

# Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Overview



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# PARCC



- Massachusetts is one of 21 states working to develop the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
- An assessment aligned to Common Core State Standards
- An assessment anchored in knowledge and skills students need to be ready for college and careers

# What will PARCC assess?



- Standards contained in the 2011 Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in English Language Arts and Literacy (ELA) and Mathematics (incorporating CCSS)
- Includes innovative technology-based items and performance-based items that intend to assess a broad range of the skills that we value and employers report are necessary for students to be successful after high school

# Two Types of Assessment



- Performance Based Assessments (PBA)
- End of Year Assessments (EOY)

# Performance Based Assessments (PBA)



- ELA: literature analysis, narrative writing, and research simulation tasks.
- Students will read passages and demonstrate that they can:
  - Read and understand sufficiently complex tasks independently
  - Write effectively when using and analyzing sources
  - Build and communicate knowledge by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas

# Performance Based Assessments (PBA)



- Mathematics - Involves tasks requiring students to demonstrate they can:
  - Solve problems involving key knowledge and skills
  - Express mathematical reasoning and construct mathematical arguments
  - Apply concepts to solve/model real-world problems

# End of Year Assessments (EOY)



- **ELA EOY requires students to:**
  - Demonstrate their ability to comprehend a range of sufficiently complex text, including literature, literary non-fiction, and informal text from history/social studies, science, and technical subjects
  - Engage in the reading of texts that require them to draw conclusions
  - Interpret the meaning of words and phrases and technical vocabulary
  - Compare, integrate, and synthesize ideas presented in texts

# End of Year Assessments (EOY)



- **Mathematics EOY requires students to:**
  - Demonstrate their ability to solve multi-step problems, conceptual questions, applications, and carry out substantial procedures



# Transition to PARCC



- MA DESE envisions a transition period to move from MCAS assessments to PARCC.
- Later this fall, the MA Board of Elementary and Secondary Education will discuss and vote on a transition plan with the understanding that the state will only adopt PARCC if it proves to be as good as or better than our current MCAS assessments.
- *PARCC will only assess Math and ELA, anticipate MCAS continuing for other content areas*

# Technical Requirements



- PARCC will be administered primarily on-line
  - Paper and Pencil options will exist during a transition period
  - Field testing will include on-line and paper and pencil versions of the assessment
- Sudbury meets technical requirements within anticipated administration window

# 2013-14 PARCC Field Test



- Why Field Test?
  - Examine the quality of items to build assessment forms for FY15 administration
  - Test administration procedures
  - Provide opportunity for schools/districts to experience administration of PARCC assessments
- PARCC will administer a field test in spring 2014 to a representative sample of about 10 percent of Massachusetts students in grades 3-11.
- *No student, school, or district data will be provided from field testing*

# Field Testing in Sudbury



- Two assessments field tested (PBA and EOY)
- All five SPS schools have been selected to participate in the field testing
- Details regarding administration of the field test and selection of the specific classrooms involved will be available beginning in November
- Field Test Window
  - PBA (Math and ELA) – March 24-April 11, 2014
  - EOY (Math and ELA) – May 5-June 6, 2014