



## Year in Review 2014–2015

### ABOUT THE MAC

Michigan Assessment Consortium—also known as The MAC—is a professional association of educators who believe quality education depends on accurate, balanced, meaningful assessment. As a mission-driven, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, the MAC is focused on providing leadership and service in Michigan on the topic of quality, balanced assessment practices and systems. MAC members work with educators throughout the state to advance assessment literacy and excellence with shared standards, advocacy, and education.

### MISSION

The mission of the MAC is to improve student learning and achievement through a system of coherent curriculum, balanced assessment and effective instruction. We do this by collaboratively:

- Promoting assessment knowledge and practice
- Providing professional learning opportunities
- Providing and sharing assessment tools and resources

### ASSESSMENT RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The MAC creates tools and resources that improve and enhance the quality of available assessments in the state of Michigan.

#### Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Program

MAEIA is creating resources commissioned by the MDE for Michigan schools. The MAC develops these resources with Michigan arts educators in partnership with Data Recognition Corporation. All MAEIA resources are intended for voluntary use.



#### Instructional Program Blueprint

The Blueprint is a description of gold-standard arts education programs. It is supported by a compendium of **Research and Recommendations** reflecting four disciplines: music, theatre, dance, and visual arts.

#### Program Review Tool

This self-study tool was developed and field-tested by buildings and districts 2014. Results from the Program Review Tool can actively inform school improvement plans.

#### Catalog of Inventory

MAEIA is developing a catalog of more than 300 Model Arts Performance Assessments for grades K–12 and for all four arts disciplines.

#### Performance Tasks and Events

Curriculum-embedded performance assessments, intended for use throughout the year, become part of teachers' instructional plans for music, visual arts, theater, and dance. They will be field-tested in 2015–16. Field test participation qualifies as superior arts assessment professional learning. Interested K–8 educators may register at: **surveymonkey.com/s/5P3NV5N**. High-school educators may register at: **surveymonkey.com/s/HS2015-16**

### MAEIA IN ACTION

26,000 students were scheduled to try out a high school MAEIA Model Performance Assessment during the 2014–15 academic year. One teacher said, "I recently had the opportunity to field test the Music Event on Self Evaluation. The directions were clear, the rubrics were easy to follow and the students were fully engaged in the activity. I even stretched the parameters of the field test by giving it to 140 middle school orchestra students this morning ... with remarkable results! The structure of the event allowed the younger students just enough guidance to produce thoughtful, detailed critique/analysis of their own performance." —Catherine DePentu



### MAEIA in National Spotlight

In July 2014 the National Endowment for the Arts and State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education invited the MAC to present the Michigan work in Washington, D.C. This work will be featured in a forthcoming book, *Arts Assessment in an Age of Accountability: Challenges and Opportunities in Implementation, Design, and Measurement* (Schuler & Brophy, 2016).

In June 2015, Michigan and Tennessee team up to lead a conference presentation about the use of performance assessment in the arts and educator effectiveness at the Council of Chief State School Officers National Conference on Student Assessment. The discussant will be Stuart Kahl, founder of Measured Progress and co-author of *Re-Balancing Assessment: Placing Formative and Performance Assessment at the Heart of Learning and Accountability*.



### Take it from the Teachers

MI Arts educators are excited about the MAEIA resources. Hear it straight from them in these 3- to 4-minute videos:

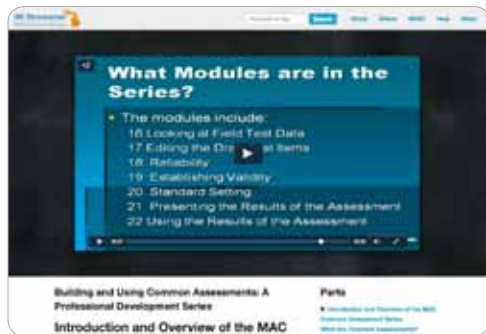
- |                |                     |                    |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Music</b>   | vimeo.com/107854251 | <b>Dance</b>       | vimeo.com/107854247 |
| <b>Theatre</b> | vimeo.com/107911505 | <b>Visual Arts</b> | vimeo.com/107854255 |

## ASSESSMENT RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

### Online Courses and Resources

#### Common Assessment Development Modules

The purpose of the series is to guide educators through the process of building and using common assessments. Each module is a video with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation, script, and sample exercises. Wayne RESA has formatted the modules to be available for SCECH's **Common Assessment Development Series\***.



