CCEC
California Collaborative
for Educational Excellence



# From Pilot to Practice: Implementing Formative Assessment Practices to Improve Student Outcomes in Math



November 7, 2024

California Educational Research Association (CERA) - 2024 Annual Conference





## **Presenters**



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# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Implementing in Rincon Valley USD
- Spreading & Scaling in Rincon Valley USD
- Balanced Assessment Systems
- Q&A
- Resources



# Welcome and Introductions







# Who is the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE)?

- Statewide leader whose mission is to deliver on California's promise of quality, equitable education for every student
- Design and implement initiatives that facilitate the application of evidence-based continuous improvement processes within LEAs, coupled with regular collection and analysis of relevant data to support student outcomes
- Share lessons learned from our work, as well as emerging/best practices, strategies, and resources that address current high priority needs in the field







# **13 Learning Networks**



**Network Facilitation**: Dedicated space for LEA teams to learn from and reflect with other teams across the state as they engage in continuous improvement cycles to address their individual problems of practice around a common priority area



**Learning Lab:** A network of educators across the state on the cutting-edge of innovation



**Data Monitoring & Impact**: Coaching around data and assessment to enhance data literacy knowledge and skills to inform decision-making

#### **African American Student Success**

- Fresno USD (Enrollment: 68.200)
- Lynwood USD (Enrollment: 11,400)
- Pittsburg USD (Enrollment: 10,700)
- Robla SD (Enrollment: 1,900)
- San Lorenzo USD (Enrollment: 8.100)
- Napa COE (5 districts; 18,200 students)
- San Diego COE (42 districts; 393,700 students)

#### **Universal Design for Learning**

- Culver City USD (Enrollment: 6,800)
- Davis JUSD (Enrollment: 7,800)
- Guadalupe UESD (Enrollment: 1,300)
- Morongo USD (Enrollment: 7,400)
- Nevada JUSD (Enrollment: 2,500)
- Poway USD (Enrollment: 34,900)

#### **Chronic Absenteeism**

- Alisal USD (Enrollment: 7.300)
- Salinas City ESD (Enrollment: 8,200)
- North Monterey County USD (Enrollment: 4,400)
- Soledad USD (Enrollment: 4,700)
- Monterey COE (24 districts; 70,800 students)





#### **Data Research Learning Network (DRLN)**

#### Data Dashboards



- Imperial COE (16 districts; 35,300 students)
- San Bernardino CSS (33 districts; 355,100 students)

#### **Data Literacy & Leadership**

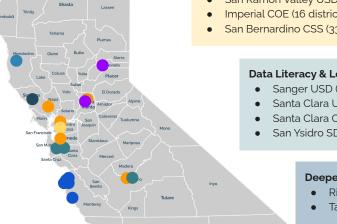
- Sanger USD (Enrollment: 12,000)
- Santa Clara USD (Enrollment: 14,200)
- Santa Clara COE (31 districts; 206,900 students)
- San Ysidro SD (Enrollment: 4,200)

#### **Deeper Learning**

- Rincon Valley USD (Enrollment: 3,100)
- Taft City SD (Enrollment: 2,400)

#### **Balanced Assessment Systems**

- Bakersfield City SD (Enrollment: 28,800)
- Coachella Valley USD (Enrollment: 16,000)
- Leggett Valley USD (Enrollment: 121)











# Data Research Learning Network (DRLN)

- Launched in 2022-23
- Aimed to support districts and county offices in moving away from constrained data analysis practices toward catalytic data-driven discussions and decisions
- Organized into three strands:









How do we address the statewide need?

Designed DRLN to be a research and development network focused on:

- System-level innovation
- Statewide amplification





# **Balanced Assessment System Pilot**

- Designed and launched pilot in 2023-24
- Designed to create tools and resources that support the evaluation of local assessment system quality in a variety of local California contexts



Led to the newest strand of the DRLN for 2024-25 school year!







