

Introduction to the Partnership Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC), DC's state assessment, for new LEA staff



August 31, 2015

Welcome!

- This webinar is an introduction for any LEA staff who are new to PARCC, especially those from new LEAs and/or newly appointed LEA assessment coordinators.
- Presenters from the OSSE Assessment team:
 - Bonnie O’Keefe, PARCC Coordinator
 - Tonya Mead, CFE, PhD, State Test Integrity Coordinator

Agenda

- DC-wide Assessments
- PARCC Basics: Who, What, When, Where, How, Why?
- PARCC in the 2015-16 School Year: What to Expect
 - Fall
 - Winter
 - Spring
 - Summer
- Test Integrity
- PARCC Resources
- Opportunities to Engage
- Q&A

DC-wide Assessments

The District of Columbia administers multiple assessments annually in accordance with DC and federal law. These DC-wide assessments are an important source of data on student progress and performance relative to DC's educational standards.

Assessment Name	Standards Measured	Students Tested
PARCC English Language Arts /Literacy (ELA) and Math	Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in ELA and Math	Grades 3-8, at least once in high school
National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) in ELA and Math	Alternate Achievement Standards (AA-AAS)	Grades 3-8, 11 for eligible students
DC Science	Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)	Grades 5, 8 and high school Biology
DC Science Alternate	Alternate Science Standards	Grades 5, 8 and high school Biology for eligible students
ACCESS for English Language Learners	English language proficiency	ELL students in grades K-12
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)	NAEP Assessment Framework	Sampled students in a variety of grades and subjects

PARCC Basics: Who, What, When, Where, How, Why?



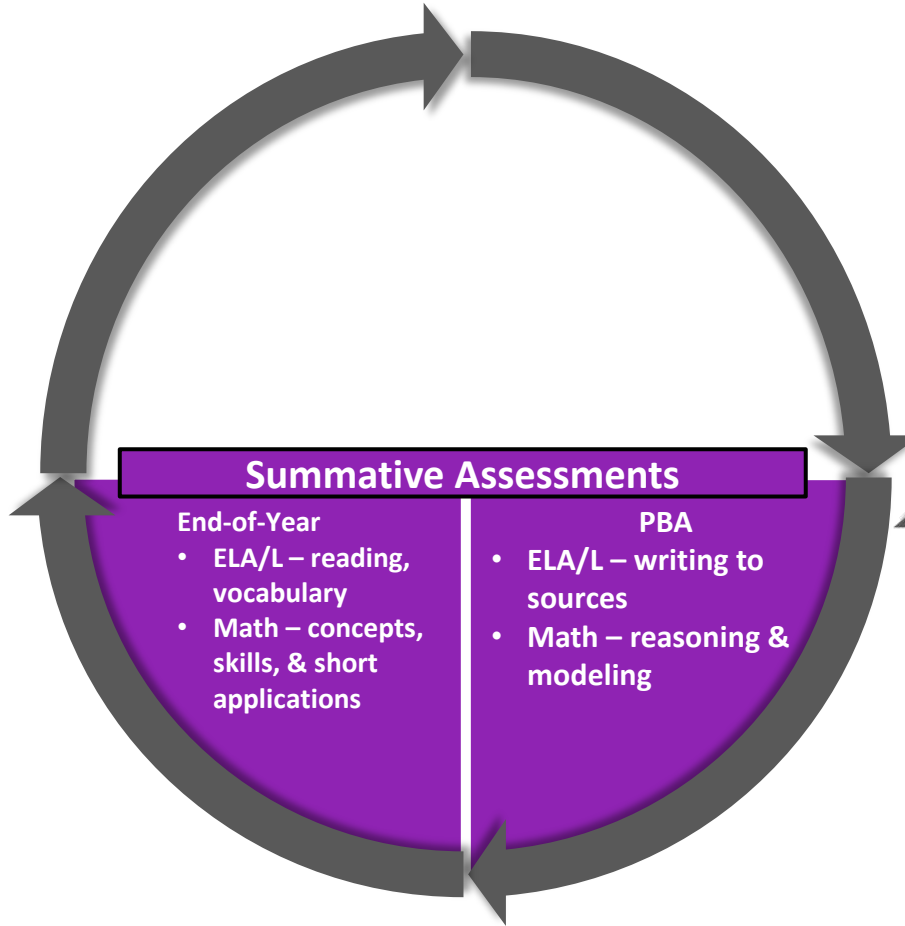
PARCC Basics: Who?

