PARCC Overview

Agenda

- Recap from last Network PD
- Roadmap and PD Topic Roadmap
- Action Items
- Reminder: Available Resources
- Highlight: New Resources – Cheat sheets and one-page task guide
- PBA vs. EOY
  - High-Level Overview
  - Skills Assessed in Each Exam
  - Question Types in Each Exam
  - Suggested Strategies (Model Curriculum Units, PARCC Content Framework, Sample Questions, Practice Tests)
- Q&A
  
  *We will not be reviewing accommodations and accessibility during this hour – it will be next with Dan Wiener; please hold questions for him.*
Agenda

• Suggested timing (for Kavita and Marilyn)
  • 20 minutes intro
  • 20 minutes practice tests
  • 10 minutes discussion of practice tests
  • 10 minutes questions

Recap

1. We covered the initial readiness steps on “what schools and students should do now” – January will focus on technology readiness.

2. Take a practice assessment now (we’ll do that today). In particular, school leaders, teachers, and students should get used to the accessibility and accommodation features

3. Bostonpublicschools.org/PARCC contains all PDs, information guides, cheat sheets, Q&As, and more.
**PARCC SY2015 Roadmap**

- **Note 1:** Start indicates the first day of possible scheduling and not the mandatory start date.
- **Note 2:** Schools have the discretion of when to administer PARCC within the above timeframe.

**Source:** MA DESE

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**Network PD Roadmap (1/2)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Sub-topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>Performance Based Assessment vs. End of Year Assessment</td>
<td>By grade:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Who takes? (e.g. G3 only takes XY while G10 takes XYZ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Differences between ELA &amp; Math for PBA vs. EOY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Skills assessed in each exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Question structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Suggested strategies/resources to utilize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Scheduling considerations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>&quot;What you need to do now for the PBA Assessment&quot;</td>
<td>Technology set-up (e.g. roster uploads, PNP updates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Scheduling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Review accessibility and accommodations features</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>&quot;Finish Line&quot; PBA Assessment Checklist</td>
<td>Practice questions and tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Review Paper/Pencil vs. Online protocols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Review accessibility and accommodations features</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Dry-run test administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Review student registrations and technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Network PD Roadmap (2/2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Sub-topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>&quot;Finish Line&quot; PBA Assessment Checklist (cont.)</td>
<td>Practice questions and tests, Review accessibility and accommodations features, Dry-run test administration, Review student registrations and technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>&quot;What you need to do now for the EOY Assessment&quot;</td>
<td>Practice questions and tests, Technology set-up (e.g. roster uploads, PNP updates), Scheduling, Review accessibility and accommodations features</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>&quot;Finish Line&quot; EOY Assessment Checklist</td>
<td>Practice questions and tests, Review accessibility and accommodations features, Dry-run test administration, Review student registrations and technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>EOY Lessons Learned</td>
<td>EOY Lessons Learned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Action Items

1. Sign-up for the BPS PARCC Newsletter!

2. Review your student’s Personal Needs Profile (PNP) for accuracy (beginning January)

3. Scheduling should start now. Inventory your classrooms, assign test coordinators and proctors, and begin building a schedule. Scheduling guidance will be covered in the below slides.

4. School leaders, teachers, and students should take the practice tests (or at least sample items) by mid-January.
## Action Items

5. Inventory (and order) your headphones and approved bilingual, word-to-word dictionaries.

6. **UPDATE 2015 PARCC STUDENT REGISTRATION DATA BY DECEMBER 23, 2014:** School leaders should have received an email dated December 3, 2014 from the DESE PARCC Team to prepare for the Spring 2015 assessment.

7. Complete **applicable training (by role)**

8. Invite your lead teachers and whoever is interested to PDs

9. Refer to Bostonpublicschools.org/PARCC

## Reminder: Available Resources

### Available Resources

1. Bostonpublicschools.org/PARCC

2. PARCConline.org (especially the sample questions and practice tests)

### Future Plans

1. BPS Learns. OIIT has been working hard to develop BPS Learns.

2. PARCC Community Meeting. Logistics and details to follow
Reminder: Website Refresh

http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/PARCC has been updated with relevant PARCC guidance and tools.

Scheduling tools, cheat sheets, and network PDs (w/ Q&As) located in Educator Resources, Educator Tools, Additional Q&A, and Network PD links.

Highlight: Useful Tools

Below are a couple of tools that we want to highlight. All the tools below are available on http://bostonpublicschools.org/Page/4248

1. Everything you need to know about the documents and resources we have been providing - graphically and summarized!

2. One-Pager of PARCC Preparation Activities (month by month)

3. PARCC’s Assessment Guide (Readiness Checklist - month by month)

4. DESE’s overview of the accessibility and accommodation features offered to all students (compared with MCAS tool)
Resource Questions?

