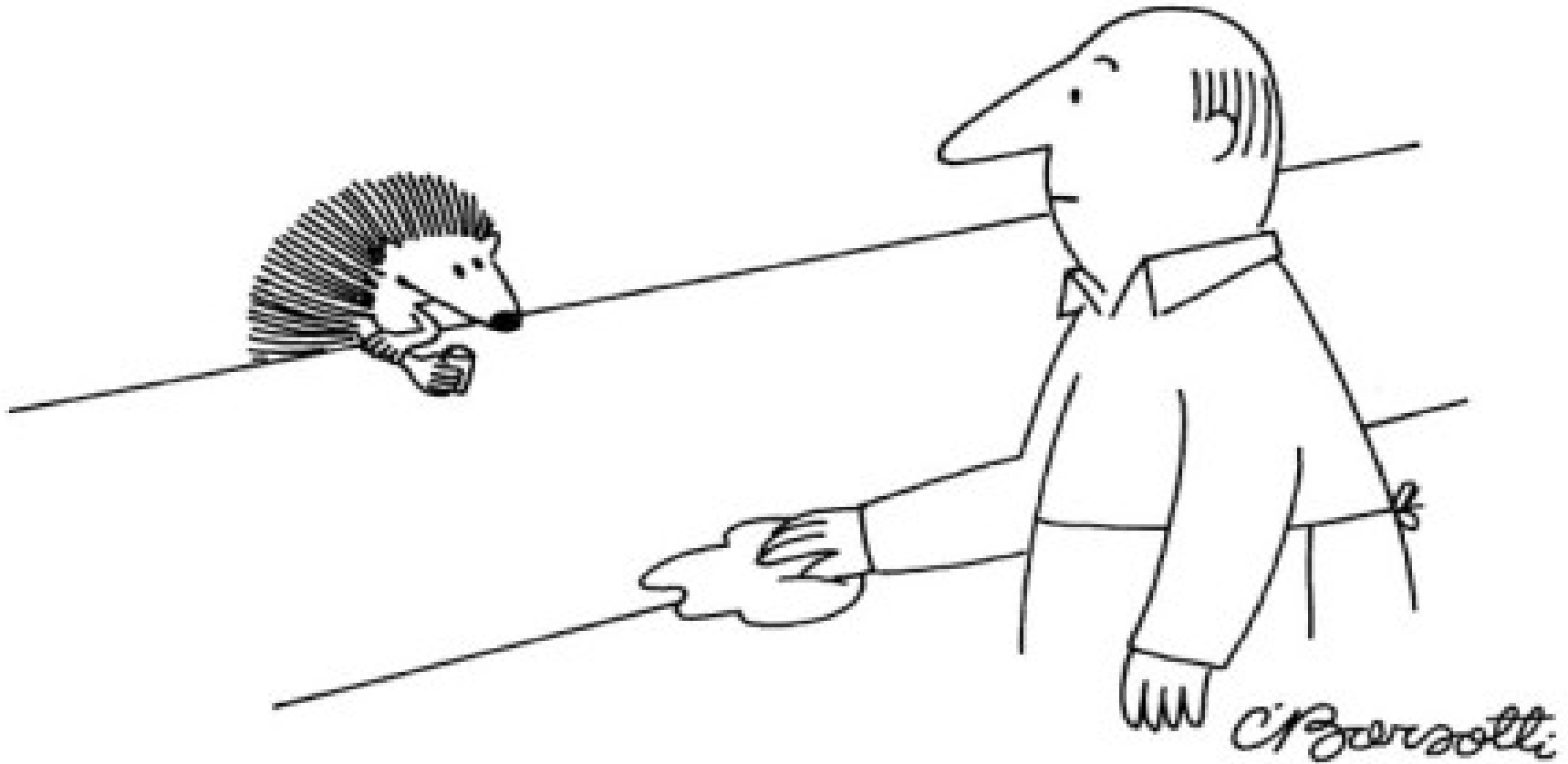


College Work Readiness Assessment

A Program Evaluation

The Logic Model Flow





“They say, ‘The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one great thing.’ Want to hear it?”

