



Delaware System of Student Assessments

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Office of Assessment
May 2015



Delaware
Department of Education



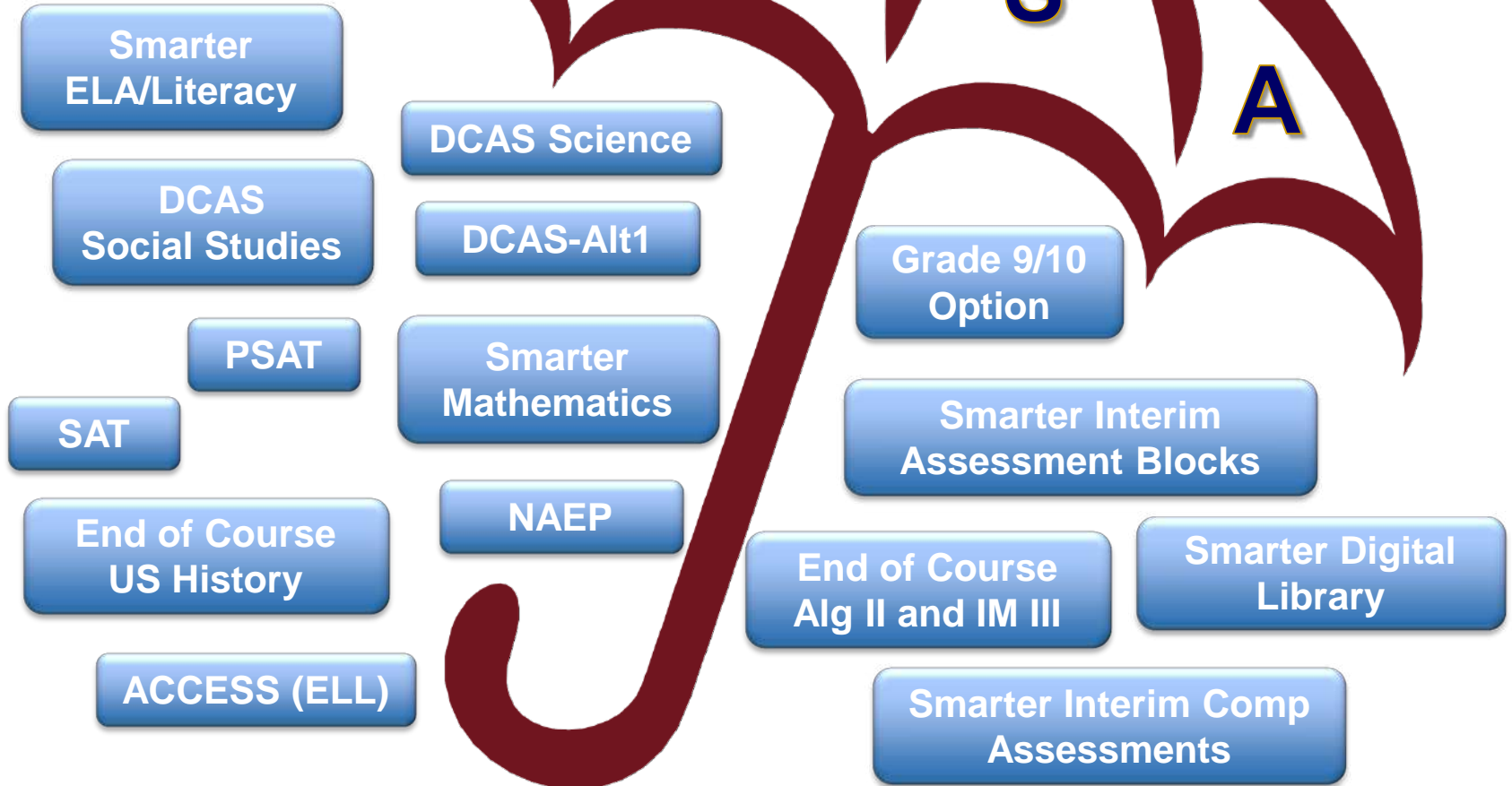
DeSSA – Overview

Office of Assessment

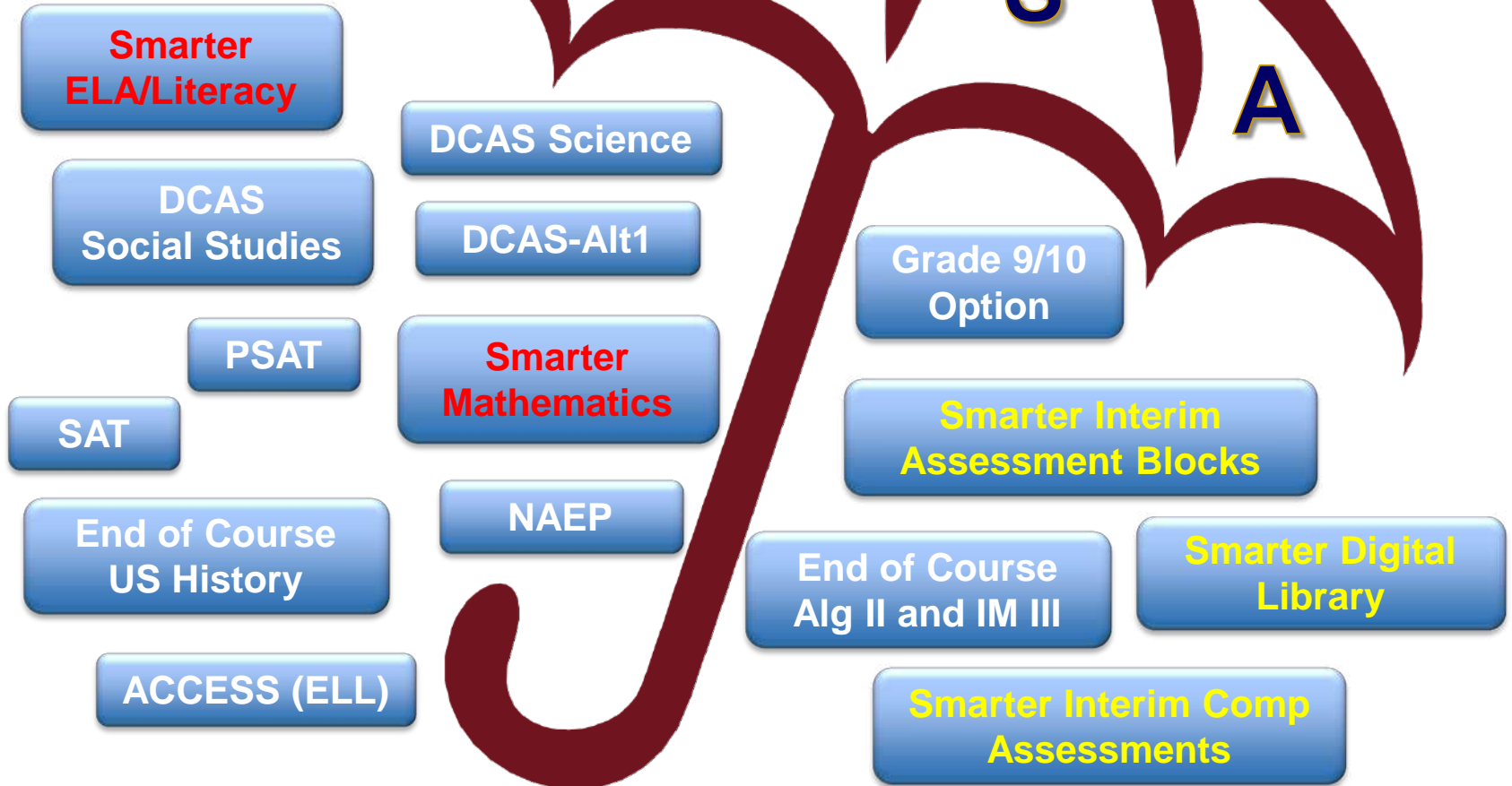


Delaware
Department of Education

DeSSA



DeSSA

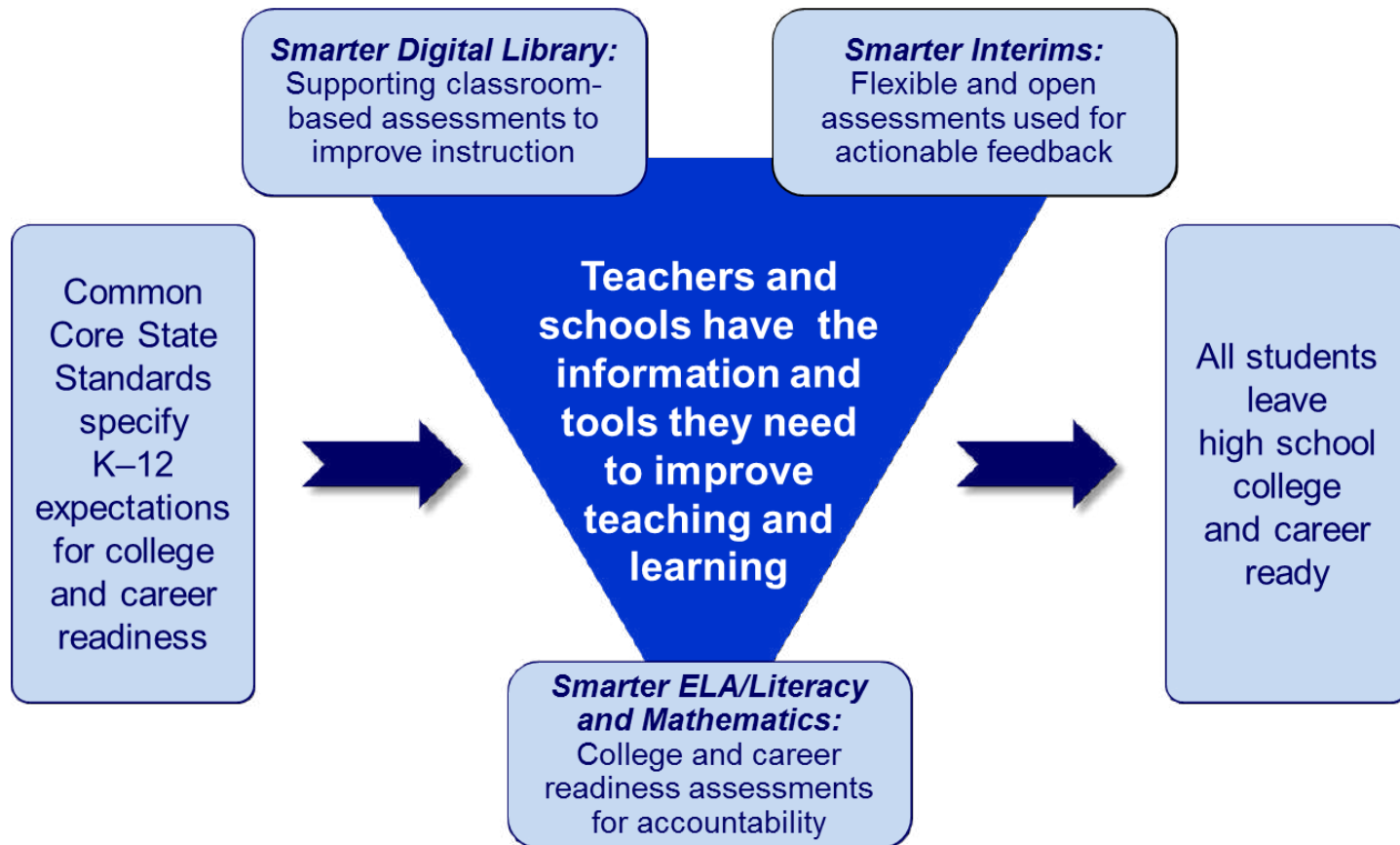


New Smarter Assessments:

Measuring Where Students Are on Their Path to Success

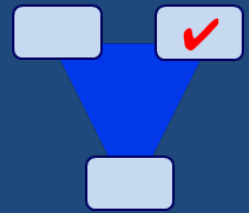
- Replace existing tests and are an improvement
- Provide an academic checkup by measuring real-world skills like critical thinking and problem solving
- Provide information during the year to give teachers and parents a better picture of where students are succeeding and where they need help

