Getting TECH-READY for Common Core Testing

Sponsored by Acuity. Assessment Focused on Learning
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Getting Tech-Ready for Common Core Testing

Expert Presenters:

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An on-demand archive of this webinar will be available at www.edweek.org/go/webinar in less than 24 hrs.
The Council of Chief State School Officers is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions.

CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on major educational issues. The Council seeks member consensus on major educational issues and expresses their views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress, and the public.
Idaho History in Computer-Based Testing

- Began online testing in 2003
- Fully online in 2004
- 118 Districts and 29 Charter LEAs
- Appx. 171,000 students tested
- 576,935 tests given in 2012
  - (Mathematics, Language Usage, Reading and Science)
- Investment in technology
- Faster results, instructional use, more frequent checks
Online Strategies Overview

- Instruction FIRST
- One-to-One Myth
- Hot Seat
- PARCC and Smarter Balanced IT Readiness Tool
- Start Now!
  - Opportunities and practice
- Advocacy for expanding technology funding
Magic
One-to-One Myth

One-to-one myth
Hot Seat

1. Grade level students brought together for instructional project.
2. All students given instructions “in the round.”
3. First group of students goes into take test.
4. As individual students finish, quietly leave and a new student is brought in to begin test.
Hot Seat

- Good instructions.
- Teaching students how to stay quiet and how to avoid distractions.
- Good coordination among teachers and test coordinators.
- Setting up space to accommodate both projects and testing center.
- Thinking about time in a different way.
Start now.
Opportunities and Practice

- Practice Tests
- Field Tests Sites
- Item Banks
- Online Engines
- Diagnostics
PARCC and Smarter Balanced IT Readiness Tool

- Hardware
  - Keyboards and screen size
- Bandwidth
- Operating systems
PARCC and Smarter Balanced Tools

- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
  - [http://www.parcconline.org/technology](http://www.parcconline.org/technology)
  - [http://www.parcconline.org/samples/item-task-prototypes](http://www.parcconline.org/samples/item-task-prototypes)

- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
• Design of PARCC’s English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics assessments;
• Number of testing sessions and approximate testing time;
• Number of days (testing window);
• “Rule of thumb” guidance for the number of computer devices; and
• New District Readiness Tool to assist local policy makers and educators assess technology capacity for 2014-15.

http://www.parcconline.org/assessment-administration-guidance
### DEVICE TO STUDENT RATIO MODELS

Calculations are based on the school population and the assessment design, using an estimate of 2 testing blocks per day.

#### PARCC RULE OF THUMB:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students per device based on data entered by the school</th>
<th>At the largest grade level: 2 students per device</th>
<th>At the largest grade level: 1 student per device</th>
<th>1 Student per device for all tested students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance-Based Assessment</td>
<td>End Of Year Assessment</td>
<td>Performance-Based Assessment</td>
<td>End Of Year Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated Devices Needed For This Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reported Available</td>
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<td>Additional Devices Needed to Meet Target Ratio</td>
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<tr>
<th>Devices</th>
<th>Students per device for all tested grades</th>
<th>Estimated Devices Needed For This Model</th>
<th>Reported Available</th>
<th>Additional Devices Needed to Meet Target Ratio</th>
<th>Maximum Estimated Bandwidth</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
Bandwidth Estimator:
https://air.tds.airast.org/student/Pages/LoginShell.aspx?section=sectionDiagnos
cistics&c=SBAC_PT

Technology Strategy Framework:
(Screen size, headphones, security, keyboards, network, operating systems)

Diagnostic Screen

This page allows you to check the current bandwidth of your network. The following operating systems and web browsers are supported:
- Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8: Mozilla Firefox
- Mac OS 10.4.4–10.8: Firefox
- Linux Fedora Core 6 or 15; Ubuntu 9–11.10: Firefox
- Apple tablets (iPad) running iOS 6.0+: Safari
- Android tablets running 4.0+: Google Chrome

To determine your bandwidth, select a test from the drop-down list and enter the maximum number of students likely to test at one time, then click [Run Network Diagnostics Tests]. The [Text-to-Speech Check] is for schools who will be administering the Pilot test and requires the use of the secure browser. The secure browser is available from http://sbac.portal.airast.org.

