



# Friday Focus

## Carter County Schools

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### Are My Students Learning?

John Hattie's first mind frame asks us to "evaluate the effect of our teaching on students' learning and achievement." One way we do that is through **formative assessment**.

#### 3 Essential Principles of Formative Assessment

##### 1. Formative Assessment is Student Focused

Formative assessment is purposefully directed toward the student. It does not emphasize how teachers deliver information but, rather, how students receive that information, how well they understand it, and how they can apply it.

##### 2. Formative Assessment is Instructionally Informative

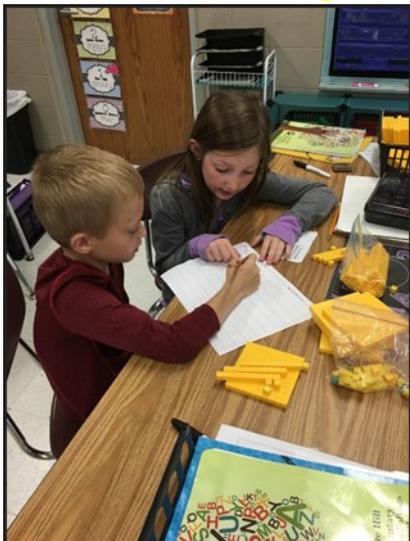
During instruction, teachers assess student understanding and progress toward standards mastery in order to evaluate the effectiveness of their instructional design. Both teachers and students, individually and together, review and reflect on assessment outcomes. As teachers gather information from formative assessment, they adjust their instruction to further student learning.

##### 3. Formative Assessment is Outcomes Based

Formative assessment focuses on achieving goals rather than determining if a goal was or was not met, and one of the ways it does so is by helping to clarify learning goals and standards for both teachers and students. Teaching and learning are based on these standards. Students know the criteria for meeting the standards and are frequently shown exemplars.

—ASCD (*Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development*)

## Spotlight on Excellence



Students in Mrs. Salyers' class at OHES participated in a Rally Coach activity during math class as they utilized multiple strategies to solve addition problems. Students used base ten blocks, rewrote their numbers in expanded form, and chose from other place value strategies to help one another find the correct solution. Then, they recorded their work on a tracking tool as they moved from station to station.

The *Carter County Instructional Framework* states "Students in math class should be engaged in mathematics instruction that is concept driven and requires students to justify their work." This is also a great example of how "Cooperative strategies should be incorporated on a regular basis."

## Fall Happenings

- Sept. 6 Counselors Academy
- Sept. 7 Preschool Academy
- Sept. 8 New Teachers Academy (East)
- Sept. 8 K/1 Academy
- Sept. 9 New Teachers Academy (West)
- Sept. 12 2/3 Academy
- Sept. 15 4/5 Academy



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