A Balanced Assessment System



All three are available and funded by DOE

Smarter Digital Library Resources



Assessment Literacy Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
 - Resources for educators, students and families
-
- Frame formative assessment within a balanced assessment system
 - Articulate the formative assessment process
 - Highlight formative assessment practices and tools

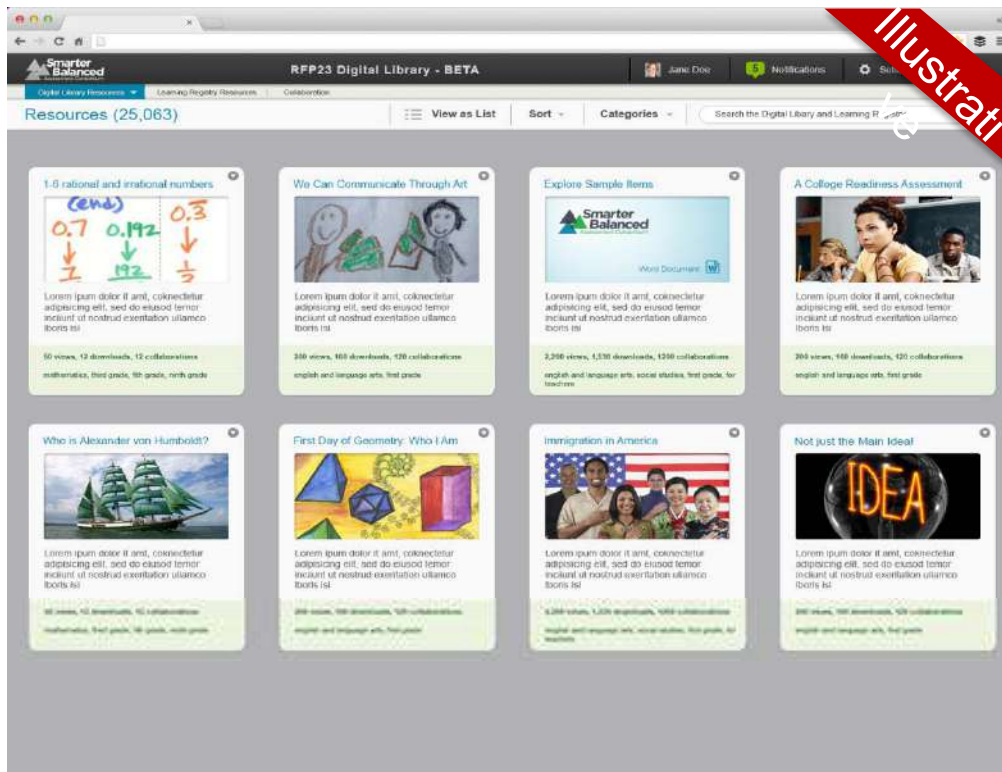
Exemplar Instructional Modules

- Commissioned Professional Learning Modules
 - Instructional coaching for educators
 - Instructional materials for students
-
- Demonstrate/support effective implementation of the formative assessment process
 - Focus on key content and practice from the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for mathematics and ELA