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

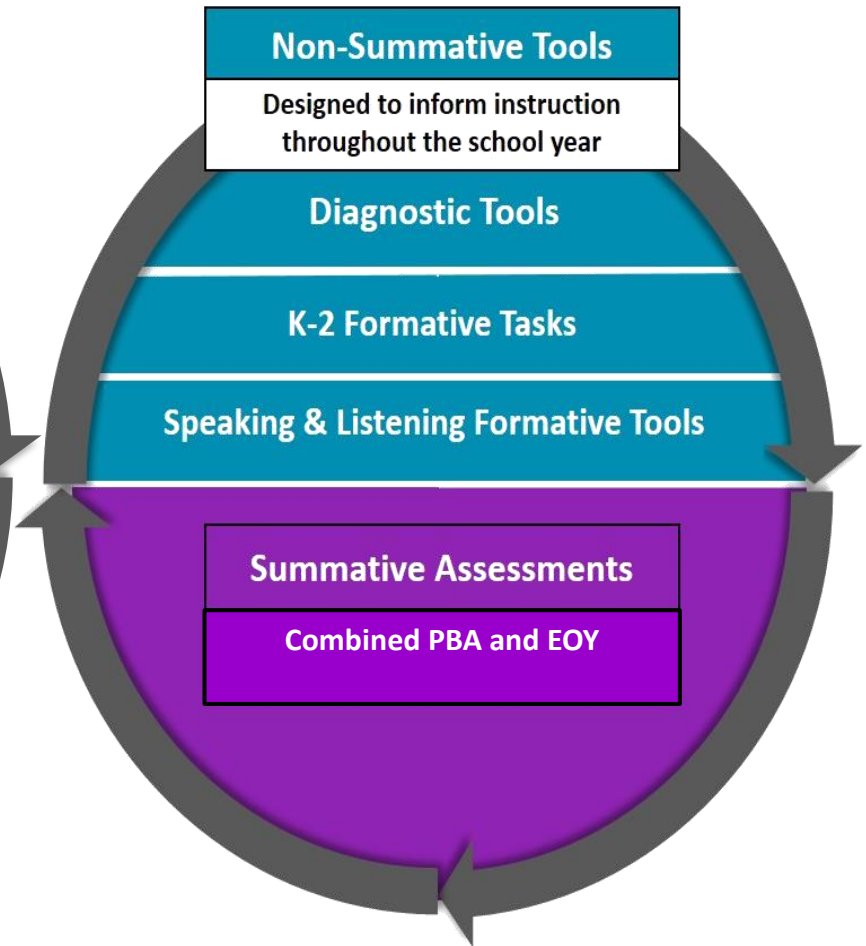
- PARCC is a group of states that have worked together since 2010 to develop a set of assessments that are designed to measure students' mastery of Common Core State Standards.
- In DC, OSSE is the state agency responsible for working with LEAs and schools to administer DC-wide assessments, including PARCC.
- Pearson is the test vendor for PARCC.
- In DC, all students in grades 3-8 must take PARCC in ELA and Math and students in high school must take PARCC Geometry or Integrated Math II and ELA 10 (with very few exceptions: medical exemption, NCSC-eligible, first year in the country ELL).

PARCC Basics: What?

2014-2015



2015-2016



PARCC Basics: When?

DC PARCC 2015-2016 Test Date Options for LEAs

Grades 3-8 and High School

Computer:

- Option 1: 3/28 - 5/6
- Option 2: 4/4 - 5/13
- Option 3: 4/11 - 5/20

Paper:

- 3/28 - 4/29

PARCC Basics: Where?

- In 2014-2015 PARCC was administered in: DC, RI, MA, LA, IL, MS, AR, CO, NM, OH
- In DC:
 - More than 40,000 students at 50 LEAs and nearly 300 schools participated

PARCC Basics: How?

- In 2014-2015, 93% of DC students took PARCC on computers
- LEAs may choose to use paper, but paper tests for most students are phasing out in a few years
 - Paper will always be available for students who need it as an accommodation
- PARCC uses technology for a range of purposes, including increasing accessibility, engaging students, and creating efficiencies in administration, scoring and reporting
- PARCC computer based tests are administered using two web-based tools: Pearson Access Next, an administrative portal, and TestNav, a secure testing platform with many embedded tools and features

PARCC Basics: Why?

