



Using Data for Instructional Improvement

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Discussant Topics



- Step 1: Make sure the use of the data matches the purpose of the test
- Step 2: Help teachers and parents interpret the data and information accurately
- Step 3: Train on determining next steps

Even the best data in the world can be unhelpful if teachers, parents, and students don't know what to do with it!

Data + Purpose



- See a lot of folks trying to get diagnostic data from accountability tests
- Some tests give better student level data than others
- Some tests should really only be used for big picture conclusions
- Consider balanced system with summative, interim, and formative assessments

Interpret Data



- Teachers, administrators, students, and parents need to be able to interpret data accurately
 - What does it mean?
 - What does it NOT mean?
 - What can we learn?
 - What are the limitations?

Next Steps



- Not good enough for data to say that Johnny doesn't understand fractions
- Ideally, diagnostic data will go deeper
- Regardless, curricular supports need to be in place to help teachers provide appropriate remedial instruction

State Role

- Professional development
 - Develop it
 - Fund it
 - Provide it
- Toolkits
 - Provide resources
 - Show best practices
- Facilitate collaboration
 - Join districts that are working toward similar purposes
 - Develop statewide website of resources