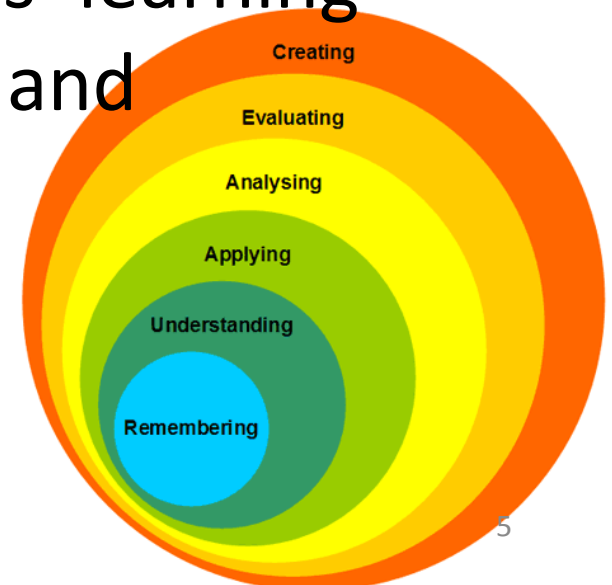
Continuous Improvement



- The Framework for Quality Learning has been in place for nearly a decade.
- *Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Institute* (CAI) has focused on Curricula in the past.
- In most recent years, CAI learning and vertical teamwork have focused on balancing our assessment philosophy & practices with performance tasks.

Continuous Improvement

- Our teachers and coaches are developing division level performance tasks related to content.
- How do we take an externally valid and reliable snapshot of our students' learning that goes beyond remembering and understanding?
- **New Bloom's Taxonomy**



Continuous Improvement



- How do we catalyze the teaching and learning process to produce results that lead to college, workforce, and citizenship readiness?
- How do we weigh the value our high school programs add with a scale that matters?
- How do we do this work without replicating the SOL testing program?

How do we emphasize “21st Century Skills?”

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- To successfully face rigorous higher education coursework, career challenges and a globally competitive workforce, U.S. schools must align classroom environments with real world environments by fusing the 3Rs and 4Cs:
- The 3Rs include: English, reading or language arts; mathematics; science; foreign languages; civics; government; economics; arts; history; and geography.
- The 4Cs include: (1) critical thinking and problem solving; (2) communication, (3) collaboration; and (4)creativity and innovation.

How do we emphasize 21st Century Skills?

- To get the word out to about the “3Rs + 4Cs” approach, P21 and FableVision partnered to produce a short, animated film called Above & Beyond. Enjoy & share, so we can help ALL our students flourish in the 21st century.

Above And Beyond

ACPS School Board Priorities

- **1.1** Develop Lifelong-Learner (LLL) competencies in all students.
- **2.1** Prepare and assess all students for citizenship/workforce/college readiness.
- **4.3** Assemble a collection of rigorous performance indicators and recognized benchmarks that define a world-class educational system.
- **5.1** Evaluate and value instructional programs and operational departments.

College Work Readiness Assessment (CWRA)

- An assessment that tests high school students on their 21st century skills of critical thinking, analytic reasoning, problem solving, and written communication.
- Skills that are necessary in work and college environments in the 21st century.
- Tests are completed online in a proctor format and are suggested for freshmen and seniors in high school.

CWRA Background

- [Council for Aid to Education](#)
- [Description, Participation, and FAQ](#)
- [Teaching to a Test Worth Teaching To](#)
- [Assessing Critical Thinking, Analytical Reasoning, Problem-Solving and Writing in High School](#)
- [Sample Report](#)

Project Timeline

Phase	Time
K-12 Principal Awareness	Spring 2011
Cross-Curricular Vertical Team Training	Fall 2011
ACPS Senior Pilot Assessment	Spring 2012
Results Reported	Late Summer 2012
ACPS High School Assessment: 9 th Graders	Fall 2012
ACPS High School Assessment: 12 th Graders	Spring 2013
Results Reported	Late Summer 2013
Results Studied	Fall 2013
Action Steps Planned	Fall & Spring 2013 – 14
School and Department Improvement Planning & Doing	2014 – 2016
Repeat the Assessment Cycle 9 th and 12 th Graders	2015 - 2016

ACPS Small Pilot Study

40 Students, Early Spring 2012

- Jennifer Sublette worked with the High School Principals and CATEC Director to Identify a diverse pool of 40 students from all four high schools and CATEC.
 - We drew from a variety of places in the school populations.
 - The students volunteered.
- 18 males
 - 22 females
 - 36 English as primary language
 - 2 Native Americans
 - 1 Asian
 - 9 African Americans
 - 2 Latino
 - 24 White
 - 26 with parent(s) with college degrees

ACPS Small Pilot Study

- Bonnie Pendleton and Ian Davidson set up the testing session at AHS for the morning of February 28.
- The test is timed for 90 minutes.
- They completed a variety of tasks with a common rubric.
- Instructional coaches who had attended the CWRA Performance Task Academy during the winter debriefed with the students.

