



**December 2023 & January 2024 - How to be an “A” school:
Measure growth, identify learning gaps and adapt plans**
by Jan Barrick, Alpha Plus CEO

Happy Winter Holidays! From meeting with educators in schools all around the state, we know you are doing the best you can to cover all the content the state requires and prepare your students for the next grade level. **That’s why you are our heroes!**

Considering fall challenges old and new, the results Alpha Plus Partner Schools achieved last year at this time were impressive. On Dec. 9, 2022, among the 111 schools in Alpha Plus Online, the average number of formative assessments completed was for 9 objectives with a Running Proficiency rate of 62% of students. At winter break last year, we had not reached our goal of 70% proficient yet but were on track for it by spring!

Time to evaluate growth, identify learning gaps and **adjust plans for the spring semester based on midyear (B) summative data!** At Grades 3-8 for reading and math, if you have not administered the midyear benchmark yet, see our **October** newsletter on how to plan for it.

CLASSROOM TAB:

Scores for each class are in the Master Report, Item Response Report, Standards at Risk, and Classroom Summative reports. All can be accessed in the Summative Assessments list or using the drop-down within the Master Report.

Objective and Description	Last Activity	Students Assessed	Proficiency	Review Test	Add/Edit Answers	Reports	Available to Students	Monitor
OK Reading 6 - A1 <small>Open from 08/11/2022 until 10/14/2022</small> <small>Baseline assessment covering all objectives. Should be given to students within the first three weeks of school.</small>	9/20/2022	22 / 23	64%			Select Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitor
OK Reading 6 - B <small>Open from 11/03/2022 until 02/10/2023</small> <small>Midyear assessment covering all objectives.</small>	12/16/2022	22 / 23	73%			Select Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitor
OK Reading 6 - A2 <small>Open from 02/09/2023 until 06/05/2023</small> <small>End of course final assessment to measure growth.</small>	3/27/2023	19 / 23	95%			Select Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitor

- The **Standards at Risk** report offers a list of students NOT proficient on each OAS Objective. This helps schools coordinate small-group remediation and tutoring in the OAS Power Standards.
- The **Classroom Summative Report** shows student performance by OAS objective while highlighting objectives taught (formative assessment taken) before the summative was administered and provides a benchmark score for each student.

- **NOTE:** All Alpha Plus Online reports present cumulative data based on LAST assessment taken by each student (not best score). Item Response Reports include answers and scores for all student attempts.

MANAGEMENT TAB:

The **Summative Test Log** button downloads an updated spreadsheet of student scores for comparison to the baseline and later the spring assessment. Columns are included so teachers can input students' last state-test scores for comparison and goal setting.

- Administrators can download a school's **Summative Objective Analysis** (SOA), which color codes at-risk OAS objectives by grade level for all classes. The SOA identifies priority OAS objectives from any benchmark.
- **All students and all standards are important**, but some need more help from your team than others over the next few months. From summative B data, **determine both the students and the OAS objectives that need to be the primary concern in the spring semester.**

FREE digital resources for intervention, extension activities

- Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) Digital Library, Pre-K-12
- National Council of Teachers of English - Read, Write, Think, K-12
- Florida Center for Reading Research, K-5
- Mathematics games and videos from Khan Academy, PK-12

Based on the data, adjust your Pacing Calendar to ensure all **“power standards”** (those with the highest percentages on the state-test blueprint) are **taught and remediated before Spring Break**, if possible.

- Schools have different (and now more difficult) academic calendars, but it is more important than ever to protect as much instruction time as possible.
- We recommend planning the **next summative (A2) benchmark in Grades 3-8 for March**. This allows time to analyze the data to coordinate remediation before the state test window opens in mid-April.

Early-childhood teachers usually give the A2 benchmark closer to the end of the school year to provide the best performance and growth data on early learners. **The spring summative test window for 1st and 2nd grade students opens March 18, 2024**, but that date can be changed if a growth measure is wanted at midyear. However, the scores will be overwritten if the test is administered again in the spring.

Let us know how we can help you more!
 ~ CEO Jan Barrick and the Alpha Plus Team

Copyright © 2023 Alpha Plus Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

ALPHA PLUS EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

3315 N.W. 63rd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116

Call (405) 842-8408 or email admin@alphaplus.org with any questions!