#### Assessment In Your Classroom

This online course through Wayne RESA combines four MAC videoconferences featuring:

- Rick Stiggins on balanced assessment and how to create balanced assessment systems
- Carol Commodore on the link between student motivation and assessment
- Sara Bryant defining formative assessment

#### Assessment in Your Classroom EV0001 via MI Streamnet\*.

#### Assessment Literacy Q & A

Rick Stiggins sat down with MAC members to respond to five questions about assessment literacy. 14-minute video: [vimeo.com/97668950](https://vimeo.com/97668950)

#### Revolutionize Assessment: Empower Students, Inspire Learning

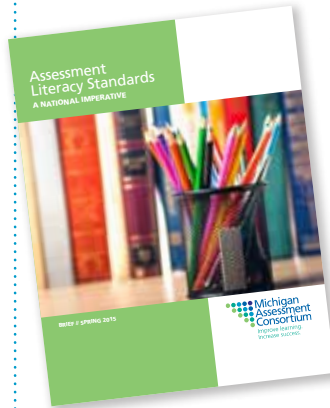
This webinar was delivered in March 2015 for MI educators participating in the first MAC Reads! Book study. **MAC Reads! Stiggins Webinar 2015\***

#### DID YOU KNOW?

MAC accomplishes its work through volunteers and collaborative work with other organizations, including local and regional school districts, institutes of higher learning, education associations, and government agencies.

## KNOWLEDGE & PRACTICE

The MAC creates Assessment Literacy Standards to guide future in-service and pre-service training, credentialing and policy development.



#### Assessment Literacy Standards

In this era of elevated accountability, understanding the appropriate role of student assessment in determining levels of student achievement and educational accomplishment and guiding learning is critical. Understanding what assessment can and cannot accomplish is important to assure that sound decisions are made based on assessment information.

Assessment literacy is essential for teachers, administrators, policymakers, students and their parents. The MAC has developed a set of **Assessment Literacy Standards\*** for each of these groups. They were drawn from seminal work in the field and reviewed by national and international experts. This report was presented at the National Conference on Student

Assessment 2014 and will be the topic of another presentation in June 2015.

These standards are intended for long-term use in the field of education as opposed to a temporal topic that fades from importance with the rise of new issues. As ESEA undergoes revisions and there is the opportunity for greater flexibility in state accountability systems, knowing what accounts for good assessment practice and balanced assessment systems will be essential. Embracing the use of Assessment Literacy standards will be a national imperative in order to close achievement gaps and to prepare every student for success.

## ASSESSMENT LEADERSHIP

The MAC provides leadership among state education organizations on issues important to achieving quality in assessment systems and practices.

#### MI's Statewide Student Assessment System

MAC worked to inform the discussion through publication of *Eight Principles of Effective Statewide Student Assessment Systems*, and publication of an infographic, *Realigning Education* as well as providing testimony to the legislature, written guidance to conference committee and participating with other education associations, public policy and business organizations to emphasize the importance of a quality, aligned assessment system. **Resources\***

#### Educator Effectiveness & White Papers

Quality assessments and assessment practices embedded in our educator evaluation system are necessary. The MAC will continue to publish and comment on the use of quality measures available to teachers as they endeavor to describe their effectiveness in relationship to the documentation of student growth. In 2014 we published ***Using the MAEIA Assessments to Determine Educator Effectiveness\****. This paper is still open for review.

#### Formative Assessment for Michigan Educators (FAME)

This statewide MDE project is leading the nation, training hundreds of teachers to serve as coaches in their districts on how to use assessment as part of the instructional process to support and advance learning. The MAC provides research and evaluation services for FAME.

#### School Improvement

At the request of the MDE, the MAC reviewed the recent revision of the MI School Improvement Framework, analyzing where and how assessment is referenced and used. This analysis was presented at the MI School Improvement Conference (2014) and is documented in a crosswalk of the MI School Improvement Framework 2.0 and the MAC's Assessment Literacy Standards.

#### Crosswalk MSIF: MAC Assessment Literacy Standards\*

\*Find resources in bold black type by searching the term at [MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org](http://MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org)



## PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The MAC pursues collaborations that strengthen quality & comprehensive assessment systems and practices in the state of Michigan.

