A Balanced Assessment System

October MontCAS Webinar

Location: Helena, Montana
Zoom Meeting Features
1. Has your district ever used interim assessments?
   - Yes
   - No

2. What, if any, type of benchmark assessment has your district used this fall?
   - Interims
   - MAPS
   - STAR
   - Other
Objectives:
After this session, participants will be able to describe what a balanced assessment system looks like, have formative resources available to take back to their district, and evaluate the merits of adopting a balanced assessment system within their district.
Guiding Principle

In light of school closures, remote learning, and hybrid models of learning the overarching principle should be to “do no harm.”
A Balanced Assessment System
Boiling It Down

Balanced Assessments are NOT:

- equal amounts of each type of assessment,
- a focus on once a year summative testing,
- things that are to be completed.
Balanced Assessments are:

- All assessments are coherently linked together by the standards,
- The assessments provide multiple data points, which are used to drive student instruction,
- Student progress is monitored continuously.
Balanced Assessments

Summative Assessments
- Measure college & career readiness

Montana Content Standards (MCS)
- for college & career readiness

Interim Assessments
- Flexible for actionable feedback

Formative Assessment Process
- Improve instruction & student learning

All students leave high school college & career ready

Teachers & schools have information & tools they need to improve teaching & learning.
ELA/Math Interim Overview

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS
Optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress
What ARE Interim Assessments?

Interim Assessments

Flexible, open, used for actionable feedback

Consortia created, online, generates online reports, practice for students with the computer format, computer and hand scored items

Summative Assessments
Benchmarked to college and career readiness

Formative Assessments
Educator resources to improve instruction

Teachers and schools have information and tools they need to improve teaching and learning
ICA’s are helpful for determining the knowledge and skills of students who are new to the district or the state.

IAB’s can be used during the school year more consistently with the results determining next steps for instruction.

FIAB’s are very granular and can be administered as warm-ups. Each interim is connected to resources for teachers.
Where to Find the Interims

www.mt.portal.cambiumsast.com

- Select Smarter Balanced
- Administer interims to students using the Test ID code.
Remote Administration

https://remote.smartertoolsforteachers.org/

Supporting Remote Teaching and Learning
Interim Score Reports
Virtual Activity

List ways in which you could use interim data

Grab a card by clicking and dragging it onto the whiteboard; double-click to write.
Interim Score Reports

NEW! All score reports are in one tile – Reporting Center

Almost all items are machine scored with immediate feedback

Constructed Response and Performance Tasks need to be scored locally.

New features in the score reports
Reporting Center Dashboard

Select and view by Test Family (i.e. IAB, ICA or summative)
District Level Users:
- Filter by school

School Level Users:
- Filter by roster

Reporting Center Dashboard
Individual Test Results

Student Names

Direct link to the Connections Playlist
First, read the dictionary definition. Then, read the directions that follow.

**1. a place in a shadow or hidden from the sun**

Click on the word in the paragraph that **most closely** matches the definition above.

The sun beat down, and Monkey was hot. He opened the umbrella. He was cooler in the shade, but the bottoms of his feet still burned. “This ground needs rain,” he said.
Math/ELA Formative Resources

Tools for Teachers
MONTANA
Balanced Assessments

Montana Content Standards (MCS) for college & career readiness

Summative Assessments
- Measure college & career readiness

Interim Assessments
- Flexible for actionable feedback

Formative Assessment Process
- Improve instruction & student learning

Teachers & schools have the information & tools they need to improve teaching & learning.

All students leave high school college & career ready
What is Tools for Teachers?

- Differentiated instructional resources.
- Teacher-created resources connected to the standards.
- Embedded formative strategies in every resource.
- Accessibility features in every resource.
- Professional development for educators.
Where to Find Tools for Teachers

www.mt.portal.cambiumsast.com

A specific Tools for Teachers user role is available that doesn’t require portal access.
Homepage

Discover **classroom resources** you can use today.

Educator-created lessons, activities, strategies, and professional development to help tailor instruction and boost learning.

Start typing a topic, claim, target, or browse for resources.

**Preview Resources**

Check out the following samples of teacher-approved resources for a preview of time-saving tools you can use. Or search for your own resources.

**INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE**

To The Moon: Finding Central Idea

Grade 5 • ELA • Claim 3 • Target 4

**INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE**

Come to the Table

Grade 6 • Math • Claim 1 • Target A
Keyword Search

Filter by grade after a keyword search
Browse for Resources

Search by type, grade, subject, claim, target, and standard.
Begins with an overview of what it is intended to do for students.
Connections Playlist

- Student performance progressions
- Organized by topic
- Corresponding instructional resources
- Embedded accessibility strategy in every resource.
Printing Resources

All resources can be printed.
Connect to Interims

On interim reports, select “Get Instructional Resources” and…
Link directly to the Connections Playlist with resources for that topic.
Virtual Activity

Provide one Formative Strategy your district uses in the classroom.

Drag a card by clicking and dragging it onto the whiteboard, double-click to write.
Science Interim Overview

INTERIM ASSESSMENTS
Optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress
Shift to Three Dimensions of Science Understanding

describe core ideas in the science disciplines

describe behaviors scientists and engineers engage in

describe concepts linking the different domains of science

https://www.nextgenscience.org/understanding-standards/understanding-standards
Balanced Science Assessment System
Science Interims

- MSA Interims are now available
- Administration and Reporting procedures similar to Smarter Balanced
- The Montana Science Assessment (MSA) Interim is available for remote proctoring with an emphasis on item security
- Visit the Science Assessment in Montana Site for more information
Science Interim Types

- **ESS**
  - Addresses the three content domains or disciplinary core ideas (i.e., ESS, LS, PS).

- **LS**
  - Each Interim (testlet) is one cluster of items focused on a specific NGSS standard.

- **PS**
  - Takes approximately 10 minutes to complete a science testlet.

Putting Montana Students First
• Use the students’ current grade level when assigning interims

• Select one PE per discipline, across several weeks. Use those three results to establish students’ baseline

• Be sure to use the Practice Tests beforehand to give students practice with platform and tools. Practice tests for AMSA are also available.
• **Science Assessment in Montana**: content and videos pertaining to MSA and AMSA.
  - **Weblink**: https://sites.google.com/opiconnect.org/mtbalancedassessmentsystemfors/home

• **OPI Content Standards and Instruction**
  - **Weblink**: http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/K-12-Content-Standards-Revision/Science-Standards
Webinar Renewal Unit and Evaluation Form

Complete this form to provide the Assessment Team with feedback on the webinar and to receive a renewal unit certificate.

Renewal units will be processed electronically to manage and issue certificates in a more efficient way.

Putting Montana Students First
Questions?

OPI Assessment Help Desk
Montana Office of Public Instruction
Phone: 844-867-2569
E-mail:
OPIAssessmentHelpDesk@mt.gov