



**News Release**  
For Immediate Release

**NEW OFFERING FROM STI EVALUATES STUDENT ACADEMIC  
HEALTH AND PRESCRIBES INSTRUCTIONAL TREATMENT**

*STI Curriculum Manager integrates with STI Assessment to measure  
students' abilities and locate instructional resources for remediation*

MOBILE, ALA. (April 2, 2005) – Educators can be more efficient and effective if they have tools that assess students' skills in real-time, track progress over students' academic careers and prescribe resources to improve instruction. STI, the nation's leading provider of education data management solutions for K-12 schools, today announces the release of *STI Curriculum Manager*<sup>™</sup> to tie assessment and student information data with district curriculum assets.

Education technology leaders advocate data-driven decision-making as a means to inform instruction and better allocate school resources, ultimately improving student achievement. Its use in schools has grown significantly since the passage of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, which mandates schools to demonstrate gains in student achievement or risk losing funding.

But many educators are left with little guidance and few tools appropriate to pinpoint students' needs and perform data-driven instruction. "Imagine if doctors didn't have a stethoscope to find heart murmurs and a pharmaceutical reference to write the correct prescription. This is true for many educators, who often have to evaluate and improve student's academic health without the proper tools and direction," said Edmundo Gonzalez, STI's vice president of product management.

STI partnered with Six Things, Inc., the preferred curriculum alignment provider for prominent education publishers, to develop and offer *STI Curriculum Manager* to schools. Now, educators have a single database of all district resources aligned to state standards.

"For the first time, teachers can find which resources—including portions of textbooks—are appropriate for a lesson and match state learning requirements," said Amy James, founder and CEO of Six Things as well as a third-generation educator.

With STI's new offering, educators can have several systems rolled into one, providing evidence of student learning and feedback for instructional modifications at the same time. *STI Curriculum Manager* integrates seamlessly with *STI Assessment*, the web-based assessment management platform that links to any student information system.

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For example, if a student is not performing well on a sub-standard of Numbers and Operations, then a teacher can click on the 'See Resources' button on the student's assessment report generated in *STI Assessment*. Educators are immediately directed to textbooks, library books, worksheets, software and other curriculum materials linked to that particular standard and use them to help the student improve. The resources may include material not already covered, such as a teacher lesson plan created in a neighboring school. The program facilitates instruction as well as collaboration.

Combined, *STI Curriculum Manager* and *STI Assessment* enable educators to:

- create tests or quizzes correlated to standards or district benchmarks using a test-item bank or their own questions, and obtain assessment data in real-time;
- individualize instruction with resources targeting each student's particular needs;
- share assessment data and reports with state and federal officials as well as parents and community members through an online portal;
- track students' progress over the span of their academic careers from school-to-school to create a living assessment record;
- access resources like basal textbooks and supplementary material, all of which is already aligned to standards;
- add resources and align these to standards with simple 'drag and drop' functionality, including teacher-created materials like lesson plans; and
- produce reports to find gaps in resources available for tested standards.

The integrated systems support formative or benchmark assessment in the classroom. Several research studies have proven that formative assessment, when used correctly, significantly improves student learning. It produces the greatest achievement gains among the low achievers more than any other group of students, helping to reduce the achievement gap.

The new offering is available for use in schools this Fall. Pricing for *STI Curriculum Manager* and for *STI Assessment* is based on a subscription model. The programs can be purchased separately or bundled together. For more information, visit [www.sti-k12.com](http://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](http://www.sti-k12.com).

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**Editor's Note:** Edmundo is available for meetings during ASCD on Sunday, April 3rd and Monday, April 4th at the STI booth, no. 320. Please contact Charlene or Edmundo to set up a meeting time.