Purpose of PARCC Assessment

1. Determines whether students are on track to be college and career ready
2. Measures how well we implement the Common Core State Standards
3. Measures student performance consistently, not just across the district, but across participating states as well
4. Provides educators data throughout the year to inform instruction
5. Exposes students to an innovative, “21st century”, technology-based assessment which prepares them for college and career
How will PARCC be different for students?

- Tests will mirror high-quality coursework and the updated Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks (which is aligned to the Common Core)
- Is computer-based, interactive, and engaging\(^1\)
- Measures the skills and knowledge students need to succeed in college and careers
- Tests will assess higher order of thinking, not just rote memorization
- Tests will encourage students to think deeply and critically on each question, make inferences, and to articulate their answers through evidence of understanding
- Includes embedded support for English language learners and students with disabilities

How will PARCC be different for schools?

- Computer-based testing will be more efficient than pencil-and-paper tests and will provide timely data to teachers and parents
- Tests will assess higher order of thinking, not just rote memorization; thus, a new approach is required for instruction and learning.
- Tests will force students to think deeply and critically on each question, make inferences, and to articulate their answers through evidence of understanding.
  - Instruction will require methods to evaluate these new skill requirements
So What Does PARCC Look Like?

- It includes 2 parts in English language arts and 2 parts in math.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 1</th>
<th>English Language Arts</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance-Based</td>
<td>• Writing effectively</td>
<td>• Solving multi-step problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>• Analyzing print and</td>
<td>• Using abstract reasoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(hand-scored)</td>
<td>video texts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late March—early April</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 2</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End-of-Year Assessment</td>
<td>• Reading comprehension</td>
<td>• Understanding major grade-level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(computer-scored)</td>
<td></td>
<td>appropriate math concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Overview of Test Structure

PARCC is a 2 part computer-based test with a paper/pencil option for districts. Each test assesses English Language Arts and Math.

March – April Testing Window

The first part (Performance Based Assessment – PBA) focuses on writing and analytical skills primarily hand-scored by people.

May – June Testing Window

The second part (End of Year Assessment – EOY) is computer-scored and targets 21st century skills (e.g. technology usage) and reading and math comprehension.

Combined, the 2 parts provide an important assessment of your student’s knowledge, skills, and ability to think critically.

This year, you will get the results in the Fall of 2015. In the following years, and after a thorough analysis of this year’s assessment, the results will be provided much more timely.
Test Structure Explained

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELA</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PBA</strong></td>
<td><strong>EOY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The ELA PBA includes a literature analysis, research, and narrative session. For each task, students will be asked to read one or more texts, answer several short comprehension and vocabulary questions, and write an essay that requires them to draw evidence from the text(s).</td>
<td>• The ELA Literacy EOY involves reading 4-5 texts, both literary and informational, and answering a number of short-answer comprehension and vocabulary questions associated with each text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The ELA/Literacy EOY focuses on only two areas: reading comprehension and vocabulary. The EOY does not include a writing prompt.</td>
<td>• The EOY will focus on only two areas: reading comprehension and vocabulary. The EOY does not include a writing prompt.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When Will PARCC be Conducted?

DESE PARCC Schedule (as of 8/2014)

Note: Schools have the discretion of when to administer PARCC within the below time frame.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2015 PARCC Performance-based Assessment (PBA) for Schools Doing Computer-based Testing (CBT)</td>
<td>March 16 - April 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2015 PARCC End-of-Year Assessment (EOY) for Schools Doing Computer-based Testing (CBT)</td>
<td>May 4 - 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Each PARCC test is timed. PARCC manuals will be posted at www.parcconline.org. Refer to the manuals for information about participation guidelines, the prescribed order for administering each grade’s tests and the number of sessions, the policy for make-up testing, as well as other administration deadlines. Note that in spring 2015, districts will choose whether to administer MCAS or PARCC. More information and guidance to make this decision will be forthcoming.

2 Schools closed in observance of Good Friday that are doing paper-based testing may administer PARCC PBA test sessions through Monday, April 6.

How many units per grade and for how long?

- The image on the right contains the units and unit times for each exam and grade. Please see next slides for total minutes and guidance.

- ELLs (must be in Personal Needs Profile – PNP) and SWDs (must be in IEP and PNP) have an accommodation to test up to a full day.

- ALL students have up to 50% beyond the unit time to continue.
### Total Testing Time by grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade, Subject</th>
<th>PBA Total Minutes</th>
<th>PBA Total Hours</th>
<th>EOY Total Minutes</th>
<th>EOY Total Hours</th>
<th>Total Minutes</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 ELA</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 Math</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 4-5 ELA</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 4-5 Math</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 6-8 ELA</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 6-8 Math</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 9-11 ELA</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra I, Geometry, Integrated Math I, II</td>
<td>Total Unit</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra II, Integrated Math III</td>
<td>Total Unit</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ELLs (must be in Personal Needs Profile – PNP) and SWDs (must be in IEP and PNP) have an accommodation to test up to a full day
**ALL students have up to 50% beyond the unit time to continue*

### Scheduling Tool Highlight

- In one place, we have all you need to know about scheduling. The tool contains the MA testing schedule, PARCC session/unit times, a WiFi quality tracker, and scheduler (below is the scheduler). Available on [http://bostonpublicschools.org/Page/4248](http://bostonpublicschools.org/Page/4248)
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Trying out the test

• Go to the PARCC Field Test Resources Site:
  – http://parcc.pearson.com/

• Your choices are on the bar on the top of the page

• Click on Test Preparation, then Tutorial – you will have several choices – choose TestNav 8 Tutorial.

