



Balanced Education

San Joaquin County Office, Educational Services

April 2015 Issue

Moving Forward...

Summative assessments are now under way! As we proceed into and through the new statewide testing process, our schools continue to meet this challenge and consistently demonstrate they are willing and able to help their students achieve success.

Jane Steinkamp
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Testing Sessions

There is some concern at the state level that local educational agencies (LEAs) may mistakenly be administering summative assessments rather than interim assessments by inaccurately making a test selection. Test administrators (TAs) should be very careful to correctly select the assessment type from the pull-down menu when launching an interim assessment test session since the same menu includes options for summative assessments. If students are erroneously given a summative assessment, the results may be invalid. Also, if an LEA administers the summative before they are supposed to, the test session starts. As a result, they will have to complete the tests within the testing window before they are locked out of the system. To aid TAs, the state has developed a pop-up verification window at the start of every interim and summative assessment session.

Interim Assessments

Interim assessments are used to measure how well students are learning so adjustments in classroom instruction can be made if needed. To avoid overexposure of interim assessment questions, LEAs are encouraged to use the Practice Tests and Training Tests instead of the interim assessments to help students become familiar with the technology and general testing experience. The Practice Tests and Training Tests are available on the [CAASPP Web site](#).

Also available on the [CAASPP Web site](#) is the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Reporting System. This new system will allow authorized users in an LEA to view and download student reports for Interim Assessment Blocks and Interim Comprehensive Assessments. An email has been sent to CAASPP coordinators with information that includes links to training videos, user guide, and information on how to add users to the system. LEA staff should contact their CAASPP coordinator with any questions regarding accessing interim assessment reports.

Summative Assessments

The [CAASPP Communications Toolkit](#), recently made available by the California Department of Education (CDE), includes documents that can aid in informing schools, parents, students, and community representatives about the Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Another resource available is the [CAASPP Dual Login Graphic](#) that shows which components are available from the CAASPP login as well as the Smarter Balanced login. It has recently been updated to include the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Reporting System.

Upcoming Workshops

Reaching Reluctant Writers: Building Fluency & Success. April 22. Register at <http://conta.cc/1DNGAki>.

Collaborative Conversations. April 23. Register at <http://conta.cc/1zGVub9>.

Leading at the Speed of Trust. May 4-5. Register at www.rsdss6.sjcoe.net.

San Joaquin County Office of Education
James A. Mousalimas, County Superintendent of Schools