Research & Development

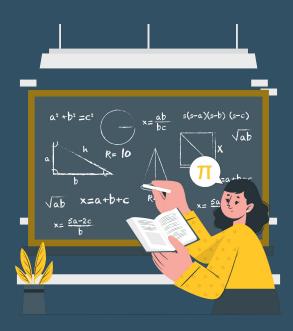


Learning Path bit.ly/CCEE-LAS



Toolkit bit.ly/LAS-tool

# Implementing Formative Assessment Practices



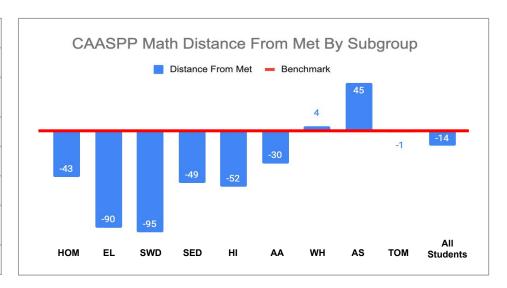




# Rincon Valley Union School District

- 3,000 TK-6 learners, at seven elementary schools
- 200+ learners at charter middle school campus & Home Study program

White	48.5%
Hispanic	30.5%
Asian/ Pacific Islander	7.1%
African American	2.5%
Two or More	7.1%
English Learners	18.0%
Students with Disabilities	16.0%
Free and Reduced	30.0%







# What Brought Us Here





Math Committee





**Teacher Survey** 



Formative Assessment





# **DRLN Project Overview**



#### **Innovation Idea:**

- Pilot comprehensive math formative assessment practices at two of our elementary school sites, Whited Elementary and Madrone Elementary
- Provide foundational training on both formative assessment practices and mathematical learning progressions

# Anticipated Impact:

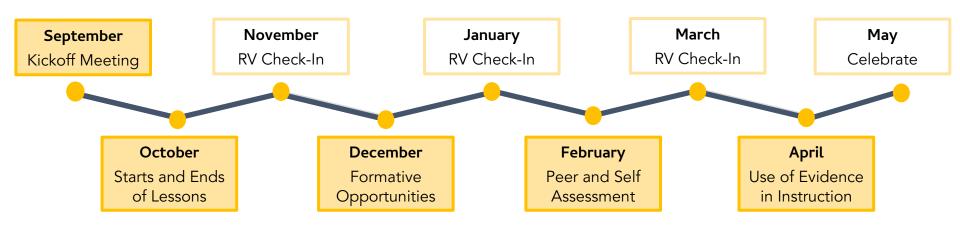
- Strengthened universal math instructional practices
- More collegial, data-centered conversations
- Improved student outcomes
- New model for strategic planning





