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EDUC 6000
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Week 4 – Discussion #9

Do you think performance assessments should replace standardized testing as the principal strategy for assessing student achievement? Why or why not?

This is a tough call. I asked some of my fellow admins and interns at our summer school program this very question, and after some debate, we decided that a “happy medium” was the best way to go. Having many different varieties of assessment mean that we have a lot of sources from which to base the learning, knowledge and skills of our students.

Interestingly, there were many that felt like they’d like to get rid of standardized testing as much as possible, but the biggest issue with that is the daunting amount of time that performance assessment requires. While many of us decry standardized testing, when the questions are well-written, and prove to be valid and reliable, they are a much more convenient way to assess students. However, neither of these methods is perfect, and there are other great types of assessment, as we’ve discussed in class. Hence, the “middle-of-the-road approach” seems to make the most sense to us.