For more than a decade, many state and local education agencies have been engaged in reform efforts to improve educational opportunity and achievement for every student. At the core of these efforts has been a push to develop content and performance standards that define what students should know and be able to do in various subject areas and how well they ought to perform.

Efforts to develop these standards have, in turn, fueled a move towards standards-based assessment—an approach that measures students' performances against a set of common standards for learning rather than against other students' performances.

Description

For more than a decade, many state and local education agencies have been engaged in reform efforts to improve educational opportunity and achievement for every student. At the core of these efforts has been a push to develop content and performance standards that define what students should know and be able to do in various subject areas and how well they ought to perform.

Efforts to develop these standards have, in turn, fueled a move towards standards-based assessment—an approach that measures students' performances against a set of common standards for learning rather than against other students' performances.

Developing a Standards-Based Assessment System: A Handbook

By Kim O'Neill, Kendyll Stansbury

Description

For more than a decade, many state and local education agencies have been engaged in reform efforts to improve educational opportunity and achievement for every student. At the core of these efforts has been a push to develop content and performance standards that define what students should know and be able to do in various subject areas and how well they ought to perform.

Efforts to develop these standards have, in turn, fueled a move towards standards-based assessment—an approach that measures students' performances against a set of common standards for learning rather than against other students' performances.
Developing a Standards-Based Assessment System grew out of a need to help interested teachers, school administrators, and other educators develop a basic understanding of the key steps involved in developing standards-based assessment systems, says WestEd Research Associate Kim O'Neill, one of the handbook’s two primary contributors. She has helped develop student assessments for the Career-Technical Assessment Program (C-TAP) and Assessments in Career Education (ACE). “Many of the individuals involved in helping us to create specific assessments for these programs expressed interest in knowing more about standards-based assessments and assessment systems in general,” says O’Neill.

A valuable resource for administrators, teacher leaders, and staff developers, this introductory handbook may also be useful to parents, school boards, and community members who want to better understand the rationale and processes for developing and implementing a comprehensive standards-based assessment system.

Read an interview with the author.

Tweet
Materials in this book were developed based on the consensus of a working group. This document is not intended to establish a standard of practice against which clinical practice is to be evaluated. Rather, it provides a framework that psychologists may find useful and effective in capacity determination. The first work product, Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Lawyers was published in 2005. The second product, Judicial Determination of Capacity of Older Adults in Guardianship Proceedings: A Handbook for Judges was published in 2006. Copies of both handbooks are available online at www.apa.org/pi/aging and www.abanet.org/aging. A Handbook for Development Practitioners. Ten Steps to a. Results-Based Monitoring. 2. Performance standards—Developing countries—Evaluation. 3. Total quality management in government—Developing countries—Evaluation. 4. Public administration—Developing countries—Evaluation. Results-based M&E systems can be a powerful public management instrument in helping them measure performance and track progress in achieving desired goals.