

Friday, January 23, 2015 email: PARCC Performance Level Descriptors

Hi all,

This week, we are highlighting the PARCC Performance Level Descriptors. These describe the level of performance students are expected to be able to perform the CCSS in ELA and Math on PARCC assessments. Here is the link to the PLDs.
<http://www.parcconline.org/plds> They provide the following invaluable information:

Communicate expectations to educators about what types of performances will be necessary at the high school-level for students to demonstrate that they are college- and career-ready (CCR) or making adequate progress to become CCR;

Communicate expectations to educators about what types of performance will be necessary in grades 3-8 for students to demonstrate that they are academically prepared to engage successfully in further studies in each content area;

Provide information to local educators for use in developing curricular and instructional materials;

Serve as the basis for PARCC standard setting in summer 2015; and

Inform item and rubric development for the PARCC assessments.

The descriptors range from scores of 1-5. Many people are asking what the cut off score will then be to determine "proficiency, readiness or preparedness". Will the benchmark be 3 or 4? The answer is that is yet to be set. As PARCC explains - the first round of PBA and EOY tests will · Serve as the basis for PARCC standard setting in summer 2015; and – so PARCC will be taking a wait and see approach – to see how results fall to make that determination since this is a consortium of states.

Have a great and safe weekend.

Best,

Rick