Your Operating System: Microsoft Windows 7

Your Browser Version: Firefox v18

Secure Browser: No

Network Diagnostics:
- Select Test: BootTest
- Enter the total number of students you would like to test at one time:

Run Network Diagnostics Tests
Pilot and Field Testing
Technology Funding

- E-Rate
- Tax Credits
- Digital Infrastructure
- State Funding Flexibility
Instruction FIRST
Coming Together For a Brighter Future

Committed to the success of every child

CarissaM@ccsso.org
www.ccsso.org

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Common Core: A Need for Uncommonly Comprehensive Preparation

Valerie Truesdale, Ph. D.
Chief Information and Transformation Officer
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
www.cms.k12.nc.us
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
159 Schools
18,143 Employees
9,221 Teachers
143,866 Students
One Vision

Every child. Every day. For a better tomorrow.
Multi-Faceted Plan

Common Core provides an opportunity to redefine, even upgrade, every aspect of schooling. Gem of an opportunity to use online testing to drive technology integration and engaged learning, all year.

*Students first, not stuff; Learning first, not testing*

Students

Teachers

Instructional Leaders

Parents and Community
Uncommonly Comprehensive Preparation

Technology has emerged as a key lever in a comprehensive, synergistic approach to preparing for Common Core.

Deliberative process of building capacity:

Awareness to Understanding to Knowledge to Action
Essential Question

How can we as educators use Common Core as a golden opportunity to increase rigor as well as improve how we lead children to think critically?

How can we as technology leaders support and enhance the teaching and learning process as the upgrade to Common Core occurs?
Cross-Functional Team

Assessment team
Technology team
Curriculum team
Professional Development team
Finance team

Key driver: Superintendent support
Anywhere, anytime learning is about **Access**

Everywhere, all the time learning is about **Expectations**
Tech for Kids

Making technology accessible for students to use during the school day and beyond is essential. With training, there is a growing popularity of flipped classrooms, blended teaching, digital lockers, and collaboration tools. Students’ ability to transition to digital learning is truly remarkable.
Teachers: Epicenter of success with Common Core

Deliberative process to build capacity:

Awareness (outline what teachers need to be able to do to prepare students)

Understanding (help staff imagine their students as Digital Natives locked in a room with Digital Immigrants or even some Digital Tourists)

Knowledge (develop strategies for teaching, skill in assessing using tech tools)

Action (integrate tech tools into teaching and assessing with agility and confidence)
Tech for Teachers

Training in Standards of Common Core

• Training in tech tools
• Training in assessment
• Blended Professional Learning: Summer Institutes, webinars, wikis, PLCs
• Frequent touchpoints: *Transforming Digital Teaching and Learning* webpage with tech tools: pushed every Friday
Tech for Teachers

- *Bring Your Own Device* pilot in fall 2012:
  - teacher role reversal
- iPad mini grant program implemented 2011-12 to provide trays of 10 iPads to 432 teachers in 23 schools
  - led naturally and seamlessly to Project Based Learning
- From no investment (no standard issuance of teacher computing devices) to large investment in providing appropriate teaching tools for teachers
  -- so they are familiar with assessment strategies as a regular practice before online testing begins
Instructional Leaders

• Leadership practices to support Common Core are different
• Leading for creativity not control
• Tools needed for actively leading: iPads issued to school and district leaders so they could model use of model devices
• Walk-through observation software Teachscape
• “Response to action” possible with tech tools: on the bus lot, in a classroom
Community

Start with Why?
Build understanding among community members, civic and business leaders