Education Resources

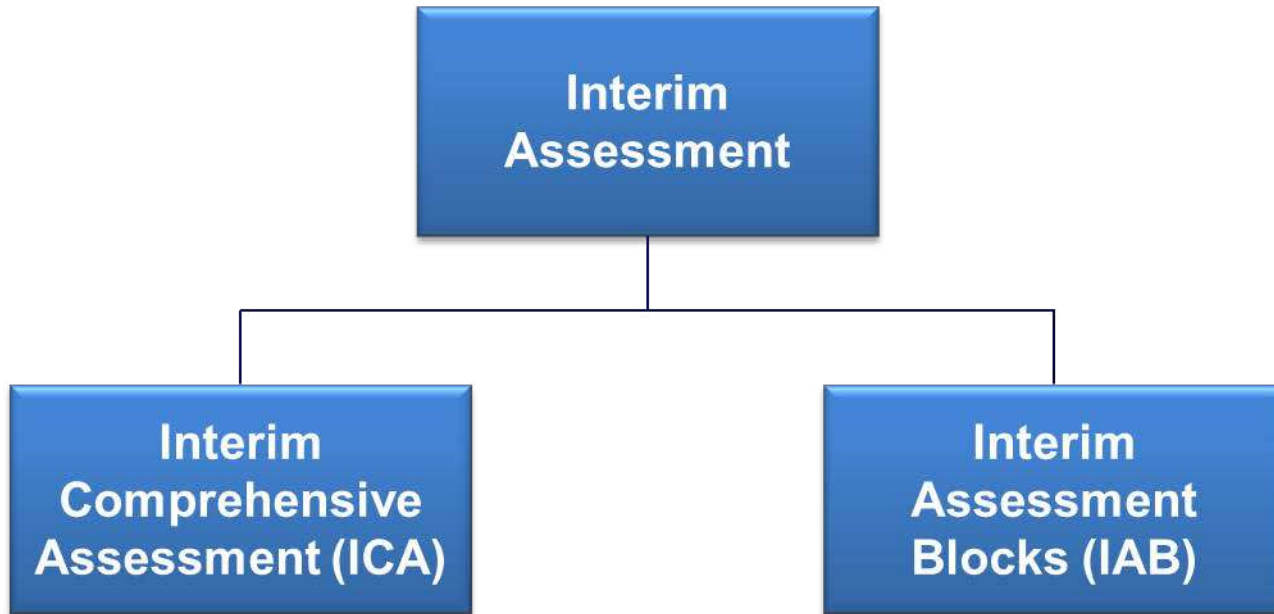
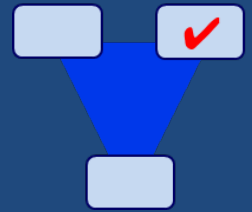
- High-quality vetted instructional resources and tools for educators
 - High-quality vetted resources and tools for students and families
-
- Reflect and support the formative assessment process
 - Reflect and support the CCSS for mathematics and ELA
 - Create Professional Learning Communities

Smarter Digital Library Functionality



- Enables State Networks of Educators and State Leadership Teams to submit, review, and publish resources
- Allows educators to view, download, and rate resources
- Uses state-of-the-art tagging and search to quickly find resources by CCSS and other topics
- Enables educators from across the Consortium to collaborate and share their knowledge
- Facilitates access to resources that are stored in participating libraries

Interim Assessment Components



Will be available during the winter of 2014–2015 with a gradual rollout as the item pool supports

Two Types of Interim Assessments

- Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs)
 - Same design as summative tests
 - Assess the same claims and standards
 - Yield overall scale scores, performance level designation, and claim score information
- Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs)
 - Assess smaller sets of targets
 - Address specific content areas
 - Shorter and more flexible
 - Reported as Below Standard, At/Near Standard, and Above Standard

Interim Assessments to Signal Improvement

Flexible and Open

- Open use—“nonsecure”
- Timing and frequency are locally determined
- Interim tests are aligned assessments
- Can be given off-grade

Supports Proficiency Based Instruction

- Teachers can match IABs with scope and sequence
- Teachers can review student responses
- Teachers will score some student responses

Authentic Measures

- Includes full range of item types
- ICAs use the same scale as the summative assessment
- Includes performance tasks

THSS Overview

- Students complete open-ended items and submit
- Non-machine scored responses automatically sent to test administrator in THSS
- Online resources and system interface provided for Scorers
- Student responses can be viewed and scores entered in the system

Hand-Scoring Security Policy

“Not Secure but Not Public”

- Interim security for students remains the same while actively taking the assessment
- Non-machine scored responses are transmitted to the TA through the THSS
- Teachers can view items, rubrics, exemplars, and training guides in a closed environment
- Refer to Section 3.0 Ensuring Interim Test Security and Security Procedures



IMPORTANT: Look for any additional modifications and updates to this policy as we receive clarification on interim assessment security from Smarter. Updates will be disseminated via the Assessment website, DeSSA Portal, and notification to the District Test Coordinators.

Hand-Scoring Security Policy

“Not Secure but Not Public”

- Student responses can be viewed collaboratively with other Scorers to advance instructional best practices and promote student success
 - Within a closed environment
 - Display items live—such as on a Smart Board
 - No recording or storing of student items or student responses
 - No physical retention of interim-associated items—hardcopies must be stored in a secure location and destroyed after use

Interim Assessment Response Types

Content Area	Response Type
ELA/Literacy	Short text
	Constructed response
	Essay
Mathematics	Short text
	Constructed response
	Short text (fill-in tables)

Teacher Hand-Scoring System (THSS)

The screenshot shows the DeSSA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Get Started, Resources, Announcements, and Supported Browsers. Below the navigation bar is the DeSSA logo and the text 'Delaware System of Student Assessments'. The main content area is titled 'Smarter English Language Arts and Mathematics' and contains a grid of nine icons representing different services: Smarter Digital Library, TIDE, Test Administration, Online Reporting System, Educator Training, Practice & Training Tests, Smarter ELA & Math Resources, and Teacher Hand Scoring System. The 'Teacher Hand Scoring System' icon, which shows a hand pointing to a document, is highlighted with a red rectangular border. To the right of the grid is a 'Welcome!' section with a lighthouse image, followed by an 'Announcements' section with a microphone icon and a 'Key Documents' section with a key icon. The 'Announcements' section contains a notice about a new secure browser for Spring 2015 and a link to view all announcements. The 'Key Documents' section lists three PDF files: Smarter Read Aloud Guidelines, Smarter Accessibility Guide for Classroom Activities, and 2014-2015 Assessment Calendar.

Home Get Started ▼ Resources ▼ Announcements Supported Browsers

 **DeSSA**
Delaware System of Student Assessments

Smarter English Language Arts and Mathematics

 Smarter Digital Library

 TIDE

 Test Administration

 Online Reporting System

 Educator Training

 Practice & Training Tests

 Smarter ELA & Math Resources

 **Teacher Hand Scoring System**

Welcome!
Use this site to access resources, receive updates, prepare for the administration of assessments, and administer test sessions.

 Announcements

NEW For Spring 2015, installation of a new secure browser is required on each computer to be used for DeSSA assessments. The secure browsers for Windows, Mac, and Linux are now available at <http://de.portal.airast.org/browsers/>. In preparation for the new secure browser, please uninstall the current version of the secure browser. This will avoid having multiple browsers present on the desktop.
Added December 10, 2014


- Please [click here](#) to view all announcements.

 Key Documents

- [Smarter Read Aloud Guidelines \[PDF\]](#)
- [Smarter Accessibility Guide for Classroom Activities \[PDF\]](#)
- [2014-2015 Assessment Calendar \[PDF\]](#)

THSS Response List Page

Logged in as ownitemscorer01@example.com | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

 **Teacher Hand Scoring System - Response List**

Test: Session:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Item	Session	Status	Score
<input type="checkbox"/>	MATTHEW DAGENAIS	13312: CellPhone_6_Stim1_Item4	test-a044-1	Not Scored	<input type="button" value="Score"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALANA OLENDORF	13310: CellPhones_6_Stime1_Item5	test-a044-1	Not Scored	<input type="button" value="Score"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	KYESHA BUCKHAM	13313: CellPhone_6_Stim1_Item6	test-a044-1	Not Scored	<input type="button" value="Score"/>

Scoring Student Responses – Submit Score

Click [Submit Score] at the bottom of the page when all Scores and/or Condition Codes have been entered for a response



Warning:

If you have entered a score, you must click the [Submit Score] button to save the score for the specific item response. If [Back] is clicked, this will result in the score not to being saved.