## 2023-24 Year-at-a-Glance







Conduct Walkthroughs & Adjust Adult Learning as Needed





#### Four Domains of Formative Assessment



Starts & Ends of Lessons



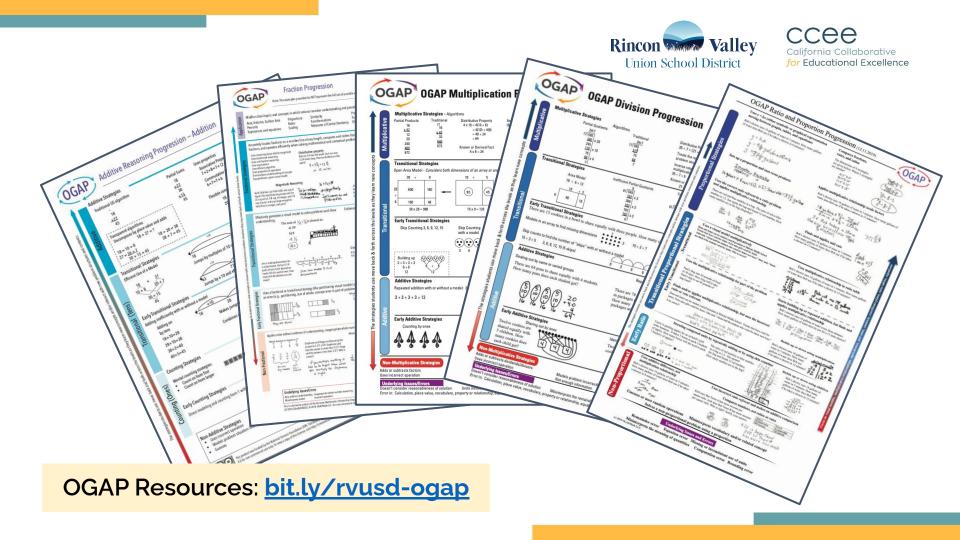
of Student
Understanding



Peer- and Self-Assessment



**Use of Evidence** 



# Measuring Improvement and Impact







## **Our Tools**



Learner Survey



Teacher Survey



Walkthrough Protocol

# **Learner Survey**

#### **Results- Beginning of Year**

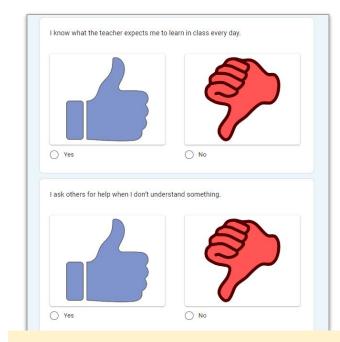
- Learners discuss multiple strategies for solving problems
- Learners do not self-assess or assess the work of their peers often

#### Results- End of Year

- **3-4**: Increased positive response in "I ask others for help," and "I can learn from my mistakes."
- 5-6: Increased positive response in "I am given opportunities to assess my work," and "I receive feedback from peers."







#### **Learner Surveys**

- Grades 3-4: bit.ly/rvusd-34survey
- Grades 5-6: <u>bit.ly/rvusd-56survey</u>

# **Teacher Survey**

#### **Results- Beginning of Year**

 Learning goals and success criteria at the starts and ends of lessons and peer/self reflection are areas with lower reported use

#### **Results- End of Year**

- Sharing learning goals with learners was more frequently reported in both fall and spring (but increased in spring).
- Responses to the peer-assessment questions show the biggest gains

Teacher Survey: bit.ly/rvusd-tsurvey





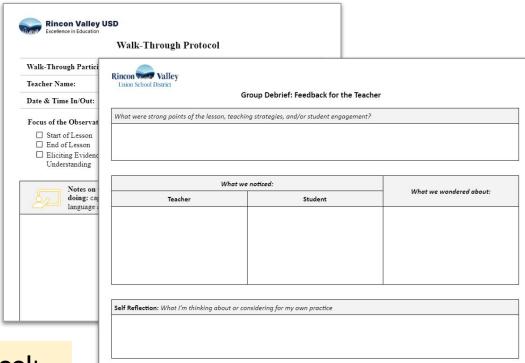
There are four sections in this survey. Each section contains statements about classroom activities. Please select how frequently you and your students engage in each activity.												
Section 1: Start	s an <mark>d E</mark> nd	s of Lesson	ıs			*						
Select how frequently you do each of the following in your classroom.												
	Never	Less than once per month	Several times per month	Several times per week	At least daily	I do not understand what the statement means						
Share learning goals (not just the activities) with students in appropriate language.	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Give students opportunities to explain or rephrase learning goals in their own words.	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Connect learning goals to important disciplinary ideas or a broader progression of	0	0	0	0	0	0						





# Walkthroughs

"In Rincon Valley, walkthroughs open the doors of classrooms so that all teachers can learn from one another and grow together in the practice of teaching. The goal of all of our work is to better serve all learners."



