



October 2, 2026, Fall Summit Call for Presenters

## **“Let’s Talk Formative Assessment: Real Time and Ongoing”**

We know that intentional and purposeful assessment that focuses on mastery learning is the number one researched proven method to push instruction to its highest level. Formative assessment is the key to informed and improved instruction and student achievement.

We also know that strong Tier One instruction (at grade level learning) is the first defense in moving students forward academically. We have heard that Tier Two instruction cannot solve a Tier One issue. Students make their best overall improvements when explicit instructional technique is combined with the appropriate assessment methods. Some of the most successful assessment practices include:

**Well planned explicit (direct) instruction guided by formative assessments** to prepare students to take an active part in their learning, not only during direct instruction, but also during practice and reteaching.

**Effective questioning** both during instruction, in practice and with written assessments. We must know how and when to question, what type of questions to use and how to scaffold them. We should be ready with questions, along with what questions students may have in order to move forward and go deeper.

**The use of content specific vocabulary** during all phases of a student’s learning experience is proven to promote higher order thinking skills, especially during Tier One instruction. All assessment questions should include a complement of Tier Three vocabulary words, and answers should require student use of that vocabulary.

**SMCAA is seeking educational professionals of all levels, grades and content areas to share a breakout session highlighting their successful formative assessment practice, both during instruction to check for understanding, and after learning to adjust and reteach. Each breakout session would be approximately 55-60 minutes in length.** These would include a variety of assessment strategies and methods and would include step-by-step processes and samples.

**Any formative assessment practice or method used during whole group/Tier One instruction that focuses on questioning and evaluating progress in real time.**

**Any step-by-step processes or practice in developing strong assessment questions that are designed to strengthen instruction. This would include samples of below standard, and above standard assessment questions and projects that will produce higher order thinking results.**

**Any samples of rubrics and/or scoring guides that can be used in discussion of student achievement and strong instruction.**

**Submission Deadline Date: July 24<sup>th</sup> 2026 Form Link: <https://form.jotform.com/221283915406050>**

Please consider taking time to share your classroom successes as we refocus our efforts to strengthen whole group/Tier One instruction through robust formative assessment