MEANINGFUL ASSESSMENTS

Assessments measure a student’s knowledge and skills at a single point in time. They are indicators, along with report cards, teacher feedback, and classroom work, that show a student’s progress.

Formative
Activities that assess, and provide immediate feedback on, the learning process. They are often embedded in classroom activities.

Summative
Evaluation that takes place after instruction to measure total student growth in a particular subject or skill area.

Qualities of Meaningful Assessments

- Aligned with the learning standards on which each student is working.
- Match the language and practices of an educator’s chosen curriculum.
- Demonstrate how a student is progressing and if they are on track to meet goals.
- Help educators better direct additional help or accelerated learning.
- Help schools and districts continuously improve.

- Are universally designed for accessibility.
- Provide real-time feedback so that changes to instruction and resources can be made immediately.
- Ask students to show their work, write, and explain their answers.
- Provide students opportunities to demonstrate what they know in multiple ways.
- Require students to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world situations.

Measuring Skills in High-Demand—The 4C’s

The 4C’s are high-demand skills that are cultivated over the course of a student’s K-12 experience. Meaningful assessments track progress in the development of these skills. Students with the 4C’s are well-positioned for success after high-school.

Critical Thinking
Collaboration
Communication
Creativity

Performance Assessment of Competency Education

PACE is a locally designed assessment program in NH. This pilot program has been nationally recognized because it eliminates “teaching to the test” and instead, fosters a culture of learning.

Learn More! www.reachinghighernh.org/standards

Reach Higher NH is a nonpartisan 501c3 public education policy resource for NH parents, educators, and elected officials. Our mission is to support high-quality public education and the infinite potential of every child in New Hampshire.