Walkthrough/Reflection Protocol:

bit.ly/rvusd-walkthrough





### **Teacher Action Plans**

#### The purpose of this document is three-fold:

- To record reflections, learnings, insights, and questions that might arise during any of the learning community meetings
- To track action plans over the course of the year
- 3. To note any feedback you get when you share how things have been going as you implement formative assessment practices in your classroom or to note ideas that you want to try based on what others have shared or you observed during walkthroughs



#### Oct 19 (with CfA)

Reflections on Last Month's Action Plan & Walk-Throughs. Read back through your action plan from last month. How did it go in your classroom? What worked well? What was challenging? What might you modify? What are you still pondering or thinking about from recent walk-throughs (as applicable)?

#### I tried ...

My plan was to have my students give more peer feedback. I noticed that my students more commonly give positive feedback than criticisms. They also seem to need more practice with this because they often use the same phrases when giving feedback. I need to practice using various sentence frames with them for verbal and written feedback.

Comments to remember from my peers ...

Make sure students know the vocabulary in the targets and success criteria.

#### Reflections on Starts and Ends of Lessons or the Learning Progression:

One thing that squared with my thinking ....

It made me feel good today when I realized I am doing a lot of what the instructor in the video shared with us. I have a section on my wall for Learning Intentions and I go over those learning targets and success criteria with my students. Sometimes I also shrink the success criteria down and have them put them in their journals.

One thing I am circling around in my mind ...

I liked the idea of students coming up with their own success criteria, as opposed to following a list already made.





# Our Learning - To Inform Next Steps

#### **From Teachers**

- Differentiated PD
- Walkthroughs

#### From Leaders

- Need to know how to lead it
  - Bringing professional learning to the principal team

# Spread & Scale in Rincon Valley USD







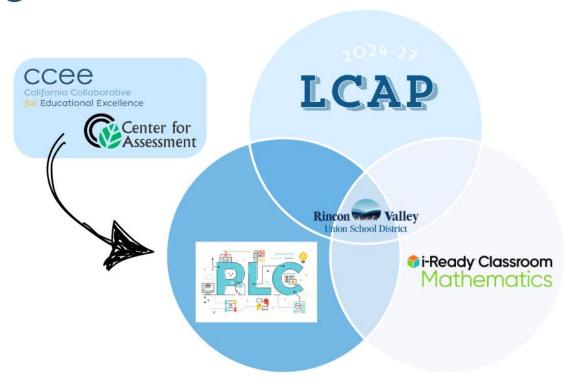
# Spread & Scale

- Aligning initiatives
- Pre-Work Data (Teacher & Leader Surveys)
- Common language and understanding of formative assessment
- Building teacher/leader capacity





# **Aligning Initiatives**



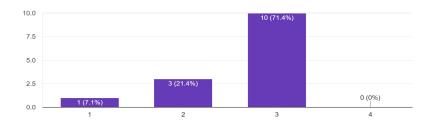




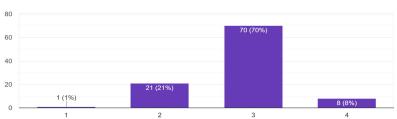
# **Knowledge of Formative Assessment**

How would you rank your level of knowledge about formative assessment?