Remember to click [Submit Score]!

Summative Assessments

Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) Portion

- Built on solid technology
- Coverage of full breadth/depth of CCSS
- Precise assessment of all students

Performance Task (PT) Portion

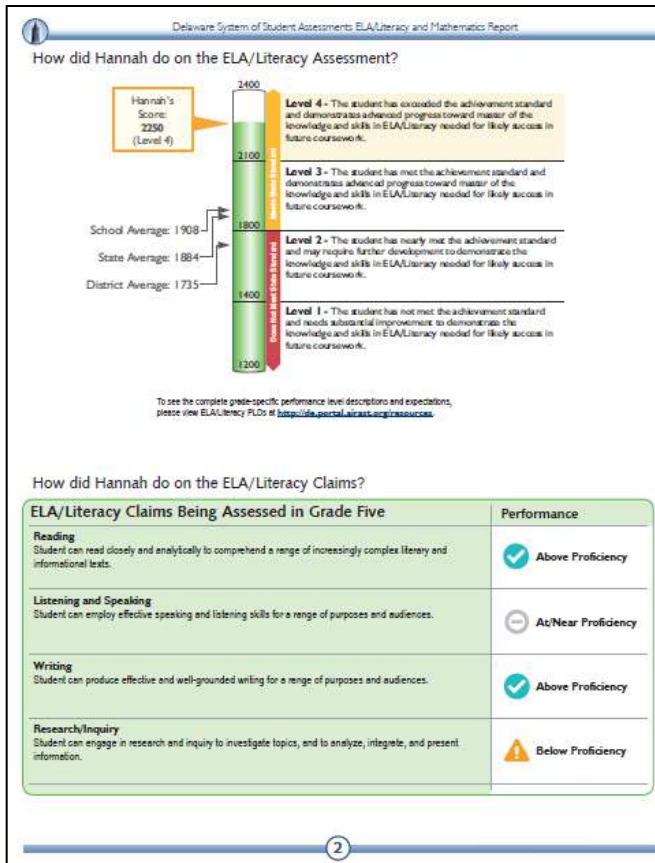
- Deeper learning with real-life application and scenario-based tasks aligned to CCSS
- PT portion combined with CAT portion for overall score
- One or two class periods (classroom activity followed by PT)

Alignment with College/Career Ready Performance Standards

- Wide review of Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs)
- Field tests include PISA, TIMSS, NAEP items
- Online and face to face opportunities for broad engagement

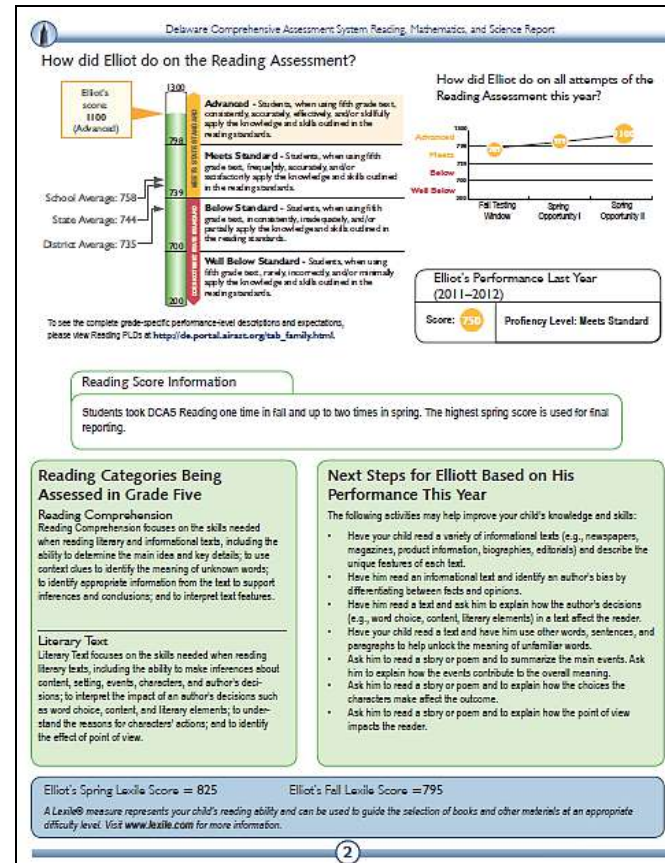
Parent Reports Comparison

Proposed DeSSA Version for ELA/Literacy



Smarter Initial Draft

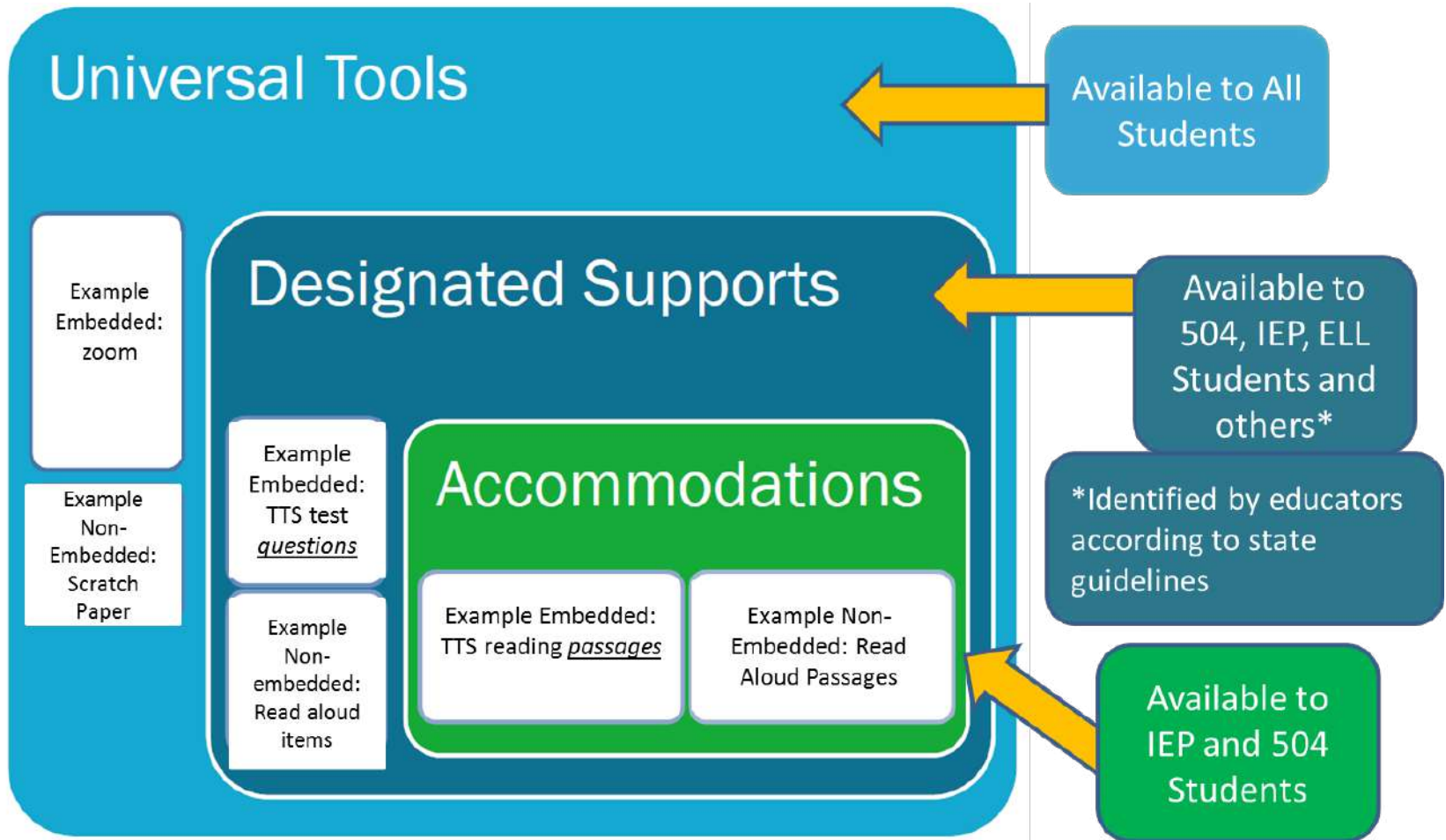
DCAS 2014 Version for ELA/Literacy



Smarter Assessments ...

