

NC Curriculum Formative Assessment Tool Review Process and Recommendations



CATHERINE SCOTT-LITTLE
CURRICULUM AND FORMATIVE
ASSESSMENT TOOL REVIEW
COMMITTEE CHAIR

During this part of the meeting



- **Provide background information on the formative assessment tool review process**
- **Describe the current review process and recommendations**



Background Information

Formative Assessment Tool



- **Process for on-going documentation and evaluation of children's strengths and areas for growth**
- **Used by teachers to guide the experiences they plan for children**
- **NOT health or developmental screening**

NC Pre-K Requirements Related to Formative Assessment



- **NOTE: Previously was called “instructional assessment”**
- **Classroom staff are required to conduct ongoing assessments to gather information about each child’s growth and skill development, as well as, to inform instruction.**
- **A list of tools that meet this requirement are provided in the NC Pre-K Requirements**

History



- **2002** More at Four established and a group of formative assessment tools recommended
- **2011** NC Pre-K moved to the Division and the list of recommended formative assessment tools maintained
- **2012** Curriculum and Formative Assessment Tool Review Committee Convened

2012 Formative Assessment Tool Review Process



Review Process



- The Review Committee was convened in April 2012 and met almost monthly for the past year
- Timeframe for submissions was July 1 to August 31, 2012
- Review process
 - Comprehensive review (separately) by two committee members
 - Two committee members compared their review and completed a review chart
 - Materials reviewed and review chart discussed in full committee

Committee Membership

- Higher Education
- DPI Exceptional Children's Program
- FCCH Operators
- Early childhood administrators
- Commissioner
- Title One Preschool Consultant
- Public School Preschool Director
- NC Pre-K Contractor, Public Schools
- Child Care Resource and Referral
- Child Care Licensing Consultant
- Partnerships for Children

Challenges



- **Logistics**
 - Review team and committee meetings
 - Time constraints
 - Circulating materials
- **Develop Criteria for the Process**
 - Limited criteria to build on
 - Consideration for general “best practices” related to assessment
- **Review of Content**
 - Volume of materials
 - Variability in the form and detail of materials
 - Variability in experiences/expertise of participants

Criteria for Recommendations

- Purpose
- Continuum of development
- Consistency with *Foundations*
- Areas of children's development and learning
- Sources of information
- Evaluation of progress
- Cultural diversity*
- Linguistic diversity*
- Inclusion*
- Family involvement*
- Use in diverse settings
- Collaborative services
- Use in planning
- Teacher self-evaluation
- Evidence-based
- Implementation guides
- Training*

*Partially met was acceptable

Formative Assessment Tools Received for Review



- **13 submissions**
- **12 of these were reviewed**
 - 1 submission was a draft tool that did not include sufficient materials for the review

Formative Assessment Tools Recommended for Approval



- **Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum (ages 3 – 5)**
- **Galileo Pre-K**
- **High Scope Child Observation Record (COR), 2nd Edition**
- **Investigator Club**
- **Teaching Strategies GOLD**
- **Work Sampling System, 4th edition (with stipulation)**

Formative Assessment Tools Not Recommended for Approval



- **Assessment, Evaluation, and Programing System (AEPS)**
- **Early Learning Scale**
- **Learning Accomplishments Profile-3rd Edition (LAP-3)**
- **Links to Literacy**
- **mClass Circle**
- **Tools of the Mind**

Next Steps in the Formative Assessment Tool Approval Process



- Publishers will be notified of the decision through a letter that explains the committee's view on strengths and ways their tool could be improved
- Approved tools will be publicized through email and DCDEE website to major early childhood entities and programs
- Programs may begin to use approved tools once the approved list is distributed