Informational /Issues Update (State/Federal/County/Committees)

CDE Updates:

- Professional Development Modules should be ready on the Brokers of Expertise webpage in the very near future. Modules include:
    - Informational Text Reading
    - Writing to Inform, Argue, and Analyze
    - Assessment Literacy
- Basal Alignment Project can be found at www.edmodo.com with the group code etuyrm. Rewritten CCSS-type questions for the most popular publishers are posted for free. Treasures, HM Medallion and Imagine It selections are addressed.
- Updated CDE resource page for Common Core has arrived. Audience-specific resources are available through clicking appropriate tabs. We anticipate a draft of the state's assessment plan to be posted shortly.
- Common Core Implementation Video Series
    Produced by the Hunt Institute and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), this series of video vignettes explain the standards in greater depth.
- ASCD "Get to the Core" Webinar Series
    A series of webinars on the CCSS to assist educators on the implementation of the CCSS, produced by ASCD, a nonprofit educational leadership organization dedicated to advancing best practices and policies for the success of each learner.
- The Common Core State Standards: Supporting Districts and Teachers with Text Complexity
    A webinar hosted by the CCSSO on sharing tools and resources to support teachers and districts with text complexity, the linchpin of the CCSS.
- History Blueprint (**New** 11-Oct-2012)
    This site offers curricula, aligned with both the California Content Standards for History-Social Science and the CCSS for Literacy in History/Social Studies, developed by the History Blueprint Team at the California History-Social Science Project. Lessons combine historical investigation, carefully selected primary sources, activities to strengthen reading and writing, and practice evaluating arguments based on historical evidence.

Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) (taken from sbac@cde.ca.gov)

- **Sample Items and Performance Tasks Released—** The Smarter Balanced sample items and performance tasks were released on Tuesday, October 9. In less than a week, more than 45,000 people visited the website. Public interest has been high, as indicated by numerous articles, blog posts, and a high volume of social-media activity. The sample assessment items and performance tasks can be viewed on the Smarter Balanced website at http://www.smarterbalanced.org/sample-items-and-performance-tasks/. You are encouraged to read through these sample items. Please note the evidentiary requirements, plus the technology moves that students will need to employ.

    The sample items and performance tasks illustrate the rigor and complexity of the English language arts (ELA)/literacy and mathematics items and performance tasks students will encounter on the SBAC assessments. They also signal to educators the shifts in instruction that will be required to help students meet the demands of the Common Core and the new assessments. It is important to note that the sample items and tasks will be presented in an online portal that does not include accessibility tools and accommodations options under development for the operational assessment system in the 2014-15 school year. Over the next several months—guided by the SBAC's Accessibility and Accommodations Work Group and advisory committees for English language learners and students with disabilities—SBAC will finalize the accessibility tools and accommodations options available through the test delivery

system.

- Additional information on Assessment can be found under the Regional Network Meeting Sept 20ᵗʰ. Districts have been approached to participate in trial testing this fall.   California Districts Selected for SBAC Small Scale Trials— California districts that were randomly selected for SBAC Small Scale Trials can be found at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/sbacschools2012.asp.
- Upcoming Support Available Soon
    - Sample Items
    - Anchor papers
    - Teacher Training
    - Draft Achievement Level Descriptors
- *Q: How long will it take students to complete the Smarter Balanced summative assessment?*   A: The length of the summative assessment has not yet been decided. This fall, Governing States will be asked to review and approve the summative assessment design, which encompasses test length, reporting categories, and the test blueprint. Test length is influenced by several factors, including the amount of content that the test assesses. The Common Core ELA/literacy standards cover writing and speaking and listening. This represents a much broader range of content than most statewide reading assessments cover today. Smarter Balanced will assess the depth and breadth of the Common Core to provide a richer picture of student achievement. In addition, the summative assessment is made up of the computer adaptive test (CAT) and performance tasks that are delivered by computer but are not adaptive. Computer adaptive testing is more efficient than fixed-form tests, requiring fewer questions to produce a more accurate picture of a student's strengths and weaknesses. Performance tasks—which may require one to two class periods to complete—will be used to better measure capacities such as depth of understanding, research skills, and complex analysis, which cannot be adequately assessed with selected- or constructed-response items. The length of both of these components will determine the overall test length.

Transitional Kindergarten
- State Transitional Kindergarten webpage http://www.tkcalifornia.org/ address multiple audiences and a roadmap for implementation. Resources, tools, and video clips are available for teachers, administrators and parents.
    - Topics include:
        - Classroom & Instructional Planning
        - Social-Emotional Development
        - English Language Arts
        - Mathematics
        - English Language Development
        - Family Engagement
- ***Top 5 Ways to Prepare Your Child for Transitional Kindergarten*** (from tkcalifornia.org)
    1. Read, read, read! Read to your child daily to build their vocabulary and prepare them for read-aloud activities in the classroom.
    2. Talk with child about starting school and convey your excitement about all the wonderful things they will learn and the fun activities they will enjoy.
    3. Visit the school with your child and play on the playground so they are familiar, and more comfortable with, the school site.
    4. Play board games with your child so they can practice taking turns and following directions.
    5. Work with your child to practice opening and closing their lunch containers, using the bathroom and asking for help when needed.
- The TK Task Force will meet after every curriculum council meeting at 2:30 for administrator/program support and then all TK teachers are invited to attend a TK Network meeting from 3:15-4:00. This will provide the teachers with an opportunity to work with other TK teachers in our county and allow them to share best practices and have a time to problem solve implementation concerns at the teacher level. After our first meeting, TK teachers were excited to share their successes and were able to learn about potential solutions to their challenges of the beginning of the school year. All TK staff is encouraged to attend. First 5 will be available to provide support for future training opportunities at little or no cost to staff. All information on TK

can be found at the MCOE webpage for Transitional Kindergarten. http://www.monterey.k12.ca.us/ed-services/transistional-kindergarten

Calendar Review (Trainings/Events/Due Dates)

- ☐ **Transitional Kindergarten Task Force**
  - o 2:30pm **today** in Room D
  - o Topics of discussion: Informal assessment (DRDP-SR), additional updates
  - o Teacher Networking opportunities begin at 3:15-4:00

- ☐ **Advanced GRR with Doug Fisher**
  - o Dec 13,2012; Feb 22, 2013
  - o OMS link http://monterey.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?id=59471

- ☐ **CCSS Leadership Team Network Regional Meetings**
  - **See flyer!!**
  - o 4-6 pm at various locations throughout Monterey County
  - o ***Participants <u>must</u> bring laptop or tablet as all documents and interactions will be electronic!!***
  - o Nov 5th @ Soledad – Math Implementation Strategies
  - o Nov 7th @ MPUSD/IMC – Text Complexity
  - o Nov 8th @ MCOE – Integration of Technology in CCSS
  - o Dec 10th @ Soledad – Text Complexity
  - o Dec 13th @ MPUSD/IMC – Informational Writing

- ☐ **Additional CCSS Training Available**
  - o Informational Text
  - o Collaboration, Use of Media, and Research
  - o Text Complexity
  - o CCSS Writing
  - o Opinion Writing
  - o Discussion-Based Classrooms
  - o Contact Cathy Cranson for more information