Accountability and Student Growth A National Perspective

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Educational Accountability: A Plethora of Initiatives

No Child Left Behind:

Criterion Referenced Accountability/Universal Proficiency.
Institution level (i.e., school accountability), not personnel level

Race to the Top (RttT):

Accountability as personnel evaluation

New Initiatives: Universal Career and College Readiness.



Educational Accountability: A Plethora of Initiatives

Challenge: Create a comprehensive and coherent accountability system that includes all stakeholders in the drive to improve educational quality for all students.

Challenge: Create a comprehensive and coherent accountability system that weaves together:

What is.
What should be.
What is reasonable.



Comprehensive Accountability

Maximizing the progress of all students toward career and college readiness requires attention toward multiple points of influence.

Institutional – Schools, Districts
Personnel – Principals and Teacher
Programs – Curriculum and educational programs
Students

State and Federal mandates have often been piecemeal (schools or teachers/principals). Groups feel like scapegoats.

Everyone plays a role from policy makers to parents.



Coherent Accountability

Accountability initiative spread across different levels are often incoherent

Indicators at the state, district, school, and teacher level often do not "speak" to each other.

Goal: Create a unified indicator system that speaks to all stakeholder goals: Comprehensive and coherent so that participants are tied to "translatable" goals.



Status Quo

The Center for Assessment is currently working with approximately 20 states on growth and accountability.

A variety of use cases:

RttT states: Focus is on teacher evaluation

Non RttT states: Diagnostic uses of growth data, institutional evaluation (including growth for AYP purposes), program evaluation.

Some use cases are more personal than others.

Recommendation: Be deliberate but don't rush. Less personal use cases allow stakeholders to become familiar with the indicators.



Wisdom

Tell me and I will forget.

Show me and I will remember.

Involve me and I will understand.

Confucius

