

# Smarter Balanced Assessments: A New System of Outcomes Data

Joe Willhoft, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality  
September 6, 2012  
Washington, DC

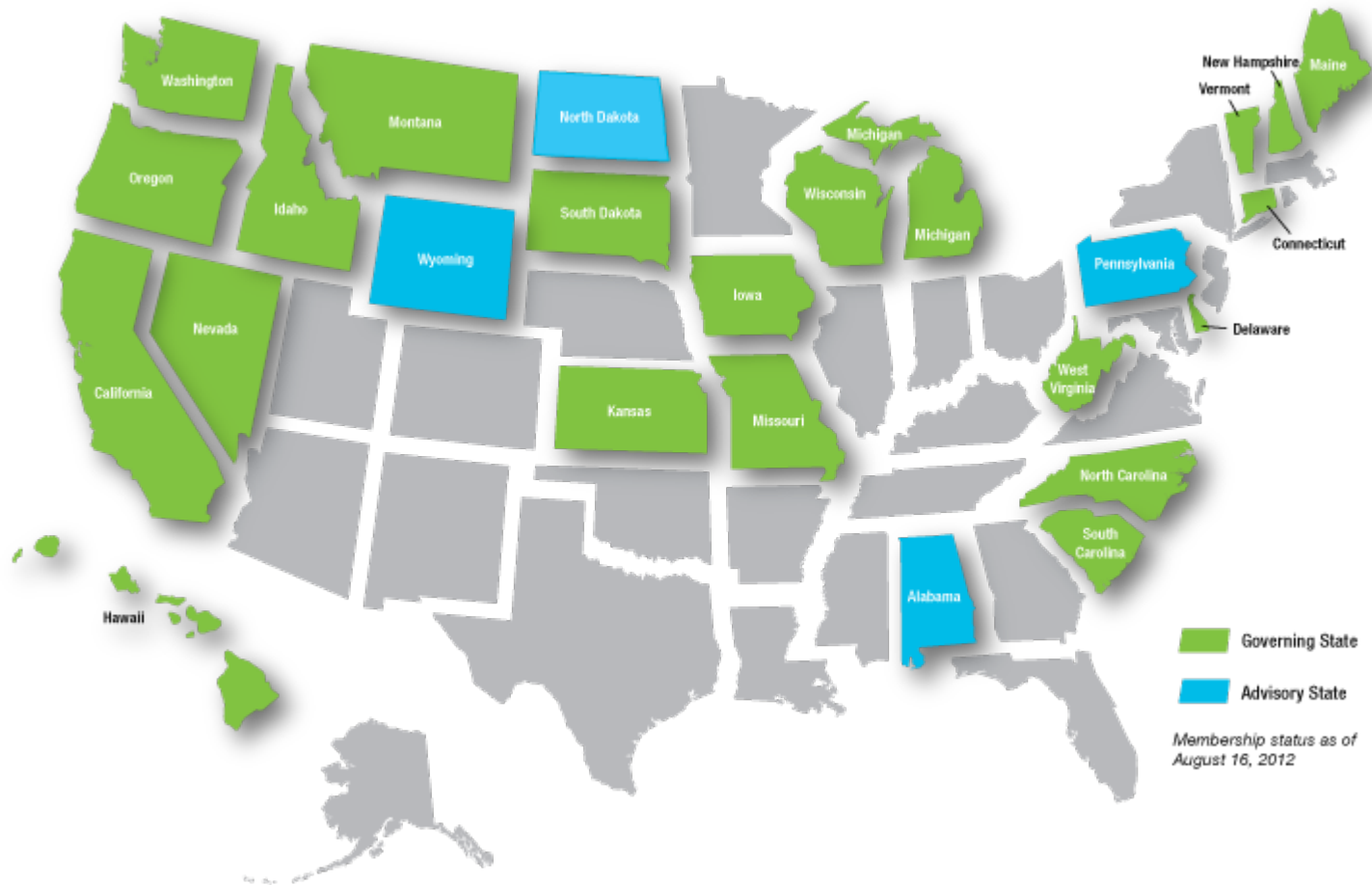


# Presentation Overview

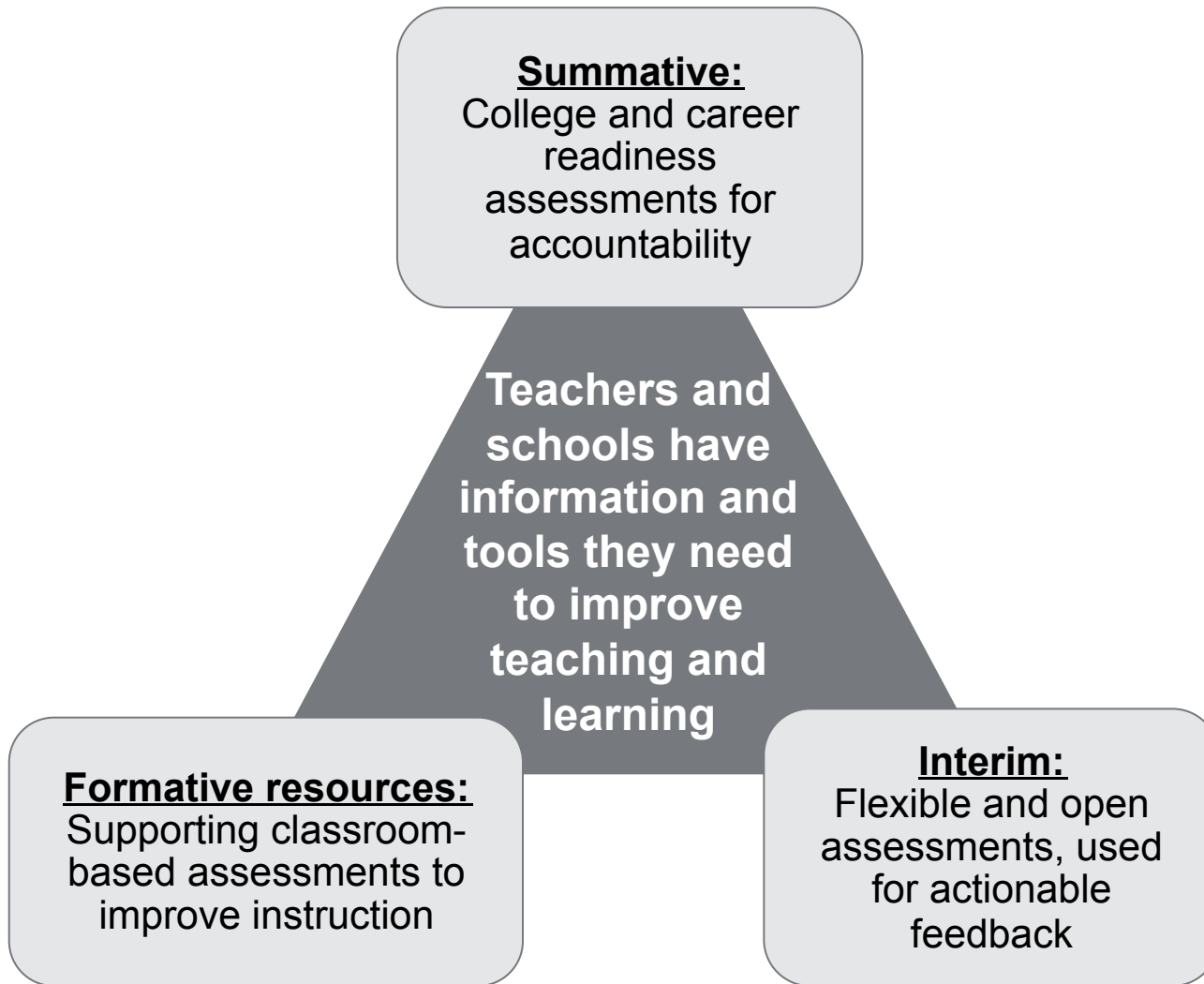
- **A quick look at the Smarter Balanced Consortium and our design/theory of action**
- **Major milestones and current developments**
- **Thinking about actionable outcome data**
- **Getting ready to implement new assessments**