- PARCC measures performance against CCSS grade level expectations to determine whether students are on-track for college and career readiness
- PARCC asks students to demonstrate critical thinking skills, write and explain answers analytically, consistent with the rigor of the CCSS
- PARCC generates reliable and valid information to inform instruction in schools and LEAs, and inform accountability decisions at the state level
- Scores are comparable across participating states and districts
- PARCC fulfills DC's requirements under federal law to assess all students annually in math and ELA
- In DC, there are not graduation or grade promotion requirements for students tied to tests

PARCC in the 2015-16 School Year: What to Expect



What to Expect: Fall (Sept-Nov)

- 2014-15 school year results released
- 2014-15 school year item release
 - Expect approx. a full form's worth of items per test
- Diagnostic, K-2, Speaking and Listening tools released
- Guidance documents and policy updates reviewed and released (e.g., manuals, test dates, business rules).
- Trainings on test administration, test content, accommodations, score interpretation, standards, and instruction
- Planning at the LEA and school
 - Accommodations and accessibility planning (ongoing)
- Test integrity for 2013-14 school year released
- Test integrity work on 2014-15 tests

What to Expect: Winter (Dec-Feb)

- Registration of students for spring tests (esp. for any paper-based tests)
- Continued release of data tools around school year 2014-15 scores
- Mandatory state test admin and test integrity trainings
- Additional trainings on technology, accommodations, test content
- School and LEA test plan creation: Staffing, security, technology, trainings, schedules, rosters
- Technology preparation, infrastructure trials
- Student preparation, practice tests and tutorials

What to Expect: Spring (Mar-May)

- Final school staff trainings, preparation, and submission of materials to OSSE
- Update registration data and place additional orders for materials. Receive materials
- Testing begins in late March
- During testing: monitoring, recording, troubleshooting, reporting incidents and irregularities
- Consistent communications from OSSE on FAQs, any last minute reminders or guidance, test alerts

What to Expect: Summer (June-Aug)

- Data cleanup, verification and appeals
- Closeout and follow-up on incidents, missing materials
- Administration feedback sessions
- 2015-16 school year scores released
- Preparation begins for 2016-17 school year!

DC Test Integrity



Program Officer, State Test Integrity Coordinator
Tonya Mead, CFE, PhD

Why Standardize State Tests?

State tests require standard, uniform administration and a sterile environment so that the observation, administration, equipment, materials and scoring rules *will be the same for each and every student taking* the test.

Our Goal

To make the assessment as objective as possible so that the results generated are *valid and reliable* indicators of student performance.

Source: Educational Measurement, Millman and Green (1993), page 335-366.

Test Integrity Coordinators

Are integral for ensuring test validity

Preparation

- Develop Test Plans
- Conduct Infrastructure Trials and Administration Training
- Upload Student Data

Test Administration

- Ensure Neutral Testing Environment
- Establish Computer Availability and Internet Accessibility
- Manage the Reporting and Documentation Process
- Respond to Irregularities and Incidents

Facilitation

- Implement guidance received by your LEA, notifying them of resources needed
- Collaborate with Non-publics on TI Act Requirements
- Inform your LEA and OSSE of any deviations and/or unexpected occurrences
- Engage with parents to aid students to meet expectations

Available TI Resources

1. Test Integrity Guidelines
2. Test Integrity Training and Technical Assistance
3. Test Plan Template and Feedback
4. Test Manuals
5. Test Integrity Website with Resources
6. Test Integrity Help Desk
7. LEA Look Forward
8. PARCC Administrative Bulletin

General PARCC Resources

- OSSE's PARCC website for guidance, parent resources, state specific information: www.osse.dc.gov/service/partnership-assessment-readiness-college-and-careers
- The PARCC Portal for interactive practice tests, tutorials, manuals, video training modules, and tech information: www.parcc.pearson.com
- PARCC's website for in-depth blueprints, performance level descriptors and model content frameworks: www.parconline.org

Opportunities to Engage

- Attend monthly Next Generation Assessment stakeholder meeting and join the Assessment contacts email list (email OSSE.Assessment@DC.gov)
- You, your teachers, or your colleagues may join the Educator Leader Cadre (email Brandon Wallace, brandon.wallace@dc.gov) for instructional resources
- Keep an eye on the LEA Look Forward for further important announcements, email victoria.holmes@dc.gov to join the list

Q&A

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