Redirecting an entire generation of Americans to understand why upgrading to Common Core is essential for preparing our students for the workforce of tomorrow takes time and requires Proactive Communication
Parents

- On line parent links provide transparent, real time data and feedback on their children’s learning
- Parent University helps parents learn about Common Core and on line testing, new expectations for student work and ways to extend learning beyond the school day
- Providing schools with updates for newsletters, talking points for parent meetings assists in building awareness
The Foundation for learning and assessing using technology tools is *Infrastructure*.
Comprehensive Plan

• Determine minimum system requirements
  http://www.smarterbalanced.org/smarter-balanced-assessments/technology/
• Ascertain testing window allowed by PARCC and Smarter Balanced and approved by state
• Discuss security issues for team approach
• Inventory hardware by school
• Catalog software by school
• Project bandwidth and network needs with specificity
Comprehensive Plan

• Increase access points to support full wireless

• Map out each school’s needs based on hardware available, testing window and scheduling flexibility

• Develop a financial and work flow plan to upfit schools as funds are available

• Think outside current standards/practice: consider redirecting existing desk tops into Digital Learning Centers which could also be used for on line testing
Comprehensive Plan

Explore methods of scheduling large numbers of children for online testing.

Run simulations to test interoperability.

Communicate proactively: parents, teachers, school and district leaders, community, business and civic leaders, media.

Plan for ongoing readiness checks/refresh of plan.

Use project management approach to assure synergy.
Infrastructure has been a huge issue for our 159 schools. In July 2011, CMS only had 62/159 schools with any wireless connectivity. 97 had no wireless connectivity.

Most of this connectivity was through older, end of life wireless network with one access point per eight classrooms (1:8)

A goal was set that by August 2012, all schools would have some wireless. This goal was achieved with various amounts of connectivity in the 159 schools.
CMS Case Study

In July 2012, no school was fully wireless, able to support all learners on line. With support of Superintendent and district leadership team, the goal was revised to serve all classrooms with wireless by August 2013, which requires 1.5 access points for each classroom to serve 30 students on line.

Current status: 30% of schools are wireless.
Case Study

• Standard of three desk top computers in classroom revised to mobile devices for new construction and renovations

• Modular classrooms are still a challenge: 1,200 mobile classrooms have no wireless connectivity

• Projection systems: 1/3 of classrooms have none
Case Study

• Turning schools on as wireless becomes available
• Many schools’ parent organizations and business partners are purchasing student devices
• Ascertain schools with minimal resources
• Ensure support for schools in middle (non Title One, no robust parent or business support)
• Bandwidth standard revised from
  Elementary 10 MB (burstable to 100) to 100
  Middle 50 MB (burstable to 100 MB) to 100
  High 100 MB (burstable to 1GB) to 500 MB
Recommended Resources

  
  [http://setda.org/web/guest/outofprintreport](http://setda.org/web/guest/outofprintreport)

  
  [http://setda.org/web/guest/broadbandimperative](http://setda.org/web/guest/broadbandimperative)

  

- assess4ed: An online community dedicated to leveraging the opportunities of next generation assessment.
  
An on-demand archive of this webinar will be available at www.edweek.org/go/webinar in less than 24 hrs.
Getting Tech-Ready for Common Core Testing

Required Reading from *Education Week*:

**Are You Tech-Ready for the Common Core?**
School districts are raising concerns about their ability to be technologically ready to give *Common Core State Standards* assessments to students online in two years. Administrators say they remain uncertain about the types of devices to buy, the bandwidth they need, and the funding available for technology improvements.

**New Tool to Provide Tech Inventory for Common Core**
A national inventory of educational technology is evolving as school districts try to determine what digital tools they have—and what they'll need—to deploy online testing for all students on common academic standards just a few years from now.
Road Maps to COMMON CORE Success

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

INDIANAPOLIS
March 11, 2013

WHITE PLAINS
March 21, 2013

www.edweekevents.org/common-core-success