

## Proficiency-Based Learning: A Systemic Approach

Design Guide for Formative Assessment Systems

System Design	Criteria	Weaker Systems	Stronger Systems
	Are standards and scoring criteria clear to students and teachers?	System of standards is not clearly framed and articulated for both teachers and students.	Standards and scoring criteria are clearly articulated and accessible to all.
		Teachers must independently determine standards and define the quality of work necessary to demonstrate proficiency.	Teachers share common practices of how to utilize standards and scoring criteria for assessment and instruction.
		Students are unclear about how to use standards and scoring criteria to manage their own learning.	Students demonstrate understanding of what is expected in their learning and the work they produce.
	Is the practice of collecting, analyzing and responding to formative assessment data	Use of formative assessment data is inconsistent, with a wide spectrum of practice from classroom to classroom.  Expectations regarding the use of data are	Structures support routine collection, use and responsiveness to data by all teachers. (Ex: teaching teams, common planning time, department meetings, etc.)
	systematic and embedded in the planning of instruction and daily lessons?	unclear or unstated.  Teachers respond to data without coaching, structures, or collaboration.	Teachers respond to data quickly (immediately or in subsequent lessons) to make adjustments to student learning experiences.
			Planning documents, data management systems, and professional development time specifically account for the collection of and response to formative and summative data.

1

Feb 2015



## Proficiency-Based Learning: A Systemic Approach

Design Guide for Formative Assessment Systems

	Criteria	Weaker Systems	Stronger Systems
Assessment Design	Are the formative assessments <b>aligned</b> with the performance	Learning targets developed from the Performance Indicators are not formatively assessed.	Performance Indicators are unpacked into learning targets.
	indicators?	Assessments are based on activities instead of on learning targets.	All learning targets are formatively assessed throughout instruction.
	Will the formative assessment <b>provide</b>	All assessments focus on the lower levels of the thinking taxonomy.	Formative assessments elicit information beyond a correct answer
	precise information about what students do and don't understand?	Assessments yield data but little insight into gaps in understanding or knowledge.	Assessments reveal student understandings and misconceptions.
	Is clear <b>feedback provided</b> to students and do they have opportunities	Students only receive feedback when they receive a grade or final evaluation.	Students know how to use feedback to improve performance.
	to act upon that feedback?	Feedback is used to justify a grade or score.	Students receive actionable feedback directly aligned to the learning targets and use it to improve performance.
sign	Are the instructional activities aligned to the learning targets?	Instructional activities are not carefully aligned to learning targets.	Instructional activities support student understanding of learning targets, where they are in relation to the targets and how they can make progress toward targets.
Instructional Design	Do teachers quickly adjust instruction based on formative data?	Teachers collect data but do not use it to adjust student learning experiences.	Teachers adjust their instructional plans in response to the results of formative assessments.
nstruct	Do students use formative assessment data to self-assess and set	Data is collected and used only by teachers.	Students use feedback data to reflect on their progress and set goals.
	goals?	Students may self-assess or set goals, but those are not incorporated into learning experiences.	Students use feedback to adjust their performance throughout the instructional process.

2 Feb 2015