



CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

**TOM TORLAKSON**

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

February 10, 2014

Dear District and County Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

### **AVAILABILITY OF NEW SMARTER BALANCED VIDEOS FOR STUDENTS**

As we approach spring, I am pleased to announce the availability of two new videos that are designed to provide information to high school and middle school students about the Smarter Balanced Field Test. The videos introduce students to the spring Smarter Balanced Field Test and include answers to questions about what, where, how, and why and most importantly, the significant contribution students will make in helping to create the operational tests for 2014–15. Both videos are hosted by students and include discussions among students about the assessments.

The videos are posted at the following links:

High school video: <http://youtu.be/DXXd451e580>

Middle school video: <http://youtu.be/YKerb7NsDUE>

I encourage you to share these videos with your schools to help students understand and be prepared for the assessments. You may also wish to share these videos with parents and other stakeholders who are interested in the purpose and benefits of the Smarter Balanced Field Test.

If you have questions regarding these videos, please contact the Assessment Support and Outreach Office by phone at 916-445-8517.

If you have questions regarding the Smarter Balanced Field Test, please contact the California Technical Assistance Center (CalTAC) by phone at 1-800-955-2954 or by e-mail at [caltac@ets.org](mailto:caltac@ets.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Torlakson".

Tom Torlakson

TT: mm

cc: LEA CAASPP Coordinators