

MEASURING UP: IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND USE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

IF ONLY IT WERE SO SIMPLE

Daniel Koretz, Chapter 1, *Measuring Up: What Educational Testing Really Tells Us*, 2008

WHAT IS A TEST?

Daniel Koretz, Chapter 2, *Measuring Up: What Educational Testing Really Tells Us*, 2008

WHAT WE MEASURE: JUST HOW GOOD IS THE SAMPLE?

Daniel Koretz, Chapter 3, *Measuring Up: What Educational Testing Really Tells Us*, 2008

INFLATED TEST SCORES

Daniel Koretz, Chapter 10, *Measuring Up: What Educational Testing Really Tells Us*, 2008

These four chapters from Dan Koretz's award-winning book, *Measuring Up*, provide the background on student assessments and how they work that can help districts get a handle on how to improve matters. The book, written to be easily accessible to teachers, policymakers, and