- ... provide more accommodations/supports than any one state could develop individually
- ... are some of the most accessible tests available
 - American Sign Language (video)
 - Refreshable braille
 - Text to speech
 - Various language glossaries available
 - External devices/software
 - Supports available to general education students

Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations



Types of Supports and Accommodations

- Embedded: delivered by the secure browser
 - Text-to-Speech (TTS)
 - Closed Captioning
- Non Embedded: delivered by the school
 - Separate setting
 - Human interpreter
- Accommodations and Supports must be entered prior to testing

What is a Designated Support?

- May have previously been called an “accommodation”
- Distinguished by its availability to students who are outside the traditional “identified” groups
- Features called “accommodations” on Smarter are only available to students with IEP/504

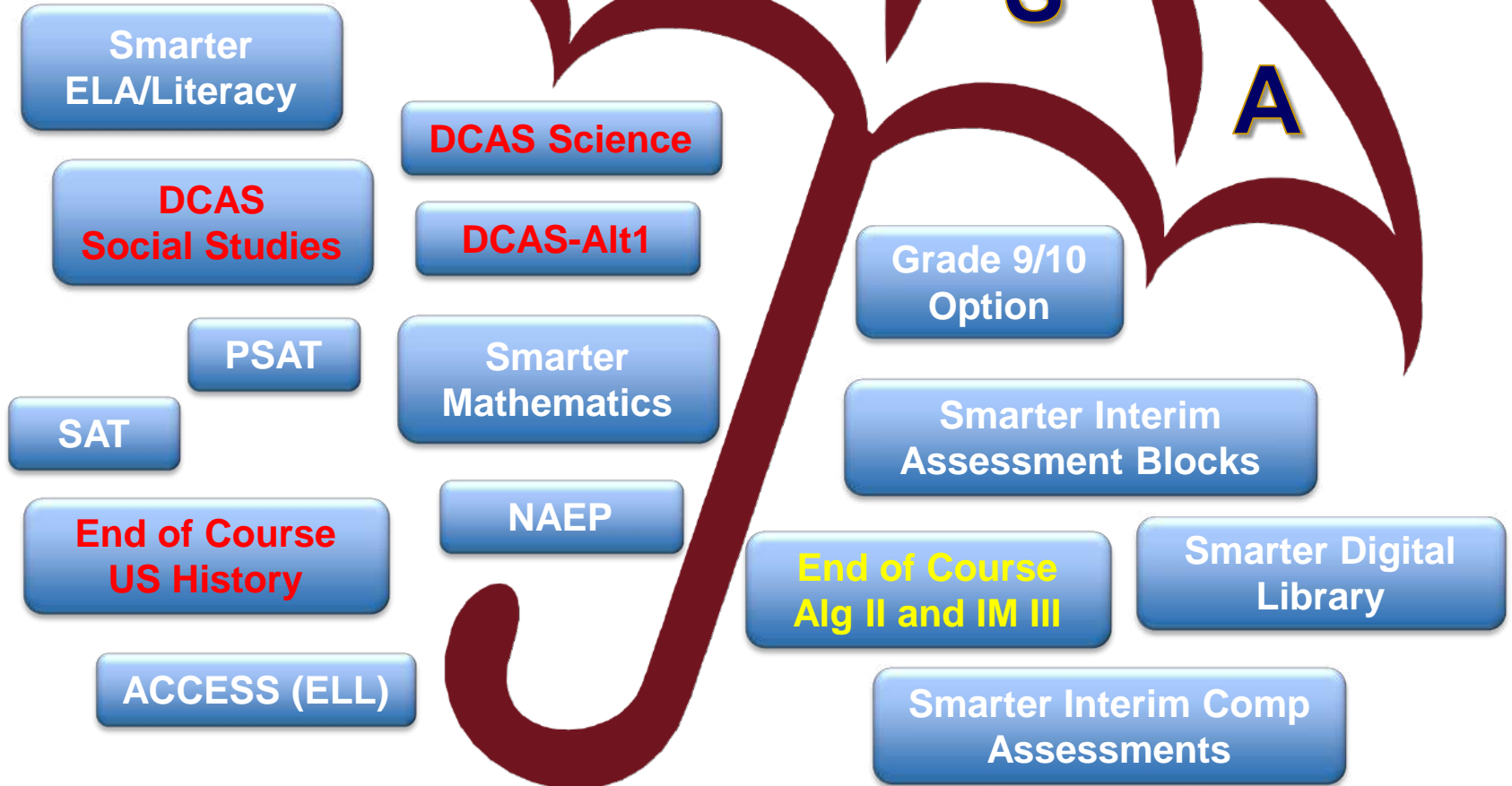
General Ed with Supports

- The “others” in the Tools, Supports, and Accommodations graphic
- Identify “Gen Ed with Supports”
 - Students who are NOT ELL, SWD, or 504
 - Struggling students
 - Injured/sick/homebound students
 - Students identified by school “problem solving team”
- Flag these students in eschool Accountability screen
- Enter selected Supports/Accommodations

Applications Required for Some Accommodations & Supports

- DOE has established an application process
- Accommodations & Supports that should be used only on a limited basis
 - Human Interpreter
 - Deaf/Hard of Hearing
 - Native Language
 - Text-to-Speech or Human Reader for reading passages on ELA test
- Best to submit far in advance of testing

