

VIRGINIA ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) is an organization of over 2,000 teachers, school administrators and higher education faculty. We are an affiliate of ASCD, and our mission is to advance excellence in teaching, learning and leadership in the Commonwealth.

VaASCD supports assessment systems that:

- serve the needs of students by contributing to teaching and learning.
- align with the skills that are most important for students to learn.
- include multiple measures, each with a clear purpose.
- provide evidence that goes beyond rating schools to inform teaching practice.

What we have:

- 34 SOL tests
- A model that met the needs of the 1990's.
- Little or no value as a basis for measuring growth.
- No room to do anything else.

We need a more balanced system

- Significantly fewer SOL tests, designed to measure understanding of a body of content and skills.
- Validated growth measures in reading and math, two areas where growth over time is most directly measureable, administered in the elementary grades.
- A validated measure, administered at high school, designed to assess higher-level skills related to college and career readiness.
- Student-generated products based on student growth goals, sampled periodically by the state for accreditation purposes.