



# STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

## Video Supplement

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### Introduction

The Strategic Assessment System explainer, an introductory video to the 4-part series, is primarily intended for educators – including administrators, department or grade-level teams, PLCs, and new teachers, but can be shared with a variety of interested stakeholders such as school boards, community members, and families. The video is intended to develop a general understanding of strategic assessment systems, but can also be used to promote professional dialogue and deepen assessment literacy.

### What is a Strategic Assessment System?

Balanced assessment systems have played a key role in schools across Wisconsin for many years. Schools use a variety of assessments – formative, interim, and summative – in order to drive the teaching and learning process, making effective decisions about what comes next for learning, program effectiveness, and closing achievement gaps. In Wisconsin, more than simply balancing the types of assessments to provide a variety of data, educators recognize the need to **strategically** choose high quality assessment tools and practices, and then coherently and purposefully use that information to directly impact student achievement.

#### Strategic assessment systems emphasize:

- The very purposeful alignment of assessments and their use within a data inquiry process;
- The critical and primary role formative practices play in driving the teaching and learning process; and
- The importance of identifying high quality assessments to produce effective and efficient information about students' readiness for college and career.

### Using the Video to Facilitate Dialogue and Promote Assessment Literacy

Consider using the Strategic Assessment System video as one of a variety of resources to promote dialogue with your school board, district leadership and parents, as well as to build educators' assessment literacy.

#### Possible **uses** in professional development with educators:

- Share during a faculty meeting to surface experiences with and attitudes toward professional practice
- View during PLC time to apply, extend, and sharpen professional practice
- Use with new or struggling teachers to enhance professional practice and assessment literacy

#### Possible **discussion questions** to extend the conversation:

1. What are the three types of assessment used in a Strategic Assessment System? Do you use all three in your school and district?
2. How do these data drive conversations with your community's and the public's need to know about overall student performance? With whom do you share information? How often?
3. What other data might help provide a more complete picture of student learning?
4. How do the data from all three types of assessments work together to inform [College and Career Readiness](#)? Could it be more cohesive? How do you manage all the various data effectively? Could it be more strategic?
5. To what extent are assessment data an essential part of your school improvement planning process? Are they used to set, monitor, and evaluate goals in the school improvement plan?