ACPS Small Pilot Study

CLA/CWRA Demo

ACPS Small Pilot Study

What did our students say about the experience?

I think it's important that that there is no one right answer...you can answer as long as you back it up...



ACPS Small Pilot Study

What did our students say about the experience?

“That this was what this test was assessing. We were given a unique situation, given information about the situation, and then we had to make a decision that reflected best on what the documents showed, but also how we felt about it. So it was a combination of both our critical thinking, and information synthesis, and compilation.”



ACPS Small Pilot Study

What did our students say about the experience?

“Because it was a test and it is trying to assesses something, it was tailored...and the documents were tailored, towards, not maybe a single desired correct answer, but a grouping of answers...”



ACPS Small Pilot Study

- Student Comment from CWRA site:

"The test itself presented us with questions regarding several documents (about 11). In order to answer the questions in full, I had to read all the documents. The questions required comparing and contrasting the contents of the documents. The test demanded a fair amount of reading and comprehending, but above all, I had to critically think to answer the questions in the given time of 90 minutes."

CWRA Reports

- Three perspectives are offered:
 1. College Readiness
 2. Comparison of high school seniors across participating CWRA schools
 3. Effect Sizes



3.1

College Readiness: Comparisons to Freshman Samples at CLA Colleges and Universities

	Student Count	Mean EAA Score	Expected Mean CWRA Score	Observed Mean CWRA Score	Unadjusted Percentile Rank	Deviation Score	Adjusted Percentile Rank	Performance Level
Your Seniors	37	1109	1097	1149	84	0.97	82	Near
	School Count	25th Percentile CWRA Score	75th Percentile CWRA Score	Mean CWRA Score				
CLA Colleges Testing Freshmen	169	985	1117	1048				

3.2

Comparisons to Senior Samples at CWRA High Schools

	Student Count	Mean SLE Score	SLE Decile Rank	Expected Mean CWRA Score	Observed Mean CWRA Score	Unadjusted Decile Rank	Deviation Score	Adjusted Decile Rank
Your Seniors	40	24	7	1129	1149	7	0.26	7
CWRA Schools Testing Seniors	92	22			1081			

3.3

Effect Sizes and Sample Sizes

A

	Student Count	25th Percentile	75th Percentile	Mean CWRA Score	Standard Deviation	Effect Size vs. Freshmen
Your Seniors	40	947	1314	1149	217	N/A
Your Juniors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Your Sophomores	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Your Freshmen	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

B

	Student Count	25th Percentile	75th Percentile	Mean CWRA Score	Standard Deviation	Median Effect Size vs. Freshmen
All Seniors	6150	940	1239	1087	201	0.82
All Juniors	4820	887	1143	1019	179	0.81
All Sophomores	401	803	1095	954	207	0.27
All Freshmen	7146	839	1109	987	183	

Effect Size / Value Added

- An effect size is an expression of the ratio of score variance in the treatment group to chance score variance within the control group.
- In this case, the “treatment” is a high school 4-year program.

