

September

Open House Opportunities

- Provide Teacher Talking Points that tie annual assessment to standards and annual assessment, but annual assessment is just one indicator of performance.
- CSDE Parent Guides in six languages
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335764>
- Include pie chart of school year instructional hrs. & annual assessment hrs.

October

- Newsletter: Emphasize importance of assessment to measure all children and continuously improve on many indicators. Provide facts on federal law (both ESEA and now ESSA) related to participation.
- Presentation #1: School performance presentation using annual assessment data as one indicator. CSDE edit-able PowerPoint for presenting last year's results <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335628>
- Presentation #2: for parents new to annual assessments (CSDE Back to School PowerPoint) <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335628>

November

- Newsletter: Overview of annual assessment. Provide parents access to exploring the test <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>
- Survey parents to identify needs for information and concerns about annual assessment and publish survey results.

December

- Newsletter Insert: Provide "right sized" testing times by grade and test component (now 2 hours shorter)
http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/student_assessment/smarter_balanced/Student_Assessment_News_November_25_2014.pdf
- Having identified concerns from survey, invite parents who are worried or uncertain about annual assessment to "Let's Talk It Through" Session #1 (presentation, panel discussion and Q & A)
- Schedule individual parent meetings if needed

January

- Newsletter Insert: Provide list of Universal Supports used in assessment
- Communication for parents of English learners and students with disabilities – Accommodations
- Contact individual parent and schedule meetings if needed

February

- Write a FAQ about Annual Assessment for local paper. CSDE sample http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/student_assessment/smarter_balanced/reporting/backtoschool_smarterbalanced_faq.pdf
- Send annual assessment grade level schedule including days, times
- Hold "Let's Talk It Through" Session #2 (presentation, panel discussion and Q & A)
- Contact individual parents and schedule meetings if needed

March

- Write an update on Annual Assessment for local paper. Include information about technology enhancements and include link to practice test. <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>
- Newsletter: Tips for students and parents (breakfast, good night's sleep, just do your best)
- Contact individual parents and schedule meetings if needed

April

- Newsletter: Smarter Balanced Sample Individual Student Reports (will be updated by CSDE)
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335628>
- Scheduling calls to parents to check in on student experiences

May

- Newsletter: Achievement Level Descriptors
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335628>
- Scheduling calls to parents to check in on student experiences

June

- Newsletter: Send links to CSDE Parent Guides in six languages for next grade <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2748&q=335764>
- Thank parents and students for cooperation on annual assessment

