Assessment News
March 20, 2015

Top News This Week

Assessment Section Office Hour Webinar on Smarter Balanced Rubrics, Scoring and Reporting on Tuesday, March 24 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

The Assessment Section will conduct an optional office hour webinar on Tuesday, March 24 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Test coordinators and others who have questions related to Smarter Balanced Rubrics, Scoring and Reporting are invited to participate. If you are interested in joining this Assessment Section office hour webinar, please click the WebEx link below and/or call in at any time between 2:30 and 3:30 to join the teleconference and get answers to any questions you may have.

A recording of this session will be posted on the Assessment Section page on the Department's Intranet site for access and review at your convenience.

Topic: Assessment Section office hour webinar on Smarter Balanced Rubrics, Scoring and Reporting
Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Time: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Hawaii time

WebEx has made some changes in the way you join the meeting. To join a meeting:
1. Go to https://hvln.webex.com
2. If you are not already on the Home page, click the Home tab at the top left.
3. Enter your meeting number in the Blue Box and click Join. If this is the first time you are entering meetings this way, your computer may take several minutes to "process."
4. If requested, enter your name, e-mail address and the meeting password. Click Join.
5. You are now in the meeting and may make your audio selection (Using to Computer or Calling In)

Meeting number: 736 595 303
Meeting password: 1234

Join by phone
1-877-668-4493 Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada)
Access code: 736 595 303

If you have trouble connecting to the webinar, please call the Assessment Section Office for assistance at 808-733-4100.

March 12, 2015 Memo to All DOE Employees Regarding the Smarter Balanced Assessments

The Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) testing window is now open through June 3, 2015. There are three assessment components to Smarter Balanced: A computer-adaptive test, a classroom activity, and a performance task. All DOE employees play a significant role to assist schools and students in having a successful testing experience. Please note the reminders in this memo about Internet use and tips for administration coordination.

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New Complex Area Information Technology Managers for Central District - North (Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua) and Kauai District Have Joined the Information Technology Managers Team

Complex Area IT Manager	Complex Area
Honolulu	
Jon Kinoshita	Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani
Stuart Yasui	Kaimuki-McKinley-Roosevelt
Central	
Dean Yoshida (Section Head/Supervisor)	Aiea-Moanalua-Radford
Kory Takemoto (New)	Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua
Leeward	
Jon Kinoshita	Pearl City-Waipahu
Jordan Higa	Campbell-Kapolei
Ramon Cordero	Nanakuli-Waianae
Windward	
Nicholas Alexander	Castle-Kahuku
Daijo Kaneshiro	Kailua-Kalaheo
Hawaii	
Grant Yamamoto	Hilo-Waiakea
Paul Sakamoto	Kau-Keaau-Pahoa
Jennifer Morgan	Honoka'a-Kealakehe-Kohala-Konawaena
Maui	
Peter Ah Kee	Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui
Ross Uedoi	Hana-Lahaina-Lana'i-Molokai
Kauai	
Byron Kapali (New)	Kauai

Procedure that School Test Coordinators Must Use to Have the Spanish Stacked Translation Embedded Designated Support Activated for a Student

Stacked translations provide the full translation of each test item in Spanish above the original item in English on the student's computer screen.

Please contact the HSAP Help Desk at 1-866-648-3712 to request that this embedded designated support be set in TIDE for an identified student.

This information was added to the Smarter Balanced Test Administration Manual on March 16, 2015 on pages 19 and 68 and also on page 105 where this document's change log is located.

Important Information Regarding Students' Completion of Part 1 and Part 2 of the ELA Performance Task (PT)

Part 1

Students must type their answers for each of the research questions in the boxes provided in Part 1 of the ELA PT. If they do not finish typing their answers for all of the research questions before the scheduled test session ends, they must click the "Pause" button at the top of their screens and finish answering these questions during the next scheduled test session. Once the students have finished Part 1 of the PT, they must click the "Next" button at the top of the screen and they will be asked if they wish to review their answers from Part 1 of the PT because they will be unable to edit their responses once they go on to Part 2 of the PT.

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Part 2

After the students start to respond to the last question in Part 2 of the ELA PT, the "End" button will appear at the top of their screens. If they click the "End" button by mistake after starting the last question, two questions will appear in succession on their screens asking them if they want to review their answers before they end Part 2 of the PT and if they are sure they want to end the test. If they answer "yes" to the last question, their test will be submitted for scoring and the student will be unable to return to Part 2 of the PT.

Note: The Mathematics PT does not have two parts. All of the questions are included in one part.

In the News

Associated Press, 3/19/15
Article: "Test Security Now Means Checking Social Media for Cheaters"
http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/test-security-now-means-checking-social-media-cheaters-29745068

Westside Connect (CA), 3/19/15
Article: "Yolo students embark on new testing program"
http://www.westsideconnect.com/news/local_news/yolo-students-embark-on-new-testing-program/article_6141f4c2-cdd3-11e4-973d-07ef4fb0b264.html

Charleston Daily Mail (WV), 3/16/15
Op-ed: " Michael Funkhouser: Common Core will benefit state students"
http://www.charlestondailymail.com/article/20150316/DM04/150319410/1323

The Seattle Times, 3/15/15
Op-ed: "Criticism of Common Core is misdirected"
http://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/editorials/criticism-of-common-core-is-misdirected/

Education Week, 3/17/15
Article: "States Prepare Public for Common-Core Test Results"
http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/03/18/states-prepare-public-for-common-core-test-results.html

Great Falls Tribune (MT), 3/14/15
Article: "The myths and truths of Montana's Common Core"
http://www.greatfallstribune.com/story/news/local/2015/03/14/myths-truths-montanas-common-core-standards/24768409/

Resources

Data Quality Campaign Factsheet on Education Data—The Data Quality Campaign produced a report outlining myths and facts about the assessment consortia and data privacy. The comprehensive report "Getting the Facts Straight about Education Data" can be accessed here:
http://www.dataqualitycampaign.org/files/Facts%20about%20EdData-CCSS%20Assessments.pdf.

CCSS Forward—CCSS Forward, a section of the CCSSO website, is designed to provide updates on new resources and shine a spotlight on state leadership with Common Core implementation. It can be found at
http://www.ccsso.org/CCSS_Forward_State_Resources_and_Success_Stories_to_Implement_the_Common_Core.html.

Khan Academy Common Core resources—Khan Academy has free online resources and exercises that align with the Common Core and that can be personalized to the needs of individual students. The resources can be found at https://www.khanacademy.org/commoncore.

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A Primer on Common Core–Aligned Assessments—Education First developed a briefing for state policymakers and advocates about Common Core–aligned assessment systems, including Smarter Balanced. The presentation can be found at http://www.education-first.com/files/A_Primer_on_Common_Core-Aligned_Assessments_Education_First.pdf.

Key Facts about the Common Core State Standards—Alliance for Excellent Education publications on the CCSS can be found at the following links: http://www.all4ed.org/files/CCSSFacts.pdf and http://www.all4ed.org/files/CommonCore101.pdf.

Follow Smarter Balanced on Twitter—Follow @SmarterBalanced for resources and links to the latest news about the Consortium.

Smarter Balanced Hawaii—Information and resources related to the administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessments in Hawaii is located at the statewide testing portal: http://AlohaHSAP.org.