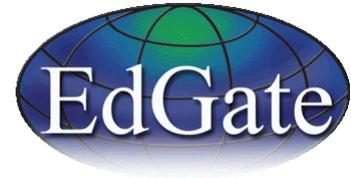


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The EdGate Observer

CONNECTING PUBLISHERS AND
EDUCATORS TO WHAT WORKS



January 2013

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[Khan Academy Pilot Project Seeks to Revolutionize Learning in Idaho](#)

Idaho could revolutionize how students in this small, rural state learn math if a pilot project involving the world's leader in free, online learning is a success.

The J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation, a private family foundation based in Boise, Idaho, will provide funding to cultivate usage of Khan Academy in schools and classrooms across the state.

Classrooms or schools from across Idaho who respond to a request for proposal will be selected to receive support from Khan Academy and grants for purchasing technology devices. A select group of schools will collaborate directly with Khan Academy staff and receive funding for one-to-one technology devices for students.

[Reading List Suggestions for Common Core](#)

While the Common Core State Standards do not dictate curriculum, they suggest the kinds of reading that would be appropriate for various grades. Here are some examples of literature and informational text appropriate for 11th- and 12th-graders, according to the new standards:

Welcome to The EdGate Observer!

Greetings everyone,

In this month's newsletter, we focus on the most recent educational news pertaining to the CRESST report on Smarter Balanced and PARCC Assessment Development (Common Core Update), Kentucky CCSS Test Results (Hot Topic), Framework for Inquiry in Social Studies (Client Solution), Time for an Upgrade? (EdGate Services) and following up with new additions to the EdGate Standards Repository (Standards Update).

We are proud to announce that EdGate Correlation Services has partnered with JES & Co. to offer correlation services to JES & Co.'s ASN subscribers. This partnership will make it easy for publishers to obtain a quality correlation and at the same time know that education stakeholders can make an association between content and assessments without paying for the exposure of learning objective identifiers. To read the full press release, [click here](#).

As always, EdGate is your source for staying current with new developments in education and specifically the impact of educational standards.

Regards,
Sandra Schugren, EdGate General Manager

Common Core Update

The National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards & Student Testing (CRESST), is a leading organization that conducts rigorous studies, develops innovative assessment and learning systems, forges new methodologies, as well as evaluates education and training programs for improved learning for American children and adults.

On January 16th, CRESST released their most recent report entitled "On the Road to Assessing Deeper Learning: The Status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC Assessment Consortia".

The study results indicate that PARCC and Smarter Balanced summative assessments are likely to represent important goals for deeper learning, particularly those related to mastering and being able to apply core academic content and cognitive strategies related to complex thinking, communication, and problem solving. At the same time, the report points to the technical, fiscal, and political challenges that the consortia face in bringing their plans to fruition.

While both consortia will test students in ELA and mathematics in grades 3-8, they differ in their high school approach. Smarter Balanced plans a summative assessment for students in grade 11 only. PARCC will be testing students in ELA in grades 9-11. However, for high school mathematics, they will use end-

CRESST REPORT 823

On the Road to Assessing Deeper Learning:
The Status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC
Assessment Consortia

Literature

The Canterbury Tales, by Geoffrey Chaucer

The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald

As I Lay Dying, by William Faulkner

Informational Texts

Common Sense, by Thomas Paine

The Declaration of Independence, by Thomas Jefferson

Declaration of Sentiments, by the Seneca Falls Conference

What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July? by Frederick Douglass

Innumeracy: Mathematical Illiteracy and Its Consequences, by John Allen Paulos

Working Knowledge: Electronic Stability Control, by Mark Fischetti

Politics and the English Language, by George Orwell

McGraw-Hill Debuts Adaptive E-Book for Students

A new e-book for students called "SmartBook" adapts textbook material to suit the paces and grasp of individual learners.

The SmartBook works like this: All readers essentially see the same textbook as they read for the first five minutes. But as a reader answers review questions placed throughout the chapter, different passages become highlighted to point the reader to where he or she should focus attention.

The e-book will initially work on computers, as well as tablets using Apple and Android operating systems. It will have full functionality both online and offline. Executives say the new adaptive e-books will offer better learning methods for a cheaper price than traditional textbooks.

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of-course tests in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. Both consortia plan to assess every student on a full range of DOK or cognitive complexity to encourage schools to provide opportunities for deeper learning for all students.

To read the full report, visit: [CRESST Report 823](#)

Hot Topic

Common Core: Considering Kentucky Results



Education Week reports that the results are in for the 2011-12 school year for Kentucky being the first state to adopt the common core in English/language arts and mathematics, and the first to explicitly tie its state test to the Common Core State Standards. In reading and math, the number of Kentucky elementary and middle school students scoring "proficient" or better **dropped by at least a third**.

Executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers and Kentucky's former education commissioner Gene Wilhoit expressed no surprise: "What you're seeing in Kentucky is a predictor of what you're going to see in the other states, as the assessments roll out next year and the year after." Others also note that it is natural to see a drop when the measure and tests change.

Since all but 4 states have adopted the English/language arts common standards and all but 5 have adopted math common standards, how these standards affect achievement will continue to come under close scrutiny.

