

July 27, 2012

Dear CESA and District Administrators:

As the new Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts outline a need for keyboarding proficiency and the new Smarter Balanced Assessment requires a certain level of skill for fourth grade students to participate fully, it is more important than ever that conversation occurs at the district level regarding keyboarding instruction and assessment.

The following website outlines the standards delineated in the Common Core State Standards, as well as, the specific verbiage from drafts of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Specification Table: <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/bit/keyboarding.html>. As Wisconsin draws closer to implementing the Smarter Balanced Assessment, it is essential to prepare students with a level of keyboarding skill that allows our students to enter text efficiently.

This site also outlines strategies and resources that may be of assistance to your classroom teachers in forming a plan for the development and delivery of keyboarding skills. If you have further questions, please contact Jennifer Wegner at jennifer.wegner@dpi.wi.gov or 608-266-9609.

Sincerely,



Tony Evers, PhD
State Superintendent

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