DeSSA



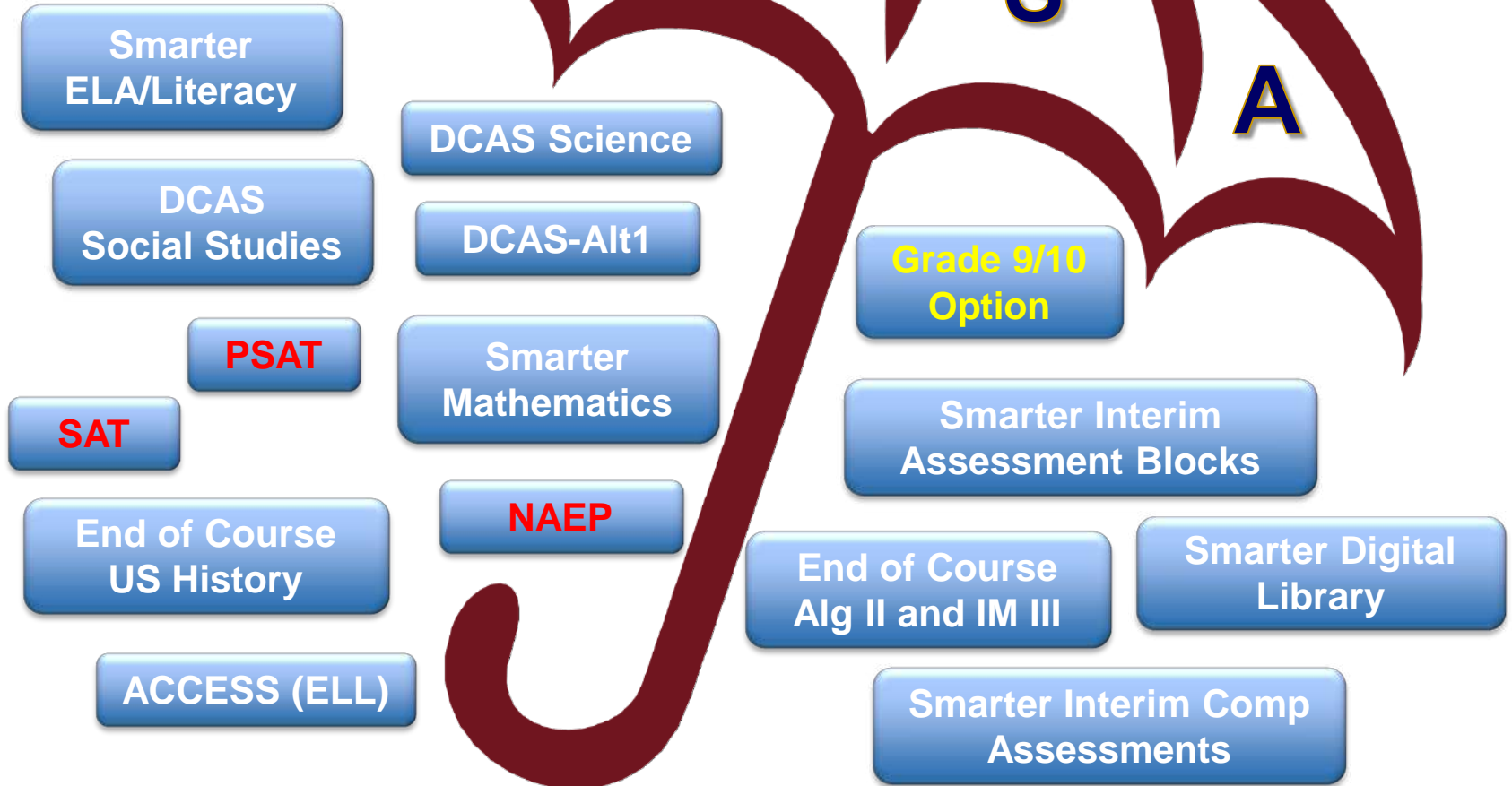
DCAS and DCAS-Alt1

- DCAS Science – grades 5, 8, and 10
- DCAS Social Studies – grades 4 and 7
- DCAS-Alt1
 - Reading and Mathematics (grades 3–11)
 - Science (grades 5, 8, and 10)
 - Social Studies (grades 4, 7, and 9)

DCAS End of Course (EOC) Assessments

- U.S. History – required
- Algebra II – optional
- Integrated Mathematics III – optional

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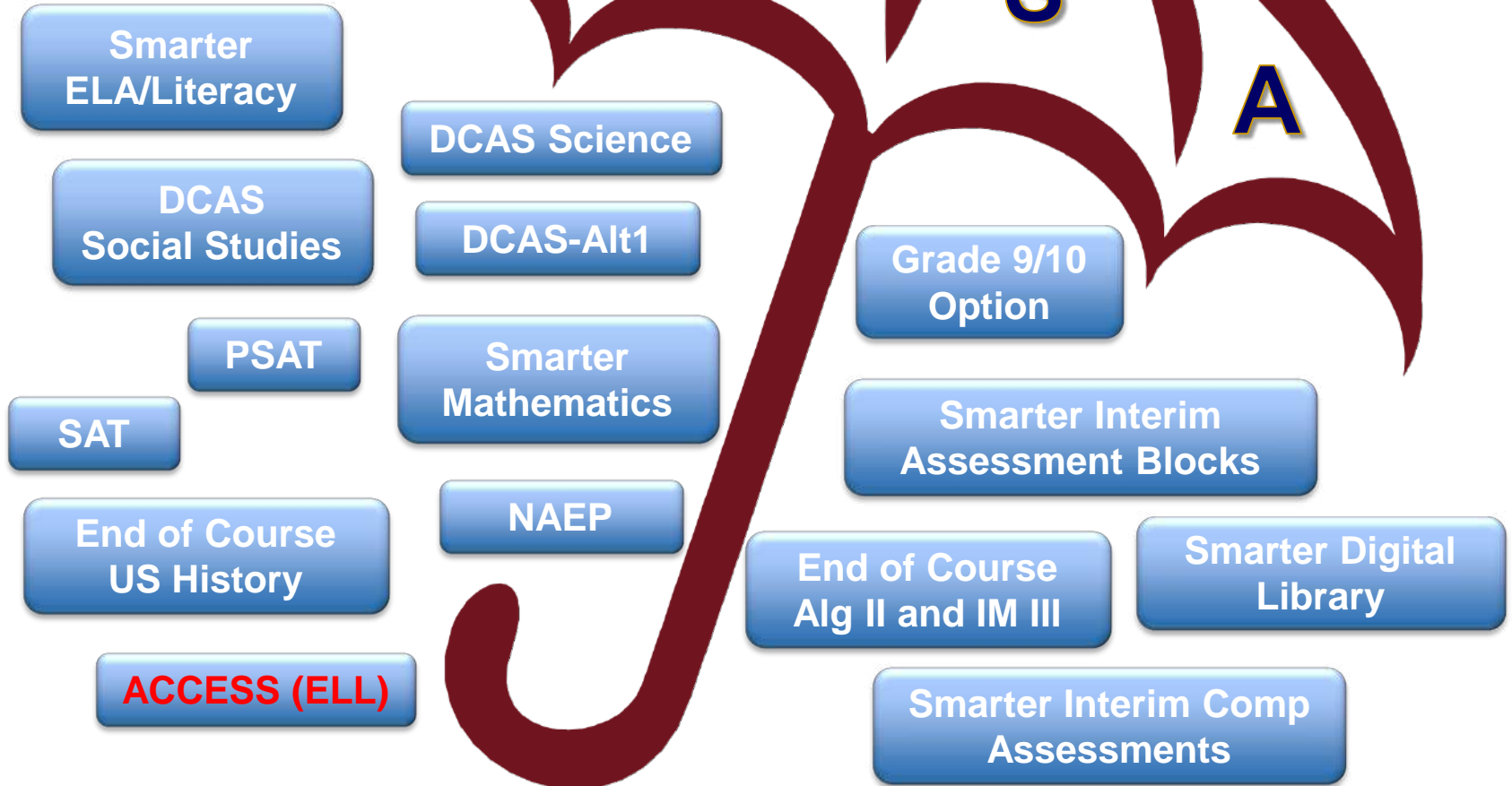
PSAT, SAT, and NAEP

- PSAT
 - Grade 10
 - October 15, 2014
- SAT
 - Grade 11
 - April 15, 2015
- NAEP
 - Grades 4, 8, and 12
 - Window is January 26–March 6, 2015

Grade 9 and 10 Assessment Options

Assessment Option	Grade 9	Grade 10
1. Smarter ELA and Mathematics Interim Comprehensive Assessment (ICA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Preliminary SAT Scoring Service (PSSS)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Local District/Charter Decision for Alternative Spring Assessment**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Local District Decision for No Spring Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