Although Kentucky also saw high school proficiency scores in reading and math fall, results show the percentage of students ready for college or the workforce are up 38% (class of 2011) to 47% for 2012 graduates.

Terry Holliday, Kentucky's commissioner of education explained to U.S. News that although there are fewer standards, they "go deeper" and are the standards expected by colleges. Holliday expressed confidence that scores will rise as teachers and kids "close the gap."

Read more at:

[U.S. News: Common Core Standards: Early Results From Kentucky](#)
[Education Week: Scores Drop on Ky.'s Common Core-Aligned Tests](#)

By: [Lisa Waugh](#)
Project Manager



Client Solution

Framework for Inquiry in Social Studies State Standards



In November, several members from our team here at EdGate were very excited to attend the NCSS conference in Seattle. In addition to having the pleasure of talking with so many clients, we were also eager to learn more about the upcoming release of the College, Career, and Civic Life Framework for Inquiry in Social Studies State Standards.

Expected to be released in the spring of 2013, the C3 Framework is not a new set of standards for Social Studies, but instead a guide for states to enhance their current standards. The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) has released this document, [Vision for the College, Career, and Civic Life \(C3\) Framework for Inquiry in Social Studies State Standards](#) which is an explanation of how the C3 Framework is being developed and designed. The decision is not to have a common core set of standards for Social Studies, but instead this framework for states that provides assistance for enhancing and improving states current standards to address the needs of students in preparing for college, careers, and civic life.

As we continue researching and communicating with the CCSSO, we will keep you up to date on any information that is released.



By: [Jennifer Larson](#)
Project Manager



EdGate Services

Founded in 1997, EdGate Correlation Services (EdGate) is a leader in the field of alignment solutions for educational companies around the world.

The EdGate Standards Repository is the most comprehensive collection of national and international educational standards containing 1.8 million most recently adopted standards in all subject areas.

Through the power of our technology and the professional experience of our subject-area specialists, EdGate provides more than 150 educational publishing clients with **accurate and continually updated correlations, on-demand correlation reporting capabilities, and effective website integration options.**

EdGate can also provide standards licensing, customized taxonomy solutions, correlation to assessment standards, and more.

With the New Year upon us, it might be a great time to consider some things that could further enhance the EdGate hosted Correlation User Interface (CUI) that is integrated into your website(s).

One suggestion would be to determine if your CUI could use a new look or feel by adding more options and features such as graphics, ability to search by content or key word, filtering, and more.

To learn more about updating your CUI or adding a number of other new services to start the year off right, please contact Leslie Kolber at kolber@edgate.com or Tracy Olstad at tolstad@edgate.com.



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Standards Update

Updates to [The EdGate Standards Repository](#) include:

- ◆ Arizona - English Language Learners (2011)
- ◆ California - English Language Learners (2012)
- ◆ Colorado - Early Childhood Education (2011) ◆ Hawaii - Early Childhood Education (2012)
- ◆ Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium INTASC (2011)
- ◆ Mississippi - Early Childhood Education (2012)
- ◆ New Hampshire - Early Childhood Education (2012)
- ◆ New Mexico - Early Childhood Education (2011)
- ◆ New York State Teaching Standards (2011)
- ◆ South Carolina - World Languages (ACTFL 2011)
- ◆ Tennessee - Early Childhood Education (2012)
- ◆ Texas TEKS Technology Applications Breakouts (2012)

NOTE: Based out of the UK, the following curriculum has been added to the EdGate Standards Repository with more to come:

- ◆ AQA GCSE Mathematics A 4360 (2012)
- ◆ AQA GCSE Mathematics B 4365 (2010)
- ◆ AQA GCSE Geography A 4030 (2013)
- ◆ AQA GCSE Geography B 4035 (2013)
- ◆ AQA GCSE Science A 4405 (2012)
- ◆ AQA GCSE Science B 4500 (2012)
- ◆ Cambridge IGCSE Geography 0460 (2013)
- ◆ Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics 0580/0581 (2013)
- ◆ Cambridge IGCSE Science Combined 0653 (2013)
- ◆ Cambridge IGCSE Science Double 0654 (2013)
- ◆ Edexcel GCSE Geography A 2GA01 (2012)
- ◆ Edexcel GCSE Geography B 2GB01 (2012)
- ◆ Edexcel GCSE Science 2SC01 (2012)

◆ Edexcel GCSE Mathematics A 1MA0 (2012)

AQA - (Assessment and Qualifications Alliance) is an Awarding Body in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It compiles specifications and holds examinations in various subjects at GCSE, AS and A Level and offers vocational qualifications.

Edexcel - a UK company, is one of England, Wales and Northern Ireland's five main examination boards. The company offers a variety of qualifications, including A levels (GCEs), GCSEs and the BTEC suite of vocational qualifications.

Cambridge - The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (abbreviated IGCSE) is an internationally recognised qualification for school students, typically in the 14-16 age group. It is similar to the GCSE in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

If you have any questions regarding standards, feel free to contact me and I will be happy to assist you. You can always join us on Twitter and Facebook to receive notifications regarding state standards in the EdGate Standards Repository at:

<http://twitter.com/EdGate>

<http://www.facebook.com>

Kristie McCarley
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