Treatment Group / Control Group

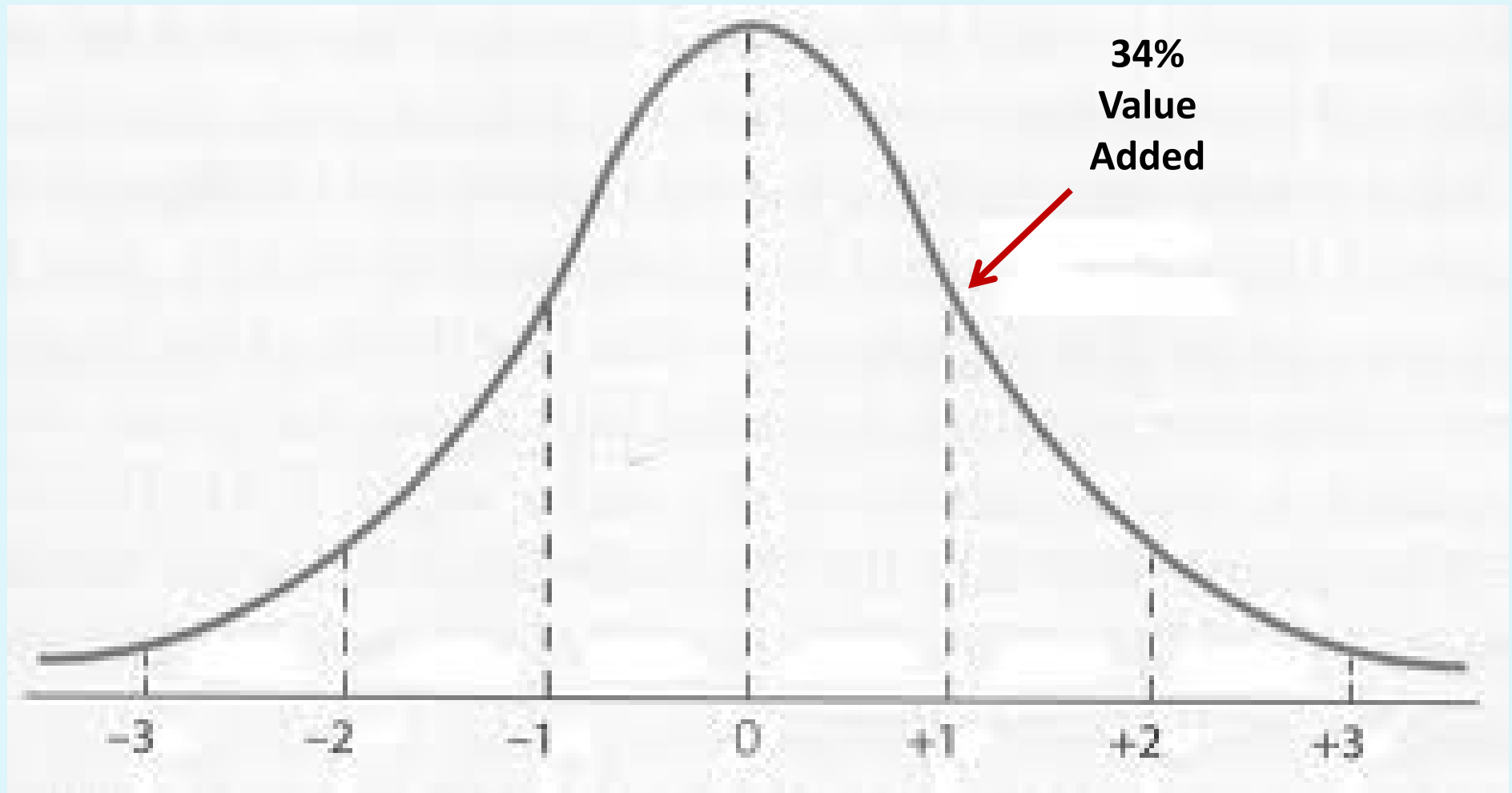
Effect Size / Value Added

Senior Mean Score – Freshmen Mean Score