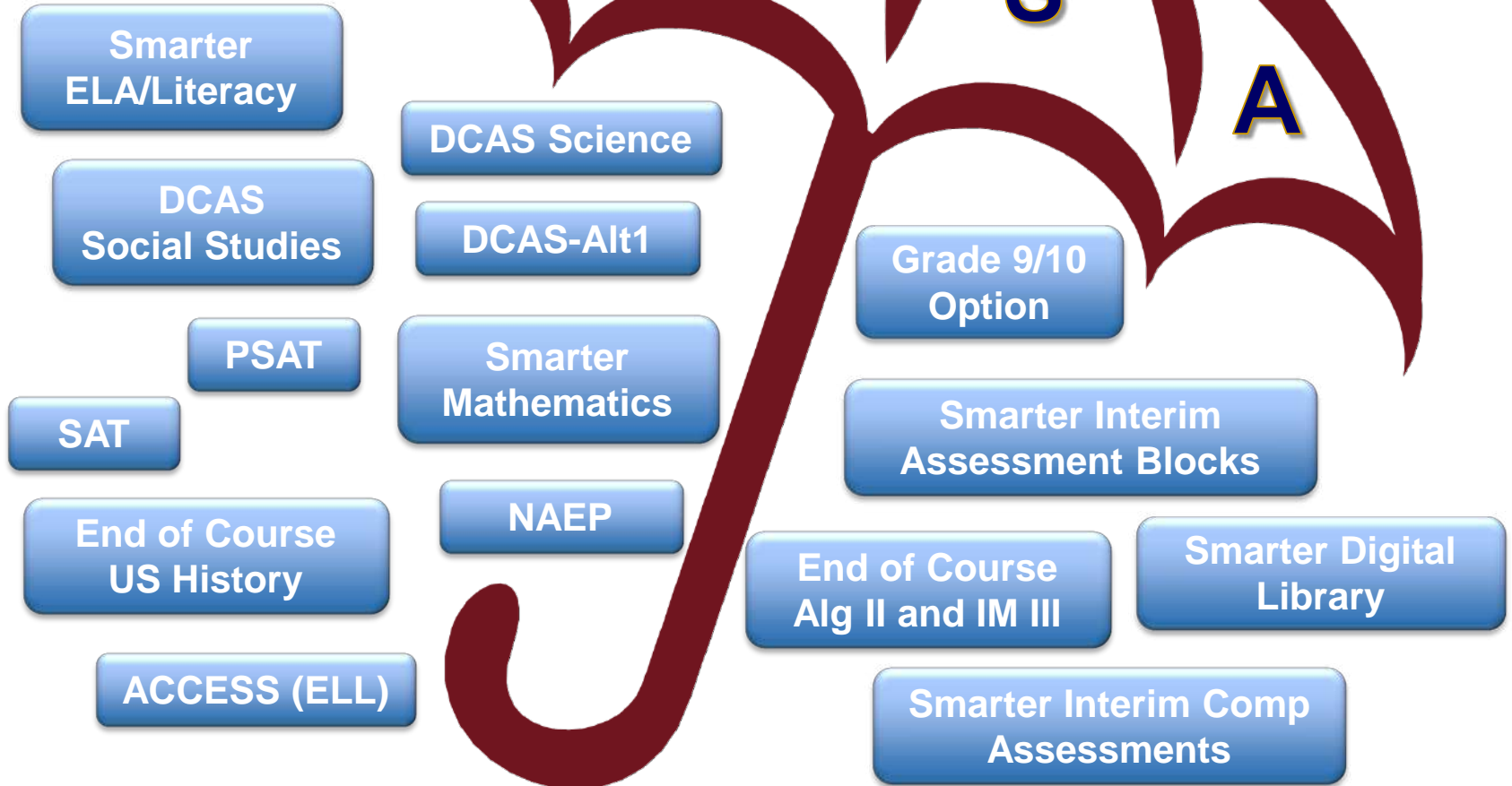
DeSSA



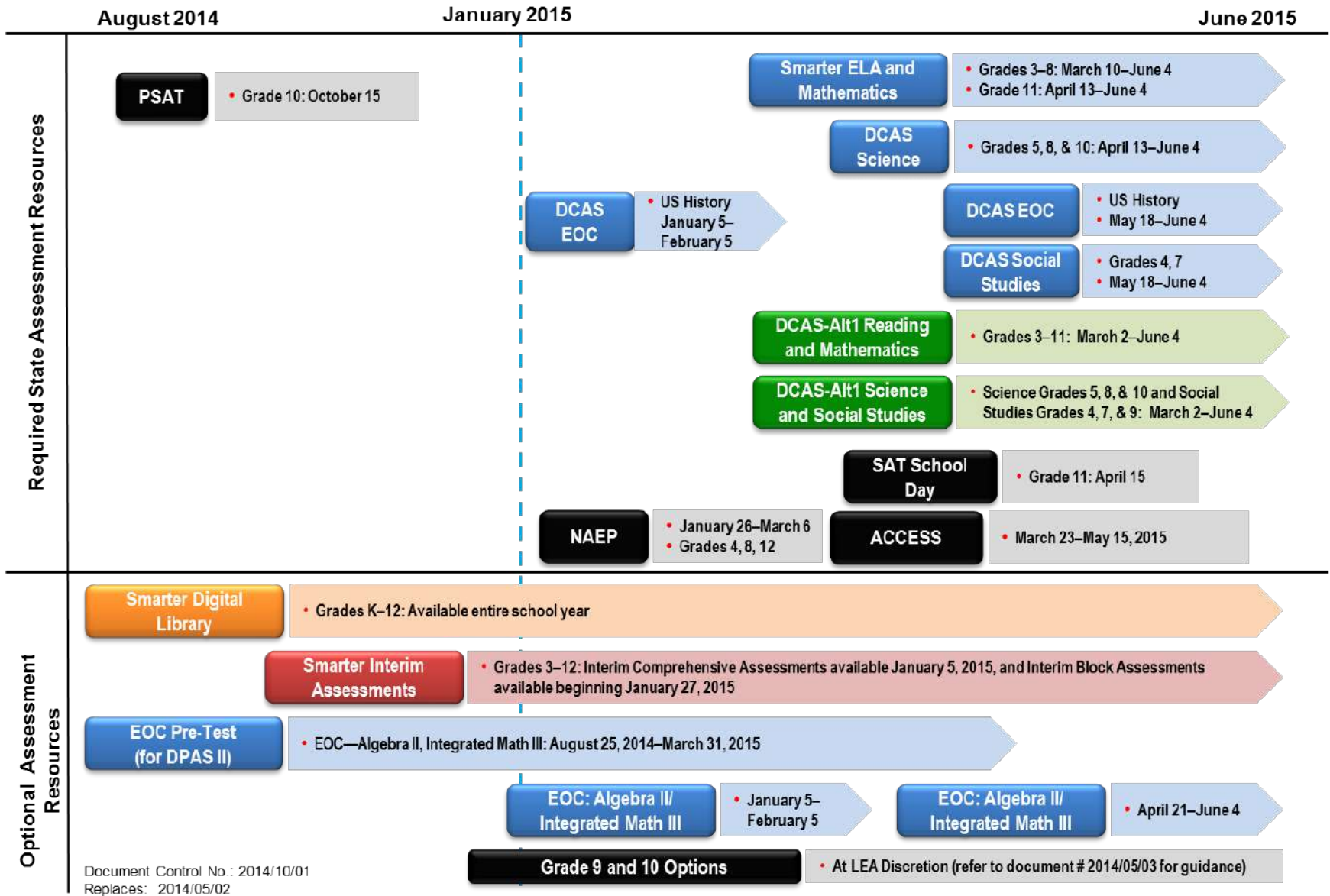
ACCESS

- Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State (ACCESS)
 - Large-scale test addressing English language development standards that form the core of the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Consortium's approach to instructing and testing English language learners (ELL)
 - Students in grades K–12, as appropriate
- Alt ACCESS – grades 1–12

DeSSA



Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA): 2014–2015 Calendar



Document Control No.: 2014/10/01
Replaces: 2014/05/02



DeSSA Training and Professional Development



Delaware
Department of Education

Training

- Required training will be provided by role or job responsibility
- Each training will be provided through the Professional Development Management System (PDMS) as online Schoology course
- Each module will provide some form of assessment or assignment for completion
- Modules will be developed in-house by Office of Assessment

Identified Training Series/Roles

Series/Role	Description of Training Required
DCAS Test Administrator	DCAS Test Administrator Training for administration for all DCAS assessments
Smarter Test Administrator	Smarter Summative Assessment Test Administrator Training
Principal/Other Administrator	Smarter Summative Training and DCAS Summative Training
District Test Coordinator	DeSSA Security Training DCAS Test Administrator Training Modules Smarter Test Administrator Training Modules

All role-based training described above will be available in one PDMS course per role. For example, the District Test Coordinator course will contain all training listed above.

