

BETTER TOGETHER: PA's Suite of K-12 Tools to Support Continuous Improvement

These free PA tools can support the work of schools and LEAs/districts throughout the Cycle of Continuous Improvement, offering data insights, assessments, materials, and evidence-based practices.

1
Set
the direction.

What are our big areas of strength? Opportunities for improvement?

- Academic Benchmarks?
- On-Track Indicators?
- College and Career?

2
Assess
needs.

Where is additional focus needed on student growth?

- Specific grades and subjects?
- Student groups?
- Students with a history of higher or lower performance?

Where is additional focus needed on achievement?

- Specific grades and subjects?
- Student groups?
- Specific standards?

3
Create
a plan.

Which evidence-based strategies should we pursue?

- What does the data tell us?
- What is needed to implement a strategy?
- What strategies best fit the school's needs?



futurereadypa.org

Provides multiple indicators of school performance

State Assessment Measures (% Proficient and Advanced; Annual Growth Expectations (PVAAS))

On-Track Measures (EL Growth and Attainment, Regular Attendance, Gr. 3 Reading, and Gr. 7 Mathematics)

College & Career Measures (Grad Rate, Career Standards Benchmark, NOCTI/NIMS, Industry Based Learning, Rigorous Courses of Study, Post-Secondary Transitions)



pvaas.sas.com

Combines achievement data with growth and student projection data, mapping students' path towards proficiency and beyond

Value-Added Reporting by district, school, student group, teacher

Student Reporting (State Assessments, Local Assessments; Student Projections to state assessments, AP, SAT, ACT, SAT; ACCESS for ELLs; across schools, LEAs, and years)

Projection Summary Reporting Scatterplots



pa.emetric.net/login

Houses all state assessment data with detailed achievement data at the district, school, and student levels

PSSA (Scale Scores & Performance Levels, Reporting Categories & Anchors, Individual Student, Cohort Comparison, Matched Comparison)

PASA (Scale Scores & Performance Levels, Individual Student Performance)

Keystone (Scale scores & Performance Levels, Best Score to Date, Individual & Longitudinal, Feeder & Retester Reports)



evidenceforpa.org

Evidence-based strategies, activities, and interventions with supporting research and demonstrated outcomes

PA Priority Topics (Future Ready Pa Indicators, PA Essential Practices for Schools, Staff, and Student Wellness)

Implementation Details (Cost/Budget, Staffing, Technology & Materials, Professional Development)

Note: List not comprehensive or exclusive.

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Pennsylvania
Department of Education



www.pa.gov/en/agencies/education.html



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(Continued from reverse)

For additional information about these and other PDE resources for PA's schools and LEAs/Districts, visit www.pa.gov/en/agencies/education.html.

ELA: Gr. 3-8, Reading; Keystone Literature (Writing added SY2025-2026)
Math: Gr. 3-8, Keystone Algebra I
Science: Gr. 5, 8, and Keystone Biology added SY2025-26
In SY2025-26, anticipate availability from fall through a few weeks before state assessment windows



tinyurl.com/PAFirefly
An interim benchmark assessment providing a prediction of how students may perform on the PSSA or Keystone assessment*
*Predictions added after SY2024-25

Reading: Grades 3-5, 6-HS
Writing: Grades 3-5, 6-HS
Mathematics: Grades 3-5, 6-8, Algebra I and II, Geometry
Science: Grades 3-5, 6-HS, Biology, Chemistry

CLASSROOM DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS
tinyurl.com/PACDTResources
A set of online assessments that measure specific academic strengths and areas of need in order to guide instruction

Resources in Key Areas:
 Standards
 SAS Assessment Center
 Curriculum Framework
 Instruction
 Materials & Resources
 Safe & Supportive Schools
 Professional Development Center



pdesas.org
Providing resources for standards-based systems in schools and LEAs/Districts

What adjustments must be made to meet our changing needs?

- What have we learned from the implementation and monitoring work?
- What does the data tell us?
- Where and how should the plan be adjusted?

6
Adjust
the course.

Are students on track to meet their goals?

- What does the data tell us about each student's path to proficiency or higher?
- On the PSSA and/or Keystone Exams?

5
Monitor
the plan.

Which standards or reporting categories point to a need for differentiated instruction?

- What does the data tell us?
- Academic standards?
- Reporting categories?

4
Implement
the plan.

How can we support the use of our strategies?

- What information is needed regarding curriculum, assessment, and instruction?
- What professional learning is needed and available for staff?
- What material and resources are needed and how can they be utilized?