### Principals/Leaders



#### **Teachers**



Average = 2.9

Average = 2.85

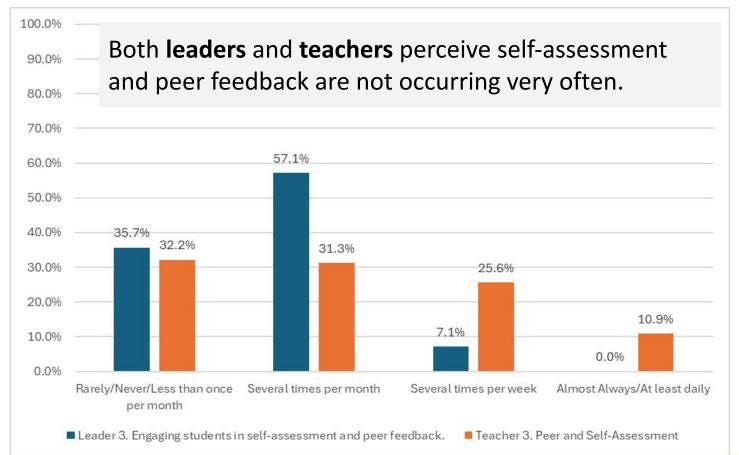
















# Summary

- Teachers and leaders have different perceptions about how frequently these sets of formative assessment practices occur.
- **Teachers** tend to report implementation of these practices are occurring *more frequently* in comparison to **leaders**.
- **Peer and self assessment** is a notable exception. Both teachers and leaders perceive or report these practices are not occurring frequently.
- Eliciting evidence of student understanding appears as a relative strength based on the teacher survey results.
- Use of evidence to provide feedback to students appears as a relative weakness (along with peer and self assessment) based on the teacher survey results.





## **Principal Meeting Dates and Times**

#### Principals Meeting with CFA Dates

#### Formative Assessment Focused PLCs

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**September 3**: 10-12

October 1: 8:30-10

October 29: 8:30-10

**November 19**: 8:30-10

**December 3**: 8:30-10

**December 17**: 8:30-9

March 11: 8:30-10

**April 8**: 8:30

#### TEACHER PLC RESOURCES

#### formative Assessment Focused PLCs

	September 2024						Day.	. (	octo	ber :	2024	Sinc.	anced)		N	over	nber	202	24	
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March 2025				March 2025 April 2025					Ξ	Ξ		Ma	y 20	25						
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23	2.4	25	7.6	27	28	29	27	28	2.9	30			10000	25	26	2.7	7.8	29	30	31

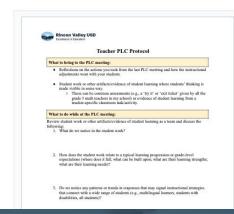
#### TEACHER PLC MEETING DATES & LENGTH

1.5 hours

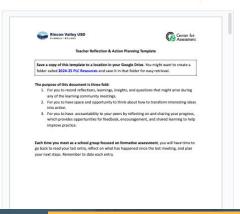
October 7 20 minutes November 4 20 minutes December 11 2 hours January 23 20 minutes February 26 2 hour March 27 20 minutes April 24 20 minutes May 5 20 minutes

September 5

#### TEACHER PLC PROTOCOL



#### TEACHER REFLECTION & ACTION PLANNING TEMPLATE









Home Readings & Resources Going Deeper: Four Formative... v Walkthrough Protocol Math Learning Progressions Teacher PLC Resources Principal PLC Resources Q

#### FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT RESOURCES

"An assessment functions formatively to the extent that evidence about student achievement is elicited, interpreted, and used by teachers, learners, or their peers to make decisions about the next steps in instruction [or learning] that are likely to be better, or better founded, than the decisions they would have made in the absence of that evidence" (p. 48).

William, D. (2018). Embedded Formative Assessment, 2nd ed. Solution Tree Press.

#### FORMATIVE

 Teachers and students can use formative assessment practices to adjust and modify their instruction or learning strategies during a unit of instruction. The feedback makes student thinking visible and occurs daily and weekly to support student learning.

#### SUMMATIVE

 Teachers can use classroom summative assessments such as end-ofunit tests to "sum up" what students have learned about a particular set of content standards to that point in time. This information is then communicated to students and parents typically using grades or other written marks.