# A Consortium of 25 States

- 21 Governing States
- 4 Advisory States



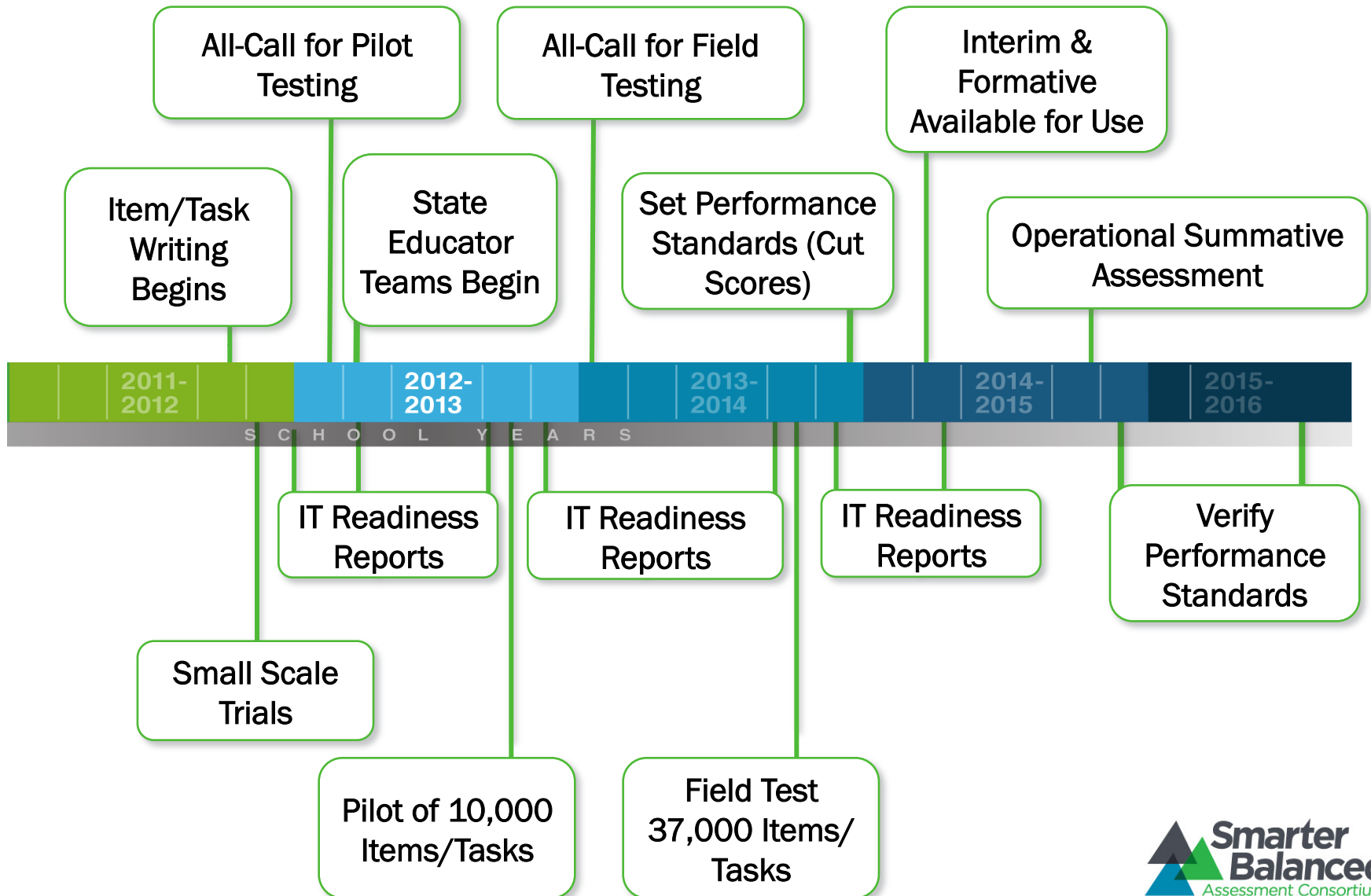
# The Smarter Balanced System



# Major Events and Developments



# Major Milestones



# Recent Developments...

- **Smarter Balanced released items/tasks**
  - Fully interactive website; user-selected filters
  - State Leads week of Sept. 10
  - Full release week of Sept. 17
- **Access tools being built into testing software**
  - Expandable font, Braille, translations,...
  - Research on read-aloud
- **Contract for reporting system**
  - Individuals and aggregates of students
- **Formative component RFP**

# Actionable Outcome Data





# Quality Information for Accountability

- **Rich Information about Every Student**
  - **Proficiency Levels and Growth Scores**
    - ELA: Reading, Writing, Listening, Research
    - Math: Concepts/Procedures, Problem Solving, Communicating Reasoning, Modeling/Data Analysis
- **Deep Analysis for Groups of Students**
  - **Strengths/Weaknesses for Districts, Schools, Classrooms & Dynamic Groupings**
    - Details for Standards and Standard-Clusters
    - CAT allows analysis across hundreds of items/tasks

# Assessments that Improve Teaching and Learning

- **Interim Assessments during the Year**
  - Not for Accountability
  - Mirror-image Bank of Items/Tasks
  - Fully Viewable by Teachers & Students
  - Same Scale as Summative
- **Formative Assessment Resources**
  - Tools & Strategies for Classroom-based Assessment
  - Individual or Group PD
  - Pre-Service Supports Deep

# Implementing New Assessments



# Depth of Knowledge (DOK) Analysis of Smarter Balanced Assessment Targets

Math Grade 11

