

## **MORE THAN 100 SCHOOLS ACROSS FIVE STATES ADOPT STI'S WEB-BASED ASSESSMENT SOLUTION**

**'STI Assessment' integrates with the schools' student information systems to help facilitate data-driven decision-making and boost student achievement**

MOBILE, ALA. (Oct. 27, 2004) –The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires schools to track and analyze student achievement data to inform instruction and to allocate school resources where they are needed most, all in an effort to improve student learning. STI, the nation's leading provider of education data management solutions to K-12 schools, announces today that more than 100 schools in five states have adopted *STI Assessment* to integrate their student information systems with curriculum and assessment. Since the debut of *STI Assessment* in late June, districts have been adopting the new web-based assessment solution in rapid succession.

Since NCLB was passed, districts have had to take on more responsibility and accountability for student achievement. *STI Assessment* allows district administrators to manage their local or 'common' assessment program. Many education leaders are adopting these common assessments throughout the school year to gauge progress against state standards, as well as to gauge how well a defined curriculum is being implemented. With *STI Assessment*, district staff can continuously monitor progress.

*STI Assessment* is also a powerful tool for teachers, which enables them to create tests or quizzes correlated to standards or district benchmarks and obtain real-time assessment data. Armed with this useful data, teachers can clearly identify students' individual abilities and alter instruction to help students who are having difficulties with certain concepts. Thus, students receive individualized instruction, resulting in increased academic learning.

In *Performance Assessment in Real Time*, from a 2002 issue of *School Administrator*, Assistant Superintendents Chip Kimball and Tom Cone write: "Assessment should be viewed as a part of the instructional process that informs instruction instead of another thing to do that strictly summarizes performance. Real-time data should drive daily practice, linking that practice to district standards."

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Administrators have easy access to assessment reports to help them meet reporting requirements of NCLB, determine areas for improvement and allocate resources accordingly. With *STI Assessment's* interactive data analysis tools, administrators can create and download comprehensive, easy-to-use reports that give aggregate and disaggregate data for the NCLB required subgroups and for demonstrating Adequate Yearly Progress. The formative assessment reports can be shared with parents and community members on a continual basis, versus once a year, to communicate the schools' progress and students' needs and keep parents involved.

Additionally, student progress can be tracked over time since *STI Assessment* links with the districts' student information systems. As a student moves from school to school, so does his or her assessment record. When a new student enters a school, teachers don't have to guess at the student's abilities; the teacher can simply access the student's record of past performance on benchmark tests.

"*STI Assessment* assists schools in their mission to improve education and advance student learning," explained Rob Fiance, CEO of STI. "It meets the various assessment needs and uses of everyone in the district—students, teachers, administrators and community members."

For more information, visit STI online at [www.sti-k12.com](http://www.sti-k12.com) or call 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. Over 6,000 schools in 28 states use our solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, Alabama. For more information, phone 800-844-0884 or visit [www.sti-k12.com](http://www.sti-k12.com).

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