IF someone administers both a DCAS and a Smarter Test, they must complete both courses.

Integrated Management Systems (IMS) Access

- Secure access login to all DOE applications:

Delaware Department of Education

Welcome helen.dennis (DOE ISO)

Identity Management System

Request Applications Application Contacts Change Password IMS Management User Request Reporting

Search for your application here

Assessment Accommodations Request

DELSIS 2.0

De SSA / DCAS

DSARA

PDMS

IEP Plus

State Funds Reporting

IMS Applications



Assessment Accommodations – used to enter all student assessment accommodations



DELSIS 2.0 – DOE system of record for all student demographic and enrollment information



Delaware Student Assessment Reporting and Analysis (DSARA) – system reports all student assessment information in one location




DeSSA/DCAS – takes the user to the DeSSA Portal, including TIDE, ORS, TA Interface, and other AIR applications.





Assessment Portal and Resources

- Assessment portal located at:
<http://de.portal.airast.org>

Home Get Started ▾ Resources ▾ Announcements Supported Browsers

 **DeSSA**
Delaware System of Student Assessments

Get Started

-  Students & Families
-  Smarter ELA & Mathematics
-  DCAS Science, Social Studies & EOC
-  DCAS-Alt1

Recent Announcements


NEW! Reminder Smarter Paper-Pencil Test Window Closed:
The Smarter Paper-Pencil and Paper-Pencil Braille testing window closed on Wednesday, May 20th.
If you have not already done so, please return all your used and unused materials as soon as possible using the UPS return label that was included in your box of materials. The Smarter Summative Paper Materials Return Instructions are located on the DeSSA portal in the Test Resources Section of the Smarter ELA and Math Resources.
Please contact the AIR DeSSA Help Desk if there are any problems packing or arranging for pickup.


Reminder DCAS Paper-Pencil Tests:
The DCAS Paper-Pencil and Paper-Pencil Braille testing window closes on Thursday, June 4th.
Please return all your used and unused materials no later than June 9, 2015 using the UPS return label that was included in your box of materials. The Instructions for Returning DCAS Materials are located on the DeSSA portal in the Test Resources Section of the DCAS Science, Social Studies and EOC assessments.
Please contact the AIR DeSSA Help Desk if there are any problems packing or arranging for pickup.

Added May 26, 2015

- **TEST WINDOWS OPEN:** The following Spring 2015 test windows are now open:

Welcome to DeSSA!
This portal is your source for information about the Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA). Use this site to access Smarter ELA and Math applications, DCAS Science and Social Studies applications, and DCAS-Alt1 applications. Please check back often for the latest news about DeSSA.

 Secure Browsers

 Resources

DeSSA Professional Development

Required

- Security Module
- Test Administrator Training for DCAS Science, Social Studies, EOC and Paper pencil
- Test Administrator Training for Smarter ELA/Literacy and Mathematics

Optional

- DeSSA TIDE Training

Note: This list is just a sample and not inclusive of what may be required.

Manage Testing

- Use TIDE and ORS-“Plan and Manage Testing” to successfully manage testing
- TIDE Students – contains all student enrollment, demographic, and accommodations data
- ORS – contains reported test data and records of students tested and tests taken (participation)

Handle Testing Surprises

- Security incidents
- Test resets, reopens
- Exemption Requests
- Incident Reports
- Test invalidations



Assessment Inventory Overview

Office of Assessment

Background Information


- Delaware Governor Markell launched state-wide review of all assessments administered by the state, district, and individual schools (3/12/15)
- Goal to decrease testing burden and increase instructional time
- Result of concerns raised by various groups
 - parents, teachers, community, and other stakeholder groups
- Striving for an assessment system
 - Showing when students are excelling, when they need support
 - Striking a balance and supporting student success

State Strategy: Assessment Inventory Process

- All districts/charter schools required to complete the Assessment Inventory process across the state
- Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) released grant opportunity to help fund district ability to
 - Complete the assessment inventory process
 - Include educators throughout the process
 - Clarification regarding “grain size”
 - Review findings and generate recommendations
 - Develop an action plan to execute on findings
 - Develop communications and community engagement process around assessment
- Grant award amounts vary based on district/school enrollment
- Grant applications currently processing

State Strategy: Assessment Inventory Process

STUDENT ASSESSMENT INVENTORY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Inventory Table



Name of Individual(s) completing the table Date				
Optional Category: English Language Arts (e.g., grade level, subject)				
Name of assessment	(Example) PLACE ELA			
Entity requiring assessment <i>state – SEA or other agency; district, or school</i>	District			
Grade(s) tested	5-8			
Course(s) or subjects tested	ELA			
Which students are eligible or required to take assessment?	All students in these grades who are also required to take regular state assessment			
Type of assessment <i>summative; interim/benchmark; formative; diagnostic</i>	Benchmark			

Inventory:

- Basic information
- Use/purpose
- Operation

	Recommendation	Rationale	Authority	Timing of Recommendation	Action Steps
	Discontinue use of PLACE ELA beginning in January 2015	Redundant with ELA Grow test	Superintendent	Sept. cabinet meeting	Need to write proposal memo with supporting evidence
1					
2					
3					
4					

Recommendations:

- No change
- Modification
- Replacement
- Elimination

Phase One: Review Current Status

- Establish an assessment strategy
 - Why do we assess?
 - What are the components of comprehensive assessment system?
- Identify and train teams of teachers to review current assessments
- Conduct a comprehensive review of local assessments using Assessment Inventory
- Administer the district/school inventory of current assessments

Phase Two: Develop Action Plan

- Engage with teachers, parents, students, and others to determine recommendations
- Recommendations for each assessment
 - No change, modification, replacement, elimination
 - Rationale for decision
 - Authority
 - Timing of recommendation
 - Action steps
- Develop final plan

Phase Three: Implement Action Plan

- Implement each component of the action plan
- Post on the website, strive for input and transparency of assessment efforts
- Survey teachers
- Review data for instructional time gained (12/31/15)

Phase Four and Beyond: Follow-up and Ongoing Process

- Review success of implementation
- Review status periodically to determine success
- Identify rewards and areas requiring additional focus
- Plan forward
- Ongoing process

Tools and Resources

- DDOE provided resources
 - Delaware Components of a Balanced Assessment System “one-pagers”
 - Delaware Assessment Inventory Process Grant Application
 - Delaware Assessment Inventory Process Supplementary Guidelines
 - Delaware Office of Assessment completed Assessment Inventory
 - Achieve (www.achieve.org)
 - Webinar with districts/charter schools
 - Assessment Inventory and Recommendations
 - Assessment Inventory professional development ppt
 - Focus Groups and Surveys
- Some additional online resources to support the inventory process
 - Criteria for Procuring and Evaluating High-Quality Assessments:
<http://www.csso.org/Documents/2014/CCSSO%20Criteria%20for%20High%20Quality%20Assessments%2003242014.pdf>
 - Sample Focus Group and Survey Materials for Community Feedback:
http://www.achieve.org/files/AchieveStudentAssessmentInventory_ListeningtoTeachers.pdf
 - Assessment Evaluation Tool (Math):
http://achievethecore.org/content/upload/AET_Version2_Math_K-12.pdf
 - Assessment Evaluation Tool (ELA):
http://achievethecore.org/content/upload/AET_Version2_ELA_3-12.pdf