#### **Four Formative Assessment Strategies**



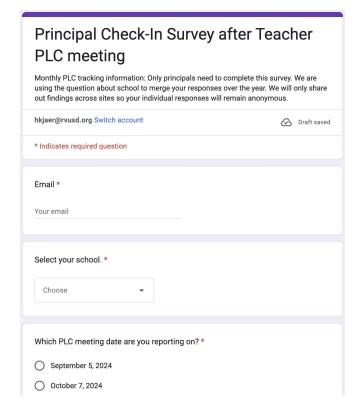




# Principal Check-In Surveys Action Planning

#### **Monthly Check-Ins**

- How many teachers attended the PLC meeting?
- How long was the formative assessment component?
- Which of the following activities were part of the formative assessment aspect of the meeting?
- How engaged were the teachers in formative assessment portion of the meeting?
- Any highlights of the meeting in terms of teacher learning or practice related to formative assessment?
- Any information that would help us better plan future meetings?







# Systems How do we achieve "buy-in"?



Alignment to current initiatives



Urgency around the current reality – an authentic "Why"



Know where people are



Anticipate & eliminate barriers



Leadership capacity, ownership, and commitment



Ongoing professional learning cycle to maintain momentum

# Balanced Assessment Systems







# **Balanced Assessment System**



MAIN PURPOSES AND USES OF ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- Evaluate Learning, School Quality (Accountability), & Policies
- Predict Learning
- Evaluate Curricula/Programs
- Inform student services & placement decisions
- Monitor/Adjust Instruction
- Inform Parents & Students about Learning Progress

STATE
(Annual state summative tests)

### DISTRICT

(Interim/Benchmark Assessments)

### **CLASSROOM**

(Formative and Summative Classroom Assessments)





# **Primary Assessment Purposes**





**Evaluation:** Making summative judgments about the value or merit of something



**Prediction:** Making a statement about a future event; signaling need for further investigation



**Diagnosis:** Identifying the cause or nature of something through deeper examination



*Instruction:* Informing the teaching and learning process

# Rincon Valley Union School District



# Use Cases for *Evaluative* Purposes

Selected Use Case	Selected Assessments
A <i>state</i> wants to hold schools accountable for student proficiency.	State summative tests
A <i>district leader</i> wants to know if school improvement efforts are working.	State and interim assessments that broadly reflect the range and depth of content
A <b>teacher</b> wants to know whether students meet the proficiency targets at the end of a course or unit of instruction.	Unit tests or end of course exams that closely reflect the classroom curriculum





## Use Cases for *Predictive* Purposes

Selected Use Case	Selected Assessments
A <b>state</b> wants to establish annual growth targets for schools to achieve long-term proficiency goals.	Multiple years of prior state test results
A <i>district leader</i> wants to know the percentage of grade 9 students who may be at-risk of dropping out.	Interim or summative state assessment that broadly reflects annual standards and expectations
A <b>teacher</b> wants to know how students will fare on the state summative test.	





# Use Cases for *Diagnostic* Purposes

Selected Use Case	Selected Assessments
A <i>school psychologist</i> wants to understand why a student struggles to pay attention.	Behavioral assessments designed to test for the presence and severity of specific behaviors.
A <i>reading specialist</i> wants to know why his/her students are struggling to comprehend what they read.	Tests of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, fluency, and/or comprehension
A <b>teacher</b> wants to pinpoint misconceptions that derailed several students on the latest math exam.	Classroom assessment targeting one or a few fine-grained skills that are essential for performing well on the math exam

# Rincon Valley Union School District



# Use Cases for *Instructional* Purposes

Selected Use Case	Selected Assessments
A <b>teacher</b> wants to know how well her students can apply what they learned in today's mini-lesson.	Targeted questioning to elicit thinking; classroom assessment; survey poll
A <b>student</b> wants feedback on his research proposal in science.	Teacher feedback; self- and peer-assessment
A <b>student</b> wants to improve her persuasive essay for the local newspaper.	Teacher feedback; self- and peer-assessment





