

Assessment

Manhattan Schools understand the need for assessment of our pupils. Assessment in education is the process of gathering, interpreting, recording, and using information about pupils' response to an educational task. Assessment is something we do 'with' and 'for' the students and not 'to' the students. There are two ways that we, at Manhattan Schools, assess our pupils during the course of the year. They are formative and summative assessment and are interconnected yet seldom stand alone. We know that formative assessment has the greatest impact on learning and achievement.

Formative Assessment – frequently carried out throughout a lesson to provide immediate feedback to recognize the learning gap so closing the gap can be accomplished. It helps improve the quality of student learning and quality of the course itself as well as provides information on what an individual student needs to practice, re-teach, and what to learn next.

Key Elements of Formative Assessment

- 1) Teachers identifying learning goals and their intentions or outcomes, and criteria for achieving these goals.
- 2) Rich conversations between teachers and students that continually build on higher order thinking.
- 3) The provision of effective and timely feedback to enable students to advance in their learning.
- 4) The active involvement of students in their own learning.
- 5) Teachers responding to identified learning needs and strengths by modifying their teaching strategies.

Summative Assessment – looks at past achievements, adds procedures or tests to existing work, involves marking and feedback grades to students, is separate from teaching, and is carried out at intervals when achievement has to be summarized and reported.

Garden Analogy of the two Assessments:

Formative – formative assessment is the equivalent of feeding and watering the plants appropriate to their needs which directly affects their growth.

Summative – on the other hand summative assessment of the plants is the process of simply measuring them. It might be interesting to compare and analyze measurements but, in themselves, these do not affect the growth of the plants.

Common Themes: Grades 7-12

Formative Assessment

- **White board work, warm-ups, exit passes, muddy bucket, thumbs up/down, round table, walkabouts, survivor, homework ticket, out the door ticket, tally marks, pass a note, etc.**
- **Mini quizzes (Mid Chapter)**
- **Daily Homework**
- **Independent Work**

Summative Assessment

- **Chapter Test**
- **Semester Exam**
- **MontCas**
- **ACT/SAT**
- **ACT (Juniors)**
- **AP Results (English and Calculus)**
- **Smarter Balance (Grades 7,8 and 11 – 2014-15)**
- **Maps**
- **NAEP (Grade 8)**

Common Themes: Grades K-6

Formative Assessment

- **White board work, warm-ups, exit passes, muddy bucket, thumbs up/down, round table, walkabouts, survivor, homework ticket, out the door ticket, tally marks, pass a note, etc.**
- **Manipulatives (Students demonstrating their understanding)**
- **Assessment games (Survivor, Wall or Window)**
- **Daily Homework**
- **Independent Work**

Summative Assessment

- **Chapter Test**
- **Mid-Chapter Reviews**
- **Spiral Reviews**
- **MontCas (Grades 3-6)**
- **NAEP (Grade 4)**
- **Rocket Math**
- **Maps**
- **Smarter Balance (Grades 3-6 – 2014-15)**
- **Easy CBM (Dibels – Not currently used, but possible in the future)**
- **Quarterly Benchmark Assessments**

Intervention (What is currently done when students do not understand)

- **Corrective Math (K-6)**
- **Core Math (7-12)**
- **Aleks**
- **Ability Grouping'**
- **Online Tutors**
- **Challenge students with higher expectations**
- **Practice packets (Sent home for extra work with parents)**
- **Touch Math**

Suggestive Interventions

- **Math Buddies (High School Mentors/Tutors)**
- **Parental Volunteers (Classroom Pull Outs)**
- **Peer Tutors**
- **Extra Credit on Corrections of Homework and Tests**
- **Math Coaches for Students and Teachers**
- **Professional Development**
- **Parent Math Night (Survival skills for the parents in mathematics)**

Protocol for Student Placement

- **Survey students and parents on grade level topics**
- **Prior schools records**
- **Placement testing (Maps, Star, Dibels, and/or Aleks)**
- **Prior grade achievement**
- **Teachers recommendation**