

BAY COUNTY SCHOOLS CHOOSES STI ASSESSMENT

Web-based formative assessment tool from STI to help Bay County Schools reach curriculum and instruction goals

MOBILE, ALA. (Jan. 25, 2007) – STI, a leading provider of education data management systems, announced today that Bay County School District in Panama City, Fla. has selected STI *Assessment* for its online formative assessment tool.

Bay County School District will implement STI *Assessment* throughout the district to enable educators to gather data on student progress toward state and national standards. Administrators and teachers in 39 schools will use the web-based assessment program to track more than 27,000 students.

"Districts across the country are turning to technology for a fast, reliable way to measure student learning and for a tool that can spark a dialogue among administrators, teachers and parents around helping students progress," explained Lendy Willis, executive director of curriculum and instructional services for Bay County School District. "STI *Assessment* provides our teachers with a crucial diagnostic tool that allows them to pinpoint student strengths and weaknesses so they can adjust instruction to meet student needs. Assessment reports can easily be viewed by parents on the web to give them the information they need to get involved."

The district is using the assessment creation and monitoring tool from STI to bolster their formative assessment program. Formative assessment is one among multiple student achievement measurements the district uses to gauge success and meet adequate yearly progress under the No Child Left Behind Act.

With STI *Assessment*, Bay County educators will be able to:

- 1) develop formative assessments or benchmark tests using the system's large bank of questions that are correlated to national and state curriculum standards.
- 2) conduct tests online or on paper, and receive immediate results regardless of the method.
- 3) administer continuous assessments to see where their students are versus where they need to be in terms of their mastery of the standards.
- 4) clearly identify areas for improvement to modify instruction to meet student needs.
- 5) create a living record of student progress over the span of their academic career.
- 6) quickly and easily create meaningful assessment reports of aggregate and disaggregate data to meet local needs and NCLB reporting requirements. The reports can be accessed online by administrators and teachers as well as by parents if the district decides to grant permission.

MORE

Research shows formative assessment is an effective strategy for providing teachers with evidence of student learning and feedback for instructional modifications or adaptations at the time students need help. It is part of an ongoing, active learning process. *STI Assessment* provides teachers with the tools to focus on student progress on a continual basis and to help them reach students before they fall far behind.

For more information, visit www.sti-k12.com or phone 800-844-0884.

About STI

STI is a leading provider of *Education Data Management* solutions to the K-12 market. STI's fully integrated suite of products addresses attendance, scheduling, special education, assessment, discipline, grade reporting, professional development, fund accounting, health, and parent/teacher communications. More than 6,000 schools in 28 states use STI solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, Ala. For more information, phone 800-844-0884 or visit www.sti-k12.com.

###

For more information contact:

- Edmundo Gonzalez, STI, (646) 303-3483, egonzalez@sti-k12.com
- Charlene Blohm, C. Blohm & Associates, (608) 839-9800, charlene@cblohm.com