



# Illinois State Board of Education

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State Superintendent of Education

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## ***Two-minute Elevator Speech: PARCC***

*August 2013*

*Division of Public Information, Illinois State Board of Education*

- New assessments are being developed as districts and schools continue implementation of the new Illinois Learning Standards, incorporating the Common Core.
- Illinois is one of 18 states serving on the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers' Governing Board, which is providing leadership and oversight to the development of new assessments for use by states that have adopted the Common Core State Standards.
- In all, PARCC has 19 member states coming together to create a high quality assessment system to be ready for the 2014-15 school year.
- The assessments will go beyond the traditional paper-pencil, fill-in-the-bubble tests, using new, innovative technology-enhanced items.
- Current state tests do not measure the ability of students to think critically and apply their knowledge. The new assessments will ask students to answer a variety of types of questions, show their work and explain their reasoning.
- The alignment between curriculum, instruction and assessment will be stronger than current state tests for elementary students. The new assessment system aims to help increase the number of graduating students ready to succeed in college and the work force.