Changes in Assessment Items Over Time

Louisiana is transitioning to the PARCC assessments in 2014-15 which will fully test the Common Core State Standards. In anticipation of this assessment, the LEAP and iLEAP will be more rigorous in 2013-14. This document illustrates how assessment questions around the same mathematical concept will change in 2013-14 and then in 2014-15.
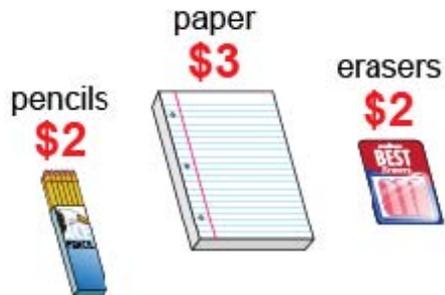
4.OA.A.3 Solve multistep word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations, including problems in which remainders must be interpreted. Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity. Assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies including rounding.

2014-2015 Sample PARCC-like Item: Reflecting the Scope and Depth of the CCSS

Practice Standards:
1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

Use the picture to answer the questions.

A teacher has $60 to spend on supplies for her classroom. The teacher buys as many sets of paper, pencils, and erasers as she can with $60 and then spends the remaining money on paper. A set is one package of paper, one package of pencils, and one package of erasers.

How much money did the teacher spend? Do not include tax.

A. $56
B. $59*
C. $60
D. $63

*correct answer

2013-14 Sample Item: Reflecting the Scope, but not the Depth of the CCSS

A marching band has 75 members. They have as many rows as possible with 8 band members each. The rest of the band members are in the back row. The number sentence below can be used to help find the number of band members who are in the back row.

75 ÷ 8 =

How many band members are in the back row?

      A. 3 band members*
      B. 4 band members
      C. 5 band members
      D. 9 band members

*correct answer

2012-2013 Sample Item: Reflecting Neither the Scope, nor the Depth of the CCSS

Parents and students attended Back-to-School night in the school auditorium. In the front of the auditorium, there are 76 chairs arranged equally in 4 rows. How many chairs are in each row?

4 x _ = **76**

A. 12
B. 15
C. 18
D. 19*

*correct answer