

Districts Begin Pilot of Student Assessment Inventory Tool

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is collaborating with three school districts to pilot the **Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts**. Bensenville School District 2, Urbana School District 116 and West Aurora School District 129 are committed to the development of local balanced assessment systems using the assessment inventory tool.

Achieve, an independent, bipartisan, nonprofit education reform organization, developed the **Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts** to support educators as they take stock of the assessments students are currently taking and determine the minimum amount of assessment needed for essential diagnostic, instructional and accountability purposes.

“We chose to participate in the pilot to address our ongoing need to increase assessment literacy and the use of high-quality assessments to make informed instructional decisions to better meet the needs of all students,” said Jean Korder, Urbana School District 116 director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

Assessment is a critical component of effective instruction but many educators, parents and students have expressed concerns about the amount of assessment occurring in school districts. The inventory tool is an opportunity for teachers and administrators to respond to these concerns by engaging in a collaborative and transparent conversation addressing the amount and quality of assessment occurring at the district level.

“We are committed to supporting the development of local balanced assessment systems and increasing educators’ assessment and data literacy. Engaging in an assessment inventory process using the **Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts** is a great first step,” said Dr. Diana Zaleski, Project Administrator at ISBE.

The **Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts** and companion **Assessment Inventory Facilitation Process** are available on the ISBE Balanced Assessment webpage at <http://www.isbe.net/assessment/htmls/balanced-asmt.htm>.