

PARCC Releases More Sample Items

Washington, D.C. - November 6, 2013 - The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers released new sample test items today. With this release, PARCC has now made public exemplar test items across the grades in both mathematics and English language arts/literacy.

These sample items are designed to help teachers, students and parents get a better sense of how PARCC will measure student learning in mathematics and ELA/literacy. The new assessments are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

"As a teacher, I am extremely impressed with the sample items released by PARCC. These rich questions and authentic student tasks get to the heart of the standards and will give us more insight into student reasoning and understanding than current standardized tests," said Amy Spies, a Florida PARCC Educator Leader Cadre (ELC) member and middle school teacher.

PARCC is made up of 19 states working together to develop new computer-based tests. Schools are scheduled to field test the assessments this spring and roll them out formally in the 2014-15 school year.

The sample items have gone through a rigorous review process to ensure they are of high quality and reflect the range of items that will be on the operational tests.

"As a former teacher - and a parent - I know these items are exactly the kinds of experiences students should have," said PARCC Chief Executive Officer Laura Slover. "They will get to do real writing and solve meaningful problems, not just fill in bubbles."

"I use the sample items as a tool to see what I can learn about the standards, next-generation assessments and Common Core alignment. I take each one as a moment to improve instruction and professional development around the instructional shifts we are making," said Darren Burris, a Massachusetts ELC member and high school mathematics teacher.

PARCC will make all of its sample items available later this year on the PARCC technology platform, providing an opportunity for students and teachers to try out the assessment system in the manner in which it will be administered.

For more information about PARCC, please visit www.parcconline.org.

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PARCC is an alliance of states working together to develop common assessments. PARCC's work is funded through a four-year, \$185 million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Partners include over 200 higher education institutions and systems representing hundreds of campuses across the country that will help develop the high school component of the new assessment - and then put it to good use as an indicator of student readiness. PARCC's ultimate goal is to make sure all students graduate from high school college- and career-ready. For more information, visit www.parcconline.org.