



# Balanced Education

San Joaquin County Office, Educational Services

January 2015 Issue

## Welcome to a New Year...

**H**appy 2015! This year we will continue to master the Common Core Standards and achieve success in the Smarter Balanced assessments. Together, we will help all students succeed as we move forward in the coming year.

Jane Steinkamp  
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

## ISAAP Process and Tool

**T**he Individual Student Assessment Accessibility Profile (ISAAP) process is a systematic approach to addressing student access needs for the Smarter Balanced assessments.

The ISAAP process includes preparatory steps, a step for creating the ISAAP itself, and steps that allow educators to check whether designated supports and accommodations have been entered correctly into the test engine. For students with an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan, ISAAP decisions are determined by the IEP or Section 504 team, respectively.

The ISAAP tool is designed to facilitate the selection of the designated supports and accommodations that match student access needs for the Smarter Balanced assessments, as supported by the Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines. This tool should be used in conjunction with the Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines and state regulations and policies related to assessment accessibility as a part of the ISAAP process. The Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines can be found at <http://caaspp.org/administration/instructions/>.

The ISAAP Tool is now available to download at [http://californiatac.org/rsc/pdfs/CAASPP.isaap-tool.2014\\_2015.v1.xlsm](http://californiatac.org/rsc/pdfs/CAASPP.isaap-tool.2014_2015.v1.xlsm). A video tutorial of the tool is available at [http://californiatac.org/rsc/videos/archived-webcast\\_ISAAP-overview-and-instructions.html](http://californiatac.org/rsc/videos/archived-webcast_ISAAP-overview-and-instructions.html).

## Upcoming Workshops

**Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) Conference.**

January 24. Register by contacting the Science and STEM office at 209-468-4880 or by e-mail at [akennedy@sjcoe.net](mailto:akennedy@sjcoe.net).

**Close Reading for English Learners.** January 27. Register at <http://inside.sjcoe.org/attachments/780CloseReadingforEnglishLearners8-8-14.pdf>.

**Peer Mediated Instruction and Intervention Workshop.** January 27. Register at <http://inside.sjcoe.org/attachments/7491-27-15pm.pdf>.

**Autism: Video Modeling Workshop.** January 27. Register at <http://inside.sjcoe.org/attachments/7491-27-15am.pdf>.

## Reading Apprenticeship

**W**estEd is now recruiting school teams of Science, Social Studies, and English-Language Arts teachers to participate in the year-long Reading Apprenticeship: Writing Connections, a three-year Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Reading Apprenticeship will begin the summer of 2015 and is a research-based instructional framework that improves student literacy and addresses the challenges of the Common Core State Standards. It includes a series of seven in-person training sessions, supported by monthly online sessions. To learn more about how the Reading Apprenticeship visit the Reading Apprentice Web site at <http://readingapprenticeship.org/>.

## Common Core FAQs

**A** new Achieve the Core resource now available is the Common Core frequently asked questions (FAQs). These FAQs were created by teachers for teachers and include the top eight questions parents ask teachers about the common core. It includes information about the background of the Standards, what the changes mean for students, and resources where parents can get additional information. The FAQs are available at <http://achievethecore.org.cmail1.com/t/j-1-drthkkl-ttkitkeu-j/>



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