Performance Based Assessments at Bate Middle School

Why Performance Assessments?

- It is a way to assess 21\textsuperscript{st} Century Skills as well as the content.
- They enabled us to design a system of assessments that is educative (Assessment AS Learning) students will \textit{learn through the process as they engage in it}.
- Performance assessments encourage educating the whole child beyond the content standards.

Performance tasks allow for:

- The assessment of higher-order cognitive skills, critical abilities and dispositions and allow students to transfer their learning to new situations and/or problems.
- The assessment of standards that can't be measured well or sometimes at all on a standardized or state-level test.

The Bate Performance Based Assessment System:

The system for performance based assessments that we developed is a leveled system built to teach and assess the Common Core, the ACT skill sets, and 21st century skills. Additionally, we built our system to combine subject areas instead of assessing and teaching them separately. Our students still experience some lessons and standard assessments that are just focused on one skill area but this is balanced with cross-curricular lessons, assessments, and projects.

The 2014 dates, levels, and types of performance based assessments are as follows:

- 6th Grade: Students will complete formal performance based assessments in groups or teams in the combined areas of English language arts & social studies as well as math & science. This assessment format is referred to by the NY Consortium Schools as a “roundtable.” Students work in groups to complete projects and will defend their work as a group but they will also be asked individual questions and will receive individual scores and feedback.  
  - Social Studies & English Language Arts Round Tables - \textbf{December 9th During School}
  - Math & Science Round Tables - \textbf{April 21\textsuperscript{st} During School}
- 7th Grade: Students will complete a formal individual performance based assessment in the combined areas of math & science.  
  - Math & Science Individual Defenses - \textbf{March 26\textsuperscript{th} After School 4-6 p.m.} (Buses Available at 6 p.m. for 7th Grade Students)
- 8th Grade: Students will complete a formal individual performance based assessment in the combined areas of social studies & English language arts.  
  - Social Studies & English Language Arts - \textbf{April 16\textsuperscript{th} After School 4-6 p.m.} (Buses Available at p.m. for 7th Grade Students)