

COSA-EESC Assessment Institute

More than 350 people attended the first annual COSA-EESC Assessment Institute in Eugene. The Institute, August 11-12 at the Eugene Hilton, was designed to help assessment and curriculum leaders, as well as principals and teacher leaders, successfully plan for the coming year.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo and Harvard researcher Andrew Ho delivered keynote addresses. The opening session also featured instruction by certified trainers from the Oregon Direct Access to Achievement (DATA) Project on how to use a 100-day plan to implement lessons learned from the two-day conference.



“Timing played a big part in the Institute’s success,” says Colin Cameron, professional development coordinator for the Confederation for Oregon School Administrators (COSA).

“State test results were just released the week before, and the idea was to encourage people to work on their 100-day plan and get ready for the school year. That worked out very well,” he said.

The Institute featured two daylong sessions by the Oregon DATA Project’s Denise Airola on effective use of classroom data, as well as 16 breakout sessions focused on assessment-related training and information. “It was incredibly beneficial to hear the great insights from school teams like Redmond, Nyssa, Springfield, and Eugene 4J on how they are working toward a data-driven culture,” says Mickey Garrison, School Improvement director for the Education Enterprise Steering Committee (EESC). The EESC is a partnership between the Governor’s Office, ODE, Higher Education, K-12 and OAESD.



“Participants were incredibly focused and it was definitely an enthusiastic, high-energy event,” Garrison said. “In fact, the room that we had reserved for team work was occupied until 9 or 10 each night. That’s a sign of real dedication.”

The session seemed to have struck a chord with participants, with more than 75% rating it above average and excellent. “The information was cutting edge and very useful,” said one participant. “I wish I could have attended all of the sessions,” said another.

“This is the first year we have worked with the EESC, and it was a great collaboration that we plan to continue,” Cameron said, adding that planning has already begun for next year’s Assessment Institute.

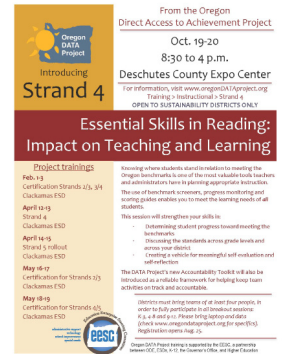
To download the conference program and session materials, visit the COSA website at www.cosa.k12.or.us, or the Oregon DATA Project website at www.oregondatapoint.org.

DATA Project Strand 4 Rollout

A new strand of training from the Oregon Direct Access to Achievement (DATA) Project will roll out **October 19-20** at the Deschutes County Expo Center in Redmond. "Essential Skills in Reading: Impact on Teaching and Learning" is designed to strengthen skills in determining progress toward meeting benchmarks, discussing standards across grade levels, and creating a vehicle for effective self-evaluation. The session will also debut the Project's new Accountability Toolkit, a framework for keeping team activities on track and accountable.

Attendees must be in a district participating in the Oregon DATA Project's Sustainability or Implementation efforts. Contact your ESD if you are in doubt about your district's status. Registration for Strand 4 is now open at: <http://oregondataprojectstrand4.eventbrite.com/>.

For more information, including a downloadable flier, visit the DATA Project site, www.oregondataproject.org, Training > Instructional > Strand 4. For a full schedule of Oregon DATA Project trainings during this school year, download the calendar at Events > Training calendars.



Personnel Exchange

A team of state education officials from Montana are set to visit Oregon this month to learn more about the Direct Access to Achievement (DATA) Project.

During their three-day visit, which begins September 21, the Montana team will observe two data teams in action, meet with their Oregon counterparts to discuss data issues, talk to Oregon DATA Project personnel, and develop a 100-day plan of action to take back with them.

The visit is courtesy of the Personnel Exchange Network, a U.S. Department of Ed sponsored program that provides travel funds so organizations can share knowledge about education data issues. For more information, please call Mickey Garrison at 541-580-1201.



OregonApps Google Summit

Join us for a day of exploring and learning about Google Apps for Education. We'll have sessions for teachers, administrators, and technical staff. Visit the website for detailed info: www.google summit.org.



When: October 8, 2010 (all day)
Where: Sherwood High School
 (and broadcast statewide via WebEx)
Featured Speaker: Jaime Casap,
 Google Apps for Education

Questions? email summit@oregonk-12.net

Introducing the Oregon K-12 Literacy Framework to Educators—a Two-Step Plan

Step 1: SEPTEMBER

INVITE an "Introduction to the Oregon K-12 Literacy Framework" **Trainer** to introduce your staff to the **Framework**. See [training information](#) and a list of trainers.

Step 2: OCTOBER

WATCH the Oregon K-12 Literacy Framework **Videos** when they are sent to every district and school in October. The videos are follow-up staff development to Step 1.