# Instructionally Useful Assessments

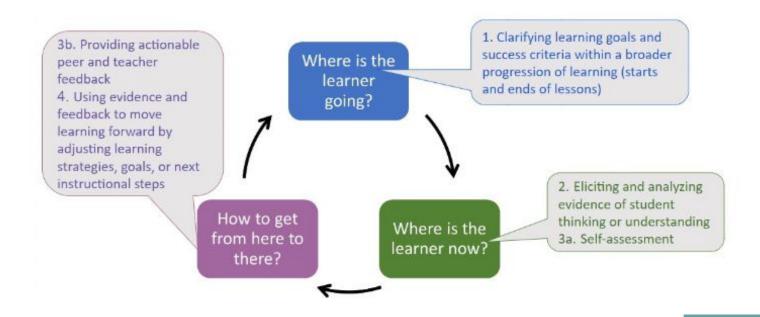
- Tied closely to the enacted curriculum
- Covers one standard or a small cluster of standards
- Open ended items or tasks that reveal student thinking
- Flexible administration and scoring conditions (teachers see student responses)
- Qualitative results that reveal student thinking
- Daily, weekly or moment by moment results





# Instructionally Useful Assessments

## **Four Formative Assessment Strategies**







## **Lessons Learned**



Data literacy *and* assessment literacy are deeply needed at all levels of the system.



Assessment systems are not balanced.



To balance assessment systems, we need courageous leaders who can set the conditions for formative assessment practices to flourish.

# Questions





- CCEE Learning Networks Resource Hub
- Data Research Learning Network (DRLN)
  - Rincon Valley USD Explore the resources from their work.
  - o DRLN Phase 1 (Planning) Brief
  - DRLN Phase 2 (Implementation) Brief
- Local Assessment System Review
   Learning Path + Tool
- Microlearning Modules









From Pilot to Practice: A Case Study of a District's Journey to Implement Formative Assessment
Practices to Improve Student Outcomes in Math

### Presenters:

- Ingrid Roberson, Senior Advisor of Research Learning, CCEE, iroberson@ccee-ca.org
- Dorcas Kong, Sr. Specialist of Executive Projects, CCEE, dkong@ccee-ca.org
- Hilary Kjaer, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Rincon Valley USD, <a href="https://hkjaer@rvusd.org">hkjaer@rvusd.org</a>
- Tasha Lopez, Continuous Improvement Specialist TOSA, Rincon Valley USD, tlopez@rvusd.org

### Resources:



### Session Slides



### Rincon Valley USD (RVUSD) Tools & Resources

- Learn more about RVUSD's Data Research Learning Network (DRLN) Innovation Idea!
- Surveys: bit.ly/rvusd-ts-surveys
  - 2023-24: Teacher & Learner (Grades 3-4 & 5-6) Surveys
  - 2024-25: Teacher, Principal, & Leader Surveys
- Walkthrough & Debrief Protocol: <u>bit.ly/rvusd-walkthrough</u>
- Formative Assessment Resources curated in partnership with the Center for Assessment
- Ongoing Assessment Project (OGAP) Resources: bit.ly/ryusd-ogap



### **Balanced Assessment System Resources**

Local Assessment System Review <u>Learning Path</u> + <u>Tool</u>

#### Other Resources

- CCEE Website: ccee-ca.org
- CCEE's Data Research Learning Network: <u>bit.ly/ccee-</u>
  - O DREN RESOURCE HUD
  - o Phase 1 (Planning) Summary Brief









# **DRLN Presentations @ CERA**

## Thursday, 11/7 (today!)

### Session 5 - Local Assessment Project 2.0

• 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM; Salon G

Session 6 - Are We Over-Testing?: Balanced
Assessment System Pilot Study to Answer
Over-Testing Hypothesis in California
Districts

2:45 PM – 4:00 PM; Salon I

## Friday, **11/8**

Session 7 - Uplifting Teacher
Practice to Accelerate Learning:
How Taft City School District is
Developing a Research-Driven
Culture For Positive Student
Outcomes

8:30 AM - 9:45 AM, Salon I