the two assessment consortia awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Education to develop assessment systems.
  - Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
  - Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

# Fall/Winter 2011–12

- Convened the South Carolina Assessment Study Group
  - Report included pluses and deltas for four assessment options
  - <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/ac/Assessment/documents/SC-ASG-ReportFinal11-07-11.pdf>
- Released a survey to seek input from stakeholders regarding the four assessment options
- Contracted for Fiscal Impact Study of Assessment Costs
  - Independent study by Assessment Solutions Group
  - Estimates provided for each of the four options
  - <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/ac/Assessment/documents/SC-FiscalImpactStudy.pdf>

# Spring/Summer 2012

- The State Board of Education adopted the assessments being developed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.
- South Carolina became a Governing State in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

# Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

- State-led
- Experienced educators and researchers
- Governing states make decisions about test development
  - Each state has one vote
  - Consensus-driven

# Why change the current system?

- Current assessments in ELA and mathematics are not aligned to the new state standards (CCSS).
  - PASS (Palmetto Assessment of State Standards) – administered in grades 3 through 8
  - HSAP (High School Assessment Program) – administered to high school students
  - EOCEP (End-of-Course Examination Program) – administered as students complete gateway courses

# Smarter Balanced Assessments

- Aligned to the Common Core State Standards
- ELA and mathematics
- Grades 3-8 and 11
- Measure of student progress toward college- and career-readiness
- Can be used for federal accountability
- Administered beginning in spring 2015

# Smarter Balanced Assessments Available to States

- Summative (end-of-year) Assessments
  - Computer adaptive component
  - Performance tasks (1 ELA, 1 Math) – e.g., student reads several selections and answers open-ended questions
- Optional Interim Assessments – MAP is an example of an interim assessment
  - Computer adaptive component
  - Optional performance tasks
  - Same scale as summative assessments – interim and summative scores can be compared
- Optional Formative Assessment Tools – for use by teachers during instruction

# Smarter Balanced Assessments are Computer Adaptive Tests (CAT)

- Adjusts to a student's ability by basing the difficulty of future questions on previous answers
- Provides more accurate measure of student achievement, particularly for high- and low-performing students

# Smarter Balanced Assessments are Available in Paper-and-Pencil Versions

- Available for a three-year transition period (spring 2015, 2016, and 2017).
- Due to design of Smarter Balanced assessments, states should administer assessments online, to the extent possible.
  - For example, no more than one grade or subject in a school should be tested with paper and pencil.
- Paper and pencil assessments cannot be computer adaptive.

# Smarter Balanced Activities: Current Status

- Pilot test has been administered.
  - Pilot was a test of test items and the online system.
  - Scores/results will not be available.
- Plans are underway for field testing in spring 2014.
- Practice tests were released May 29, 2013.
  - <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/pilot-test/>

# Smarter Balanced Activities: Current Status

- Estimates of test length
- Technology readiness online inventory
  - Completed by districts and schools
  - Districts and schools receive a readiness gap analysis

# Testing Times

Test Type	Grades	Smarter Balanced		Current SC Assessments	
		Estimated Hours of Testing		Median Testing Times	
		CAT	Perf Task*		
English Language Arts **	3-5	1 ½	2	3 ¼	PASS
	6-8	1 ½	2	3 ¼	PASS
				1 ½	EOCEP English 1
	11	2	2	2 ½	HSAP
Mathematics	3-5	1 ½	1	1 ¾	PASS
	6-8	2	1	1 ¾	PASS
				1 ½	EOCEP Algebra 1
	11	2	1 ½	1 ¾	HSAP

\* These times do not include possible class activities or required pre-reading.

\*\* With the exception of the EOCEP English 1 test, all ELA times include both the ELA and writing.

# Technology Readiness Results

One Test Session on each Computer, each Day

Number of Testing Weeks	Percent Currently Ready – Minimum Requirements	Percent Ready – Recommended Requirements
3	47.8	25.4
4	57.2	32.3
5	62.2	36.6
6	65.5	40.5
7	67.7	43.5
8	69.5	45.3

- Ready: The school has computers to administer Smarter Balanced to all students online.
- Session: A student taking either an ELA or mathematics test. Each student will need two sessions (one for ELA and one for mathematics).

# Technology Readiness Results

Two Test Sessions on each Computer, each Day

Number of Testing Weeks	Percent Currently Ready – Minimum Requirements	Percent Ready – Recommended Requirements
3	65.5	40.5
4	69.5	45.3
5	71.1	48.1
6	72.1	49.8
7	72.5	50.7
8	72.6	51.2

- Ready: The school has computers to administer Smarter Balanced to all students online.
- Session: A student taking either an ELA or mathematics test. Each student will need two sessions (one for ELA and one for mathematics).



# Questions?