• NOTE: DO NOT USE CHROME BROWSER ON YOUR MAC.

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Practice Tests

Want to see PARCC items in action? Would you like to know how PARCC is different from previous tests?

Well! Before you start, does your computer, laptop, or tablet have what it takes? The PARCC assessment works with many devices and browsers, but not all. Find out the technology guidelines here.

English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests

Do you want to know what taking the English/Language Arts/Literacy portion of the PARCC Performance-Based Assessment is like? A practice test for each grade is available below for you to use to familiarize yourself with the kinds of items and format used for the PBA tests.

View English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests

Mathematics Practice Tests

Do you want to know what taking the Mathematics portion of the PARCC End-Of-Year test is like? A practice test for each grade is available below for you to use to familiarize yourself with the kinds of items and format used for the EOY tests.

View Mathematics Practice Tests

Spring 2014 Release

The spring 2014 release consisted of Performance-Based Assessment tasks in English Language Arts/Literacy and End-of-Year tests in mathematics.

What's available:
- Grades 3-11 Performance-Based Assessment tasks for ELA
- Grades 3-8 End-of-Year tests for mathematics
- Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II End-of-Year tests for mathematics

Notes about scoring:
1. The spring 2014 release does not have scoring built into the tool.

January 2015 Release

What's available:
- Grades 3-11 End-of-Year tests for ELA
- Grades 3-8 Performance-Based tests for mathematics
- Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II Performance-Based tests for mathematics

Notes about scoring:
1. The January 2015 release will have scoring built into the tool. PARCC will also provide rubrics for the prose constructed responses.

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English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests

Do you want to know what taking the English/Language Arts/Literacy portion of the PARCC Performance-Based Assessment (PBA) is like? A practice test for each grade is available below for you to use to familiarize yourself with the kinds of items and format used for the PBA tests.

View Answer Keys

Screen Reader Compatibility:
For students who require the use of screen reading software to access the practice test, PARCC has released the ELA PBA in an HTML version that is compatible with JAWS, versions 13 & 14 and NVDA, version 2014. To launch the practice test, select the appropriate practice test and a drop down will be displayed to select the Grade 3 Practice Test in the standard Text/Html version as well as the Grade 3 Practice Test that is Screen Reader compatible.

The PARCC ELA/Literacy PBA practice tests, both paper and computer-based, do not indicate the unit breaks that are included with the operational assessment forms. This allows educators flexibility, with how they choose to use these practice tests with their students. The ELA/Literacy PBA practice tests show the order of the tasks as they will appear on the operational forms: Literary Analysis, Research Simulation, and Narrative. Please note that each task represents a unit on the operational assessment.

Select your grade level to view practice tests:
Welcome! You are about to start a test.

Grade 6 ELA/Literacy
There is 1 section.
There are 23 total questions.

Today you will be taking a session of the Grade 06 English Language Arts/Literacy Performance Based Assessment (PBA).

To answer the questions on this test, you will first be asked to read one or more passages. Read each passage and question carefully and then choose the best answer for each question. You may look back at the passage or passages as often as necessary.

Identify your answers by selecting from the answer choices. If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. If time permits, you may return to questions in this session only. Do your best to answer every question.

For constructed response questions, type your response in the box provided. You may use scratch paper to organize your thinking before typing your response. There is more space available than what can be viewed in the box. Continue to type your response until you have fully answered the question. You may use the scroll bar to view your entire response.
Now Choose a Test on Your Own

• Take the test – or tests – as if you were the student:
  – Do the calculations
  – Manipulate the tools
  – Read the passages and/or watch the videos
  – Answer the questions
  – Write the essay
• Note what was interesting, difficult, confusing.
• As you work, think about how you might run a session similar to this one back in your district or on your campus.

Discussion

• What were your reactions to the tests?

• What was interesting?

• Difficult, confusing?

• How will you use these materials with other educators, students, parents, school committee, the public?
Resources for Instruction

- Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks:
  http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/current.html

- PARCC Model Content Frameworks, K-2, 3-11
  http://www.parcconline.org

- Massachusetts Model Curriculum Units
  http://www.doe.mass.edu/candi/model
  PK-12 standards-based units in ELA, math, history/social science, and science with related resources

- Achieve's EQuIP Exemplars
  http://www.achieve.org/EQuIP/
  Juried K-12 standards-based units and lessons in ELA and math from districts and states

Questions