



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

October 2, 2013

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of Education

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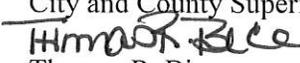
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MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: 
Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

RE: *New Achievement Series* Item and Test Banks

GlobalScholar/Scantron is launching a new set of Item and Test Banks available for districts and their schools within its *Achievement Series*. These Item and Test Banks may serve as a means of gauging student progress in attaining the standards addressed in the Alabama Courses of Study for English Language Arts and Math. These Banks – named the CC Checks Assessment Banks and the CC Checks Item Banks – span Grades K-8 in the content areas of English Language Arts and Math. If districts prefer to create their own tests using these items, then the Item Banks would best serve the district's needs. Should the district prefer pre-built quizzes, the Test Banks feature a series of 15-item quizzes that are intended to take students approximately 15 minutes to complete.

To best serve the district's assessment vision and plan, the Item and Test Banks will initially be shared only with the superintendents. Each superintendent can then decide with whom he/she will share these Item and Test Banks at the district level. Those designated district level staff would handle the sharing of these Item and Test Banks with the appropriate schools and school-level staff. Utilizing this sharing approach rather than simply making the Item and Test Banks available to all staff at all levels allows district-level staff the option to control access to this content until the associated tests are administered, thus helping to prevent overexposure of items and test content. Each Education Specialist from the GlobalScholar/Scantron AS/PS team in Alabama is available to assist superintendents in sharing the Item or Test Banks, first with the designated district-level staff and then, if needed, with the appropriate schools and staff.

Please watch for communication from the Education Specialist assigned to your district advising you that these Item and Test Banks have been disseminated.

TRB:JAT:RH

cc: Mrs. Sherrill Parris, Deputy State Superintendent
Dr. Melinda Maddox, Assistant State Superintendent
Dr. Julie Hannah, Director

FY14-3002