The Power of Assessment Webinar Series
Module #4

Thoughtful Assessment Choices

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In partnership with the IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

IN THE END, YOU WILL...

• examine how you currently make assessment decisions and reflect on some common assessment misrules.

• be able to identify the circumstances/conditions under which specific assessment methods are most appropriate.

• begin thinking about the possibility of reorganizing your summative assessments (tests) by standards instead of question type.

Misrules of Assessment

1. “We should only use rubrics & authentic assessments! Multiple choice is a thing of the past!”
   - Thoughtful assessment choices that lead to the most effective (and efficient) match with the standards we’re assessing.

2. “Students need to write paragraphs or essays to get at deeper understandings and proficiency.”
   - Paragraphs/Essays don’t guarantee a check for deeper understanding if our questions ask for simple recall.

3. “Having students demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways is just a way of lowering standards.”
   - Focus on the meeting of standards and authentic evidence rather than assessment format.

Thoughtful Assessment Choices
Under what circumstances or conditions would each of the following assessment methods be most appropriate?

- **Short-Form Assessment**
- **Paragraph Essay**
- **Performance Assessment**

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Reorganizing Summative Assessments (Tests)

**What if by STANDARDS?**

- **PART A**: Standards 1 & 2
  - Short - Paragraph - Visual - Essay?
- **PART B**: Standards 3 & 4
  - Short - Paragraph - Visual - Essay?
- **PART C**: Standards 5, 6, & 7
  - Short - Paragraph - Visual - Essay?
- **PART D**: Standards 8 & 9
  - Short - Paragraph - Visual - Essay?

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Questions/Connections...

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