Claim	Target	Abbreviation	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	DOK 4
1: Conc/Procedures	A	Number: Rational exponents				
1: Conc/Procedures	B	Nmber: Rational/Irrational				
1: Conc/Procedures	C	Nmber: Using units				
1: Conc/Procedures	D	Alg: Structure of exprsions				
1: Conc/Procedures	E	Alg: Equiv exprsions				
1: Conc/Procedures	F	Alg: Polynomial arithmetic				
1: Conc/Procedures	G	Alg: Create equations				
1: Conc/Procedures	H	Alg: Solving = Reasoning				
1: Conc/Procedures	I	Alg: One-variable inequalities				
1: Conc/Procedures	J	Alg: Inequalities graphically				
1: Conc/Procedures	K	Fns: Functional notation				
1: Conc/Procedures	L	Fns: Interpret fns				
1: Conc/Procedures	M	Fns: Analyze fns				
1: Conc/Procedures	N	Fns: 2-var modelling				
1: Conc/Procedures	O	Geo: Prove theorems				
1: Conc/Procedures	P	Stat/Prob: Summarize/interpret				
2: Prob Solving	A	Solve well-posed probs				
2: Prob Solving	B	Use appropriate tools				
2: Prob Solving	C	Interpret results				
2: Prob Solving	D	ID quantities & relationships				
3: Reasoning	A	Test propositions				
3: Reasoning	B	Chains of reasoning				
3: Reasoning	C	Logical assumptions				
3: Reasoning	D	Deconstruct arguments				
3: Reasoning	E	Correct vs. flawed reasoning				
3: Reasoning	F	Concrete referents				
3: Reasoning	G	When argument applies				
4: Modeling	A	Apply math to probs				
4: Modeling	B	Reasoning w complex probs				
4: Modeling	C	ID logical assumptions				
4: Modeling	D	Interpret results				
4: Modeling	E	Analyze existing model				
4: Modeling	F	ID quantities & relationships				
4: Modeling	G	Synthesize external sources				