### Collaborations Deepen

In 2014–2015 we developed and strengthened relationships with new and continuing partner organizations. Here are some highlights:

#### MAC and MI ASCD

We co-sponsored an in-depth series, *The Role of Assessment in Unit Design* and have scheduled the following co-sponsored events:

- Grading and reporting with Myron Dueck: Aug. 10, 2015 and Oct. 14, 2015
- *Balanced Assessment 101* with Ed Roebler and Kimberley Young: Feb. 3–4, 2016
- *Use of Descriptive Feedback* with Susan Brookhart: Feb. 2, 2016 (also co-sponsored with Oakland Schools)

#### MAC and MI School Testing Conference

MAC contributed to the 2015 MI School Testing Conference in partnership with University of Michigan, providing workshop and clinic sessions for more than 400 Michigan educators. Ten presentations including PowerPoint slides, short video segments, exemplars, and handouts are archived on the MAC website. **MAC Presentations at MSTC 2015\***



#### MAC and MAISA

MAC serves on the MAISA Instructional Services Committee to advance the committee's annual objectives related to assessment, and the General Education Leadership Network (GELN) to identify opportunities to support collaborative initiatives.

#### MAC and TRIG

MAC serves as a member of the 22i Technology Readiness Infrastructure Professional Learning Advisory.

#### MAC and MI Association of School Administrators (MASA)

MAC partnered with MASA at their fall 2014 conference to provide sessions for both new and veteran superintendents on the topic of leadership actions necessary to achieve balanced, comprehensive district assessment systems.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The MAC creates and delivers professional learning opportunities for educators that deepen and enhance understanding of assessment practices that advance learning.

### MAC Reads!

New this year, the MAC launched a statewide book study. Seventeen sites from the western edge of the Upper Peninsula to southeast Michigan and regions in between read together over two months. Regional Service Agencies and Local School Districts hosted regional book study groups by hosting Twitter chats and traditional round-table discussions. The groups came together on March 26, 2015 for a real-time webinar with Rick Stiggins to ask questions and hear from the author of *Revolutionize Assessment*. A process guide loaded with additional resources and links supports this book and may be found at **MAC Reads! Revolutionize Assessment—Process Guide\***.

#### 2015 MAC Reads! Study Sites

Allegan AESA  
Berrien RESA  
Clare-Gladwin RESD  
Copper Country ISD  
Delta-Schoolcraft ISD  
Dickinson-Iron ISD  
Eastern UP ISD  
Genesee ISD  
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD  
Ingham ISD  
Jackson County ISD  
Marquette-Alger RESA  
Muskegon ISD  
Reeths-Puffer School District  
Washtenaw & Livingston RESAs  
Wayne RESA

*Join us in  
2015-16  
when MAC  
Reads! Susan  
Brookhart  
titles.*

### National Assessment Expertise

The MAC has hosted and archived 20 video-conferences since 2007. The conference presentations feature international-, national- and state-level expertise related to important assessment topics. These 60- to 90-minute sessions are archived on **mistreamnet.com**. Find a catalog of titles and presenters on the MAC website. **MAC Archived Videoconferences\***



## Ready to join or renew?

Visit our membership page to join the MAC today.

[MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org/join-the-mac](http://MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org/join-the-mac)

## Membership

The MAC is a professional association of members who believe quality education depends on accurate, meaningful assessment that supports learning first, and verifies learning second. When educators use assessment to guide teaching and enhance learning, students learn more.

Michigan Assessment Consortium promotes excellence in assessment knowledge and practice. Its members have access to a rich library of assessment resources, including assessment literacy standards, a suite of student performance assessments for arts education, and papers on assessment best practice. Members also have opportunities for professional learning through events, book studies, videoconferences and online courses.

## Membership Benefits

- advocacy for quality assessment practices in Michigan
- newsletter and website that connect educators interested in quality assessment practices across the state, as well as innovative practices across the U.S.
- an increasing number of high-quality sample assessments, reflective of Michigan curriculum and not commercial products.
- access to professional development events, tools and services

## MAC Members...

- are individuals and organizations interested in quality assessment practices.
- work in public and private schools, local and regional districts, government agencies, professional associations, and institutes of higher learning.
- embrace high standards of excellence.
- understand that quality assessment is key to quality learning and student achievement.
- value professional learning and continuous improvement.

See our complete membership roster\*.



Quality education depends on accurate, balanced, meaningful assessment.

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To learn more about the Michigan Assessment Consortium and the resources it has created:

[MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org](http://MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org)

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