



**ACRE**

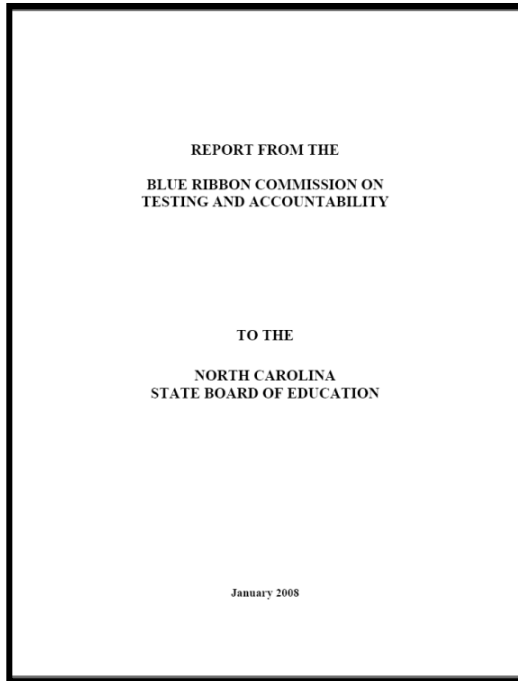
Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort  
in Response to *A Framework For Change*

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

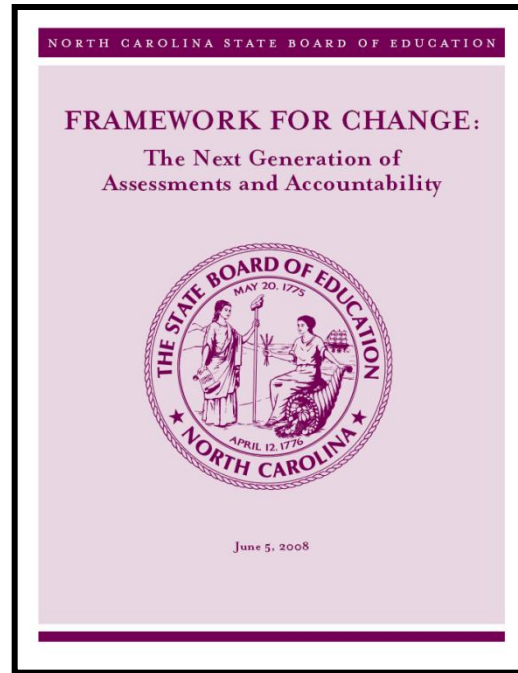
# North Carolina Education Context

- North Carolina's ABCs emphasize accountability, basics and local control starting in 1995.
- As demands of the workforce change, a next generation model is needed that builds on a solid foundation of standards-based, educational accountability.

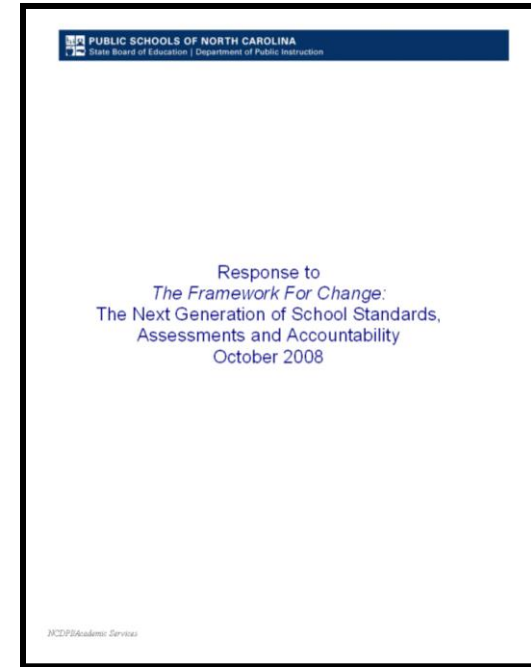
# Vision into Mandate



**Blue Ribbon  
Commission (2007-08)**  
on testing and accountability



**Framework For  
Change (June 2008)**  
State Board of Education  
mandate to develop next  
generation of standards,  
assessment and  
accountability



**Accountability  
and Reform  
Effort (October 2008)**  
The work to revise  
standards, assessments  
and accountability



# A Simple Vision with 3 Key Parts

## Standards

**College and career-ready standards.** A new set of academic standards benchmarked against the best national and international expectations.

The goal was to set fewer, clearer and higher standards that ensure a student is ready for post-secondary education and work.

Standards include Common Core in ELA and Math and NC Essential Standards in all other subjects.

## Assessment

**A comprehensive assessment system** with a focus on using assessments to improve instruction and fairly assess learning and instructional effectiveness. Plan includes updated EOGs and EOCs including using authentic assessments aligned to new, more important standards.

## Accountability

**A revised model** that includes measures of post-secondary readiness (for both college and career), robust, fair growth measures and revised reporting functions. The updated model will motivate behaviors that improve student outcomes for all students in North Carolina.

# The new adopted standards are the foundation.

## Standards

**College and career-ready standards.** A new set of academic standards benchmarked against the best national and international expectations.

- Better standards are the starting place for better outcomes and better return on state investment
- Common Core state standards in Math and English shared with 40+ other states
- Other subject area standards will be revised by April 2011
- New standards operational in 2012-13
- Current standards will be operational for both 2010-11 and 2011-12

# The assessments system is being reformed and updated.

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## Assessment

A **comprehensive assessment system** with a focus on using assessments to improve instruction and fairly assess learning and instructional effectiveness.

- New balanced system to not only measure outcomes but also help teachers adjust instruction for student learning
  - NC FALCON (online professional learning community) operational
  - Online Writing Instruction System operational
- Participation in state assessment consortium to develop Common Core assessments
- Current assessment will be operational for both 2010-11 and 2011-12

# A Next Generation of the ABCs is being developed.

## Accountability

A **revised model** that includes measures of post-secondary readiness (for both college and career), robust, fair growth measures and revised reporting functions.

- 5 high school indicators
  - Achievement  
(using End of Course assessments)
  - Growth  
(using End of Course assessments)
  - Graduation Rate
  - Future-Ready Core
  - Post-Secondary Readiness
- New model will use growth *and* performance for all indicators
- Emphasis on career and college readiness and international competitiveness

Current EOCs are vital to the transition to a new model.

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- Physical Science, Algebra II, US History and Civics and Economics assessments are 4 of 7 End of Course assessments used to hold high schools accountable
  - Used to identify high schools in the greatest need of improvement and to measure their growth
- The four assessments are important to effectively measure student learning beyond 9<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Algebra II is a key gateway to higher education
  - Without Civics and Economics and US History, North Carolina will have no accountability measures for social studies