

What is RubricOne?

Schools today continue to move toward greater levels of accountability, particularly with the advent of No Child Left Behind. From superintendents to principals to teachers to students, everyone is being asked to step up their ability to teach and master the various standards and required skills. Educators are using data more often to help drive their decisions to more efficiently reach the higher levels of accountability.

National, state, and local standards documents have been modified and updated significantly over the past few years. Many of these standards fall under the umbrella of performance based standards and skills. Some examples of performance tasks are speaking, writing, listening, science experiments, book reports, physical education activities, most any project or activity where a product or artifact is evaluated. Special Education is another area that often measures achievement with the evaluation of products, more so than multiple choice tests.

Using multiple measures when assessing student achievement is considered a 'best practice', and one traditional way is with a multiple choice quiz or test which is quick and efficient. It is generally accepted that these types of 'forced choice' evaluations are seeking to find if the student knows what the instructor knows or the information around the standard.

Performance assessments seek to find what the student can create (analyze, synthesize, evaluate...) with their knowledge of the standard. Whether it is solving or creating this type assessment evaluates a student performance.

To date this process has been riddled difficulties such as, the students are unclear of the objectives or 'what success' of each objective looks like, inconsistent grading across students, and providing a score that means something to the student.

To solve this educators have used Rubrics to assess performance based skills. A rubric essentially is a matrix where goals of achievement have been identified and levels of accomplishment have been created. (See example at end of this document). In today's environment, educators spend a lot of hours:

- a) creating rubrics
- b) printing out and scoring on paper
- c) entering the scored data into a computer or another format that a student can understand and a teacher can use
- d) analyzing and understanding the data.

RubricOne allows users to create their own rubrics easily or copy rubrics from the RubricOne Library. Users can create on either the RubricOne website or a handheld computer. Once they have created the rubric, they can grade students utilizing their handheld computer. It's a completely mobile solution! After they have spent time grading students, they can synch up to their own computer and all of the data is

quickly loaded onto the RubricOne Server. Educators have immediate access to a wide variety of student and class reports both on the handheld, immediately after scoring, and on the RubricOne Server, immediately after syncing.

RubricOne provides the following

- 1) Reduce time spent creating rubrics.
- 2) Reduces time spent grading/scoring rubrics.
- 3) Offers ideas on different types of rubrics through the RubricOne Public Library. RubricOne's Public Library is a centrally located collection of rubrics. Users may publish and share their rubrics to other users. Moreover a school or a school district can standardize their rubrics and have teachers use one unified set of rubrics located in their own RubricOne Organizational Library.
- 4) Provide a much more efficient method of scoring rather than paper/pencil. If you are using multiple graders, RubricOne quickly and easily sums the data from each grader.
- 5) Immediate feedback with reports on handheld. This instantly helps identify class strengths and weaknesses. Now a teacher can begin to 'help' students improve rather than trying to understand data.
- 6) Data is entered into a handheld computer and synchronized to a central server immediately. Reduce the hours spent manually entering data into computer or in many cases, allow teachers to simply get the info into the computer. Since it is so time consuming, many don't even enter it.
- 7) Easily view historical data on their rubrics. This is helpful to see how current students improve. It is also helpful to see what expectations a teacher might have for new students.
- 8) Either the rubrics or the checklists can also be used commercially. Many government agencies and companies have a wide variety of safety inspections or other types of inspections that require a more objective view of a subjective assessment. Drivers tests, building inspections, regulatory checks, military inspections, various police/fire/EMS reports, performance reviews of plant or sales personnel, etc. all could more consistently be measured by a rubric or with a checklist scoring program.
- 9) Allows the ability of comments to be added and maintained in the system. People can review how a student performed previously and know what areas of improvement they need to see from the student the next time around - easily and quickly.

Rubric example

If a teacher is grading a speech, they might create 3 objectives the student will be graded on:

- Eye Contact
- Vocal Inflection
- Knowledge of Subject

Within those 3 skills, the teacher defines the goals for achievement. For example, for Eye Contact, the goals may be to:

- a) look up at your audience (not your notes) most of the time

- b) look around the room at all areas of audience and not just focus on one or a few spots
- c) hold eye contact with individuals for a period of time

The teacher sets Levels of achievement:

- Proficient
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Needs Improvement

Depending on the goals accomplished, the teacher provides a rating with comments and a score is assigned. If a student does well with points a and b on Eye Contact, but is a little weak on point c, the teacher may give a Level of Good, which carries a score value of 3. Further, the student may score a 2 on Voice and a 3 on Knowledge providing an overall score of 8 points out of 12.

With this point system and RubricOne, a grader can quickly and easily provide a descriptive remediation plan to the individual students as well as automatically see an aggregation of student scores to see overall class strengths and weaknesses immediately. If the report shows that the class scored lowest on Eye Contact vs. the other goals, then the teacher can begin working with the class immediately on how to improve in that objective. If individual students do not need help in this objective, then their RubricOne grading sheet can offer areas for individualized instruction.