

Others might state, “**We are familiar with the CAPA, STS, EAP, and the CST science tests, but tell me more about this SBAC field test.**”

AB484 requires school districts to participate in the spring 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test (testing window = March 18 – June 6, 2014).

The field test provides all school districts with the opportunity to experience the Smarter Balanced assessments this school year in a low stakes environment.

WCCUSD will be able to gauge our true technology readiness before the actual, high stakes SBAC assessments are fully implemented in the spring of 2015.

More specifically...

- Our **students** will have hands-on experience with the functionality of an innovative, online, computer-based assessment that has technology-enhanced items and newly designed performance tasks with related classroom activities.
- Our

he district reached agreement with the United Teachers of Richmond (UTR) and

West Contra Costa Administrators Association (WCCAA) in regards to training and support as it relates to the Common Core State Standards. These agreements will have important impacts as we continue to transition to the CCSS.

The **UTR agreement** builds on the positives of the original agreement and includes alterations to address areas of concern. The highlights of the new agreement are:

- One per diem Common Core training day to take place this spring on a non-instructional day. There will be at least four opportunities for teachers to get the training prior to June 30, 2014.
- Two Common Core professional development days will be held August 12 and 13, 2014. These mandatory training days will be compensated at the per diem rate.
- There will be stipends for the Common Core Working Group teachers, Academic Subcommittee Liaison teachers, Technology Liaison teachers, and the Secondary Department chairs (who will be selected via contractual process).

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ET T —Technology Connections to C C



The IT Department is all a-flutter this month with the arrival of the laptops, projectors, document cameras, and carts for teachers. The holiday season is definitely getting off to a great start!

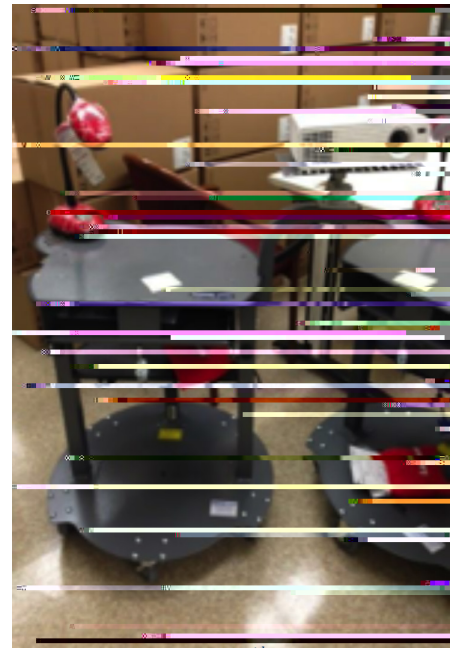
But what do these tools have to do with the Common Core? Within the informational text category of the range of text types for grades kindergarten through 5, and then again in the range for grades 6 through 12, you will find “digital sources.” The district-provided edtech tools (laptop, projector, document camera) can be used to show a variety of digital sources (such as articles published on the web, blogs, and informational websites) and aid teachers in demonstrating where and how to find good digital sources on the web. Teachers can show not only digital sources from the Internet (with the laptop

and the projector), but also print sources (with the document camera and projector).

A wonderful resource for digital sources of text that is available now to all teachers and students is **Ed1stop**. Ed1stop is a web portal that includes video streaming (Learn360), an online encyclopedia (World Book Online), and current, copyright-safe image banks (AP Images and Pics4Learning) to name a few. Ed1stop (an educational “1 stop shop”) even has a full page of information offering links to resources organized by Common Core standard (click on the Common Core tab once logged in). For your Ed1stop login information, please email Laurie Roberts at lroberts@wccusd.net.

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Found something great you think others should know about? Join the



EdTech Term of the Month:
1:1 (1-to-1)
One digital device per student

WCCUSD EdTech group on Edmodo by going to <https://edmo.do/j/0p1dcn> to share it out. You will need to join Edmodo (this is a free account, but you will need your school’s code to sign up). Email Laurie Roberts at lroberts@wccusd.net for the code.

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will provide much greater detail for teachers to collaborate and develop instructional mitigations than with traditional multiple choice. Other SR formats also include matching and true/false.

The second section, which for this year will be optional but recommended, is the CR component, which will include one or two CR questions. CR questions provide students the opportunity to solve a mathematical problem

and justify their answer in writing—with short phrases, sentences, and/or diagrams, depending on the requirements of the CR question. This CR format also mirrors SBAC question types. A rubric is provided to assist teachers to collaboratively calibrate and score the questions, and more importantly, to use the student work to develop instructional mitigations that will help students continue their mathematics learning.

Over time, we will be developing

new student study guides to accompany our benchmarks. At our mathematics professional development sessions (after school Pizza and Planning) we will also be calibrating and scoring student work, as well as further developing CCSS and SBAC-aligned questions. Please sign in to the online Professional Development Calendar to register for these sessions—we look forward to continued collaboration!

- Part A is as much an