

The School District of Lancaster Assessment Plan

Why do we assess students?

In The School District of Lancaster we are life long learners. By using common assessments across the district we can determine:

- the progress of students
- the types of academic support our students may need
- the effectiveness of our curriculum and instruction
- the preparedness of our students for college and careers



Four Types of Assessment

Formative

A way for teachers to check student understanding during a lesson.

Benchmark

An assessment that determines how well a student is performing on end-of-grade level standards.

Diagnostic

An assessment that pinpoints each student's specific areas of strength and need, and is used to help teachers when planning instruction.

Summative

An assessment that is given at the end of a unit, quarter, semester, course, or year to determine how well students have mastered standards.

Formative Assessment Examples

Used daily

- "Do Now"/"Jump Start"
- "Ticket Out the Door"/"Exit Ticket"
- "Quick Write"
- White Board Response

Benchmark Assessment Examples

Given three times per year (5-30 minutes)

- easyCBM: Math, grades K-2
- DIBELS: Reading, grades K-5

Diagnostic Assessment Examples

Given 3-4 times per year (approx. 1 hour)

- Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT)
 - Reading/Literature
grades 3-High School
 - Math/Algebra I
grades 3-High School

Summative Assessment Examples

- **Constructed Response**
Given quarterly, grades 3-High School
- **Mid Terms/Finals**
Given in grades 6-12
- **Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Exams**
Given to high school AP/IB students only
- **ACCESS***
*Given to grades K-12
(English Language Learners only)*
- **PSSA/PASA***
*Given in English Language Arts, Math: grades 3-8
Science: grades 4 & 8*
- **Keystone Exams***
Given at end of course
 - Graduation requirement (Class of 2017+)
 - Literature (10th Grade)
 - Algebra I (Algebra I students)
 - Biology (Biology students)
- **NOCTI**
Given as certification assessments for Career and Technical Education students

* Required by Pennsylvania Department of Education



The School District of Lancaster



TOGETHER WE CAN

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