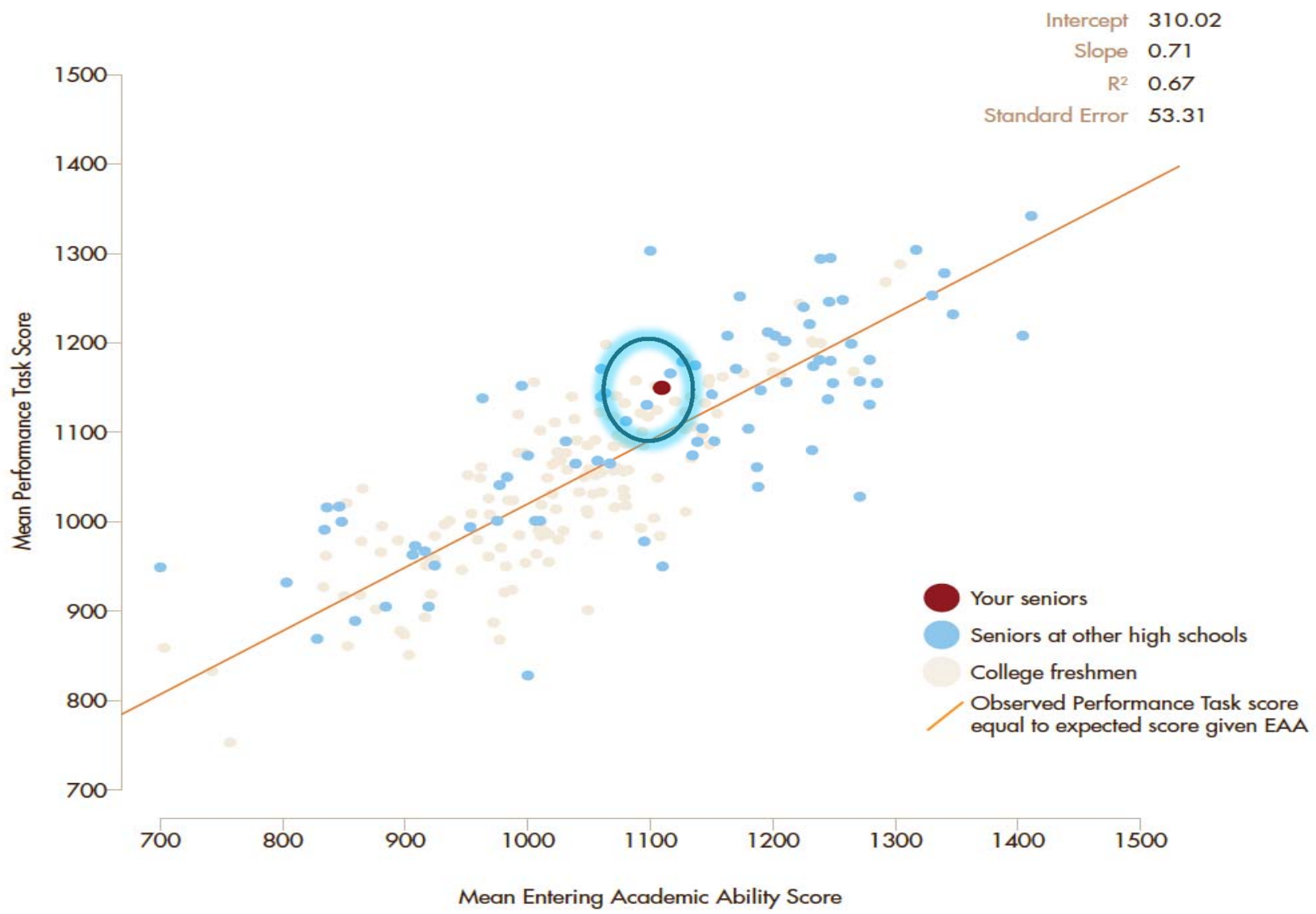
Standard Deviation for Freshmen

- The result is expressed in standard deviation units.

