Strengthening K–12 Assessment Systems to Advance College & Career Readiness

Tuesday June 30, 2020
Event Goals

- Explore how performance assessments prepare students for college, career, and post-secondary life
- Identify conditions that support performance assessments both generally and in times of school closure
- Discuss how performance assessment can be supported and scaled through K-12 and higher education policy
Agenda

• Welcome and Introductions
• Overview of Performance Assessments
• Overview of LAUSD Portfolio and Defense
• Student Defense and Q&A
• Panel Discussion with LAUSD Educators
• Debrief Discussion and Closing
History of Performance Assessment

- Social justice educators have been using this practice for many decades
- Global assessment practice (International Baccalaureate curriculum)
- Provided by elite institutions and progressive educators

1990s: New York Performance Standards Consortium began
2002: Envision Learning Schools founded
2009: Linked Learning launched in California
What is Performance Assessment?

The demonstration & evaluation of applied skills that can be taught and learned

Examples of Performance Assessments:

• Open ended short response
• Essay
• Laboratory investigation
• Portfolio and defense
• Capstone research project
High Quality Performance Assessment

- Eliciting evidence of learning that matters
- Tight on its criteria for success
- Inclusive of different learner approaches, with a lens of equity
- Authentic
- A learning experience in and of itself
Research shows performance assessment can:

- Improve **instructional quality**
- Encourage **teacher collaboration**
- Help to increase **student achievement** on traditional standardized tests
Research shows performance assessment can:

- Improve students’ **deeper learning** and **social emotional learning** competencies
- Contribute to more **equitable outcomes** in higher education admissions
California Performance Assessment Collaborative

A statewide network of schools and districts working to advance innovative, high quality, and equitable performance assessments for high school graduation.
CPAC
- 60+ schools across 16 districts
- 6 districts with active leadership
- 6 school networks
- 5 technical assistance partners

Beyond CPAC
- Linked Learning pathways
- Bay Area Writing Project
- K-12 Alliance for NGSS
- Y-PLAN
Los Angeles Unified School District Portfolio and Defense

12th grade **portfolio** and **defense**

- Curated collection of student work (Artifacts)
- Demonstrate mastery and growth
- Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
  - **College, career, and civic life**
- LAUSD Linked Learning graduate profile
Portfolio and Defense Artifacts

- Compile artifacts in 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade, aligning to:
  - **College preparedness** competencies: analysis, creative problem solving, argument, and inquiry
  - **Work readiness** artifacts: Resumé, job application, mock interview
  - **Personal** accomplishments: Evidence of community engagement and student achievement, written personal statement
- Complete a portfolio defense presentation
Performance Assessments at STEM Boyle Heights

- Portfolio Defense since 2017-18 to live panel with industry board members
- Two interdisciplinary performance assessments & core content performance assessments per year
- STEM Lab & cross department collaboration
- Grade level team planning
Student Presenters

Giuseppe Mendoza Torres

Monse Moreno-Valadez
As you’re watching the students, what evidence do you see to indicate that they are ready for college, career, and civic life?
Panel Discussion

Esther Soliman, Linked Learning Administrator, LAUSD

Lindsey Corcoran, Linked Learning Director, LAUSD

Adriana Trejo, Principal, Boyle Heights STEM Academy

Abby Benedetto, Deeper Learning Coach, Envision Learning Partners
Group Discussion

1. What did you learn today?
2. What are the implications for higher education?
3. What are the implications for state and local K-12 policy related to college and career readiness?
4. What can you do in your role to influence mindsets and break down barriers?
5. What do you still have questions about?
Action Steps

• Watch LAUSD’s video on their performance assessment process
• Be a part of a student defense panel in your local community.
• Share resources with your colleagues and engage them in critical dialogue about the nature, purpose and impact of assessment
Moving This Work Forward

1. Chat your next step(s) into the chat box
2. Learn more through forthcoming research
3. Stay involved with CPAC, Linked Learning Alliance, and Envision Learning Partners
Stay Engaged

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Sources


Thank you for joining!
Participants observed student defenses in breakout spaces during this time.