Example: Gr 11 Math

DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	DOK 4
27%	41%	23%	9%

18	27	15	6	66
27%	41%	23%	9%	

# Assessing Deeper Levels of Cognition

- Measuring the CCSS taps higher levels of Depth of Knowledge than current state tests

	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	DOK 4
ELA Gr 4	24%	35%	28%	13%
ELA Gr 8	20%	31%	31%	17%
ELA HS	22%	29%	29%	20%
Math Gr 4	25%	40%	26%	9%
Math Gr 8	18%	43%	27%	12%
Math HS	27%	41%	23%	9%

# Sustainability Efforts

- **Ensuring sustainability services for both consortia**
  - **Collaboration among Smarter Balanced, PARCC and CCSSO**
  - **Acquiring high-level consultation on:**
    - Operational approaches to meet state needs
    - Minimizing costs
    - Maintain state choice and flexibility

# Find Out More

Find us at: [SmarterBalanced.org](http://SmarterBalanced.org)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. At the top left is the logo, which consists of three overlapping triangles (blue, green, and grey) forming a larger triangle, with the text "Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium" to its right. To the right of the logo are navigation links: "Home", "Contact Us", and "Member States Login". Below these is a "Stay Connected" section with an email icon and a search box containing the text "What are you looking for?" and a "Search" button. A horizontal navigation bar below the search box contains six categories: "ABOUT", "SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS", "K-12 EDUCATION", "HIGHER EDUCATION", "PARENTS & STUDENTS", and "RESOURCES & EVENTS". The main content area features a large banner with a background image of diverse students. On the left side of the banner is a portrait of a young girl. The banner text reads: "Helping States Prepare for New Assessments". Below this is a paragraph: "Smarter Balanced and PARCC are collaborating to develop a Technology Readiness Tool to support states as they transition to online assessments." followed by a "READ MORE" link with a right-pointing arrow. Below the banner are two columns of content. The left column has a section titled "Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium" with a paragraph: "Smarter Balanced is a state-led consortium developing assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts/literacy and mathematics that are designed to help prepare all students to graduate high school college- and career-ready." followed by a "READ MORE" link. Below this is a "Latest News" section with a sub-heading "Computer Adaptive Testing Event Now Available" and a paragraph: "This recorded webinar addresses the advantages of adaptive testing and the critical decision points in designing, developing and administering an effective computer adaptive assessment to measure student achievement and growth." followed by a "READ MORE" link. The right column has a section titled "School Years" with a paragraph: "Smarter Balanced assessments will be implemented in the 2014-15 school year. Click below to see what's happening and when." Below this is a vertical list of school years: "2009-2010", "2010-2011", "2011-2012" (which is highlighted in green and has a magnifying glass icon), "2012-2013", "2013-2014", and "2014-2015". Under the "2011-2012" year, there is a sub-heading "What's Happening" and a paragraph: "Smarter Balanced is creating content specifications aligned to the Common Core State Standards and test development guidelines and materials." followed by a "READ MORE" link.

**Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium**  
Smarter Balanced is a state-led consortium developing assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts/literacy and mathematics that are designed to help prepare all students to graduate high school college- and career-ready. [READ MORE](#)

**Latest News**  
**Computer Adaptive Testing Event Now Available**  
This recorded webinar addresses the advantages of adaptive testing and the critical decision points in designing, developing and administering an effective computer adaptive assessment to measure student achievement and growth. [READ MORE](#)

**California's Young Joins Executive Committee**  
Dr. Beverly L. Young, assistant vice chancellor of academic affairs for the California State University System, has been named to the Consortium's Executive Committee. Young is one of two higher education representatives on the nine-member governing body and also serves as a Smarter Balanced higher education lead for California.

**School Years**  
Smarter Balanced assessments will be implemented in the 2014-15 school year. Click below to see what's happening and when.

- 2009-2010
- 2010-2011
- 2011-2012**  
**What's Happening**  
Smarter Balanced is creating content specifications aligned to the Common Core State Standards and test development guidelines and materials. [READ MORE](#)
- 2012-2013
- 2013-2014
- 2014-2015