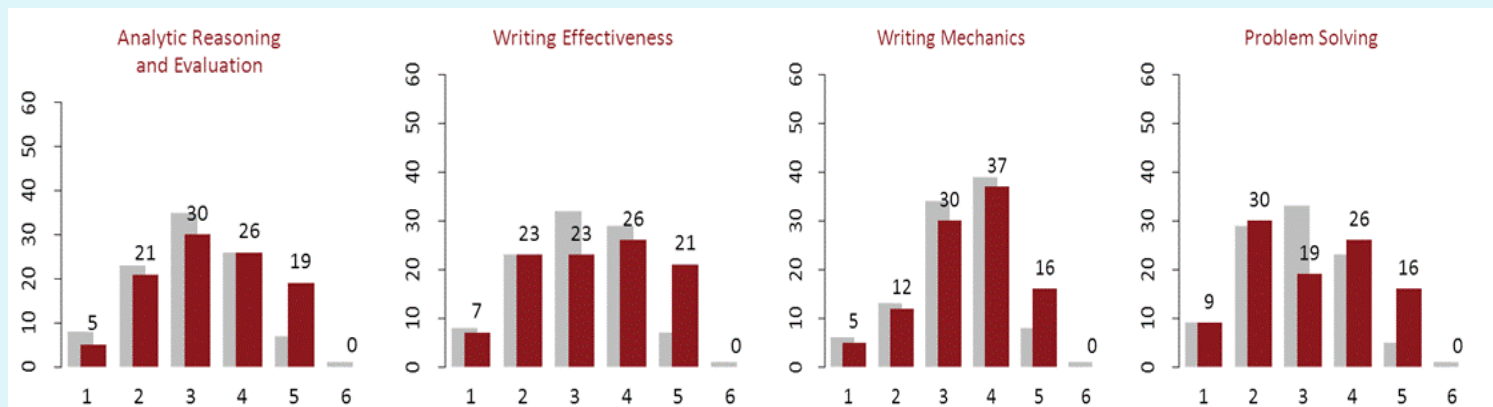
Effect Size / Value Added



3.5 CWRA Performance vs. Entering Academic Ability (EAA)



AHS Seniors' Distribution of Subscores



	Analytic Reasoning & Evaluation		Writing Effectiveness			Writing Mechanics			Problem Solving	
	Your School	All Schools	Your School	All Schools		Your School	All Schools		Your School	All Schools
Mean	3.3	3	3.3	3		3.5	3.3		3.1	2.9
Standard Deviation	1.1	0.9	1.2	0.9		1.1	0.9		1.3	0.9

Plan for 2012-13

Grade Level	Testing Period
335 9 th Graders (100 from each comprehensive high school & full Murray Class)	Fall 2012
325 12 th Graders (100 from each comprehensive high school & full Murray Class)	Spring 2013

Plan for 2012-13

- We will look for a combination random / stratified sample to include enrollment groups. *Entering Academic Ability* and the *Scholastic Level Exam* offer control.
- The test takes 1.5 hours. We are targeting dates outside of other testing windows.
- Small groups of participants allow for non-instructional personnel (coaches & central office staff) to proctor.
- The test is a turnkey operation.

Outputs & Outcome

- The outputs of the testing year will include all the reports seen here plus student data for analysis. This should be a data mine to harvest for insights.
- Outcomes will result from each school and division-wide study of our reports, using the PDSA Study Questions: [PDSA Wheel](#)
- We will analyze the data for gaps between our current and desired states and develop school improvement and departmental goals and plans to address these gaps for re-assessment in 2015 – 16.

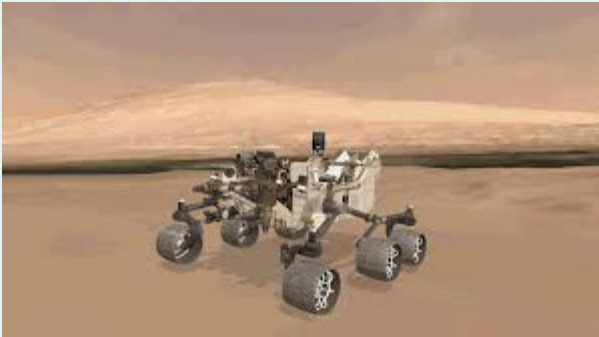
Impact: Measuring Learning Beyond the SOL's

- **1.1** Develop Lifelong-Learner (LLL) competencies in all students.
- **2.1** Prepare and assess all students for citizenship/workforce/college readiness.
- **4.3** Assemble a collection of rigorous performance indicators and recognized benchmarks that define a world-class educational system.
- **5.1** Evaluate and value instructional programs and operational departments.

1.1 Develop Lifelong-Learner (LLL) competencies in all students.

- The CWRA can function as a cross-curricular assessment that informs changes in instruction to address the demands of the assessment.
- In this way, it serves as an authentic capstone for the content and LLLS focused performance tasks we are developing as a division.

2.1 Prepare and assess all students for citizenship/workforce/college readiness.



CWRA: sampling 9th and 12th Graders Every Three Years.
Institutional Focus

PSAT: all 10th and 11th Graders. **Student Focus**. AP Exams. **Institutional & Student Focus** MAP testing with middle school students. **Student & Institutional Focus**

SOL Testing Program: all students 3-11, every year, with End of Course Testing for High School Students. MAP testing with middle school students. **Student & Institutional Focus**



4.3 Assemble a collection of rigorous performance indicators and recognized benchmarks that define a world-class educational system.

- Three perspectives are offered & all three of these perspectives are based on national comparisons on a leveled playing field.
 1. College Readiness: our seniors / national college freshmen
 2. Comparison of high school seniors across participating CWRA schools
 3. Effect Sizes: our institutional value-added vs. national sample value added

5.1 Evaluate and value instructional programs and operational departments.

- CWRA helps us evaluate our k-12 outcomes based on what we say matters to us. The assessment is aligned to our Life Long Learner Competencies and the 4 C's.
- CWRA provides a catalyst for continued transformation of instruction & potential for division-wide CWRA in-house benchmarks at 4th & 7th grade.

College Work Readiness Assessment

A Program Evaluation