ATI Community Assessment and Item Banking Initiative

What is the ATI Community Assessment and Item Banking Initiative?

It is well recognized by educators that there is an urgent need for valid, reliable, and fair items and assessments for use in evaluating the instructional effectiveness of teachers in areas not tested on statewide assessments. In addition, district teachers responsible for developing these items require training to produce high-quality items. The ATI *Community Assessment and Item Banking (CAIB)* initiative is a way for districts to develop and share assessment items and assessments. As part of the Initiative, ATI is assisting in the preparation of educators to develop high-quality items and is providing services related to professional development and training, assessment development, and data analysis. Participating districts are being provided access to a continually growing repository of shared, district-written, high-quality items and customized assessments in areas not currently addressed on statewide tests.*

Why participate in the Initiative?

A community is greater than the sum of its parts. Participants in the *CAIB* initiative benefit from the contributions of all participating districts. The assessment development task is formidable. *Large numbers of items are being developed to meet district needs*. Moreover, *large numbers of students are needed* to establish the reliability and validity of the needed assessments. Through *CAIB*, districts are sharing items in assessments administered to large numbers of students across districts.

What services is ATI offering in support of the CAIB initiative?

ATI is providing supporting technology, services, and professional development related to item development. ATI is also providing supporting technology and expert services related to assessment development. ATI is also conducting data analyses to establish psychometric properties of items and to evaluate the validity, reliability, and fairness of assessments.

What professional development and training is available?

ATI is providing professional development and training designed to assist districts in:

- Establishing item development goals for non-state-tested content areas through use of the ATI *Assessment Planner*;

- Accessing standards in a variety of content areas within Galileo K-12 Online (e.g., art, music, foreign languages, social studies);

*The repository of community items may vary from state to state.

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- Using Galileo *Bank Builder* technology to develop high-quality items by:
  - developing item specifications to guide the construction of standards-aligned selected-choice, open-response, and essay items appropriate for diverse populations;
  - reviewing and certifying items;
- Classifying items in terms of Depth of Knowledge (DOK);
- Evaluating the functioning of items using the *Item Parameter Report*; and
- Understanding basic Item Response Theory (IRT) concepts used to measure growth.

How is the validity, reliability, and fairness of the items and assessments being evaluated?

Content validity is being evaluated as part of the item construction and review process. Psychometric analyses using IRT procedures establish discrimination parameter estimates for each item which indicate the relationship between each item and the underlying ability being assessed (i.e., construct validity). These procedures also establish the reliability of each assessment. Fairness is addressed through Differential Item Functioning (DIF) analyses. In order to assess the relationship between performance in non-state-tested content areas and performance in state-tested content areas, ATI is also conducting correlation studies.

Who can participate in CAIB?

Any district using Galileo K-12 Online may participate in the *CAIB* initiative.

For more information on *CAIB*, contact an ATI Field Services Coordinator at 1.877.442.5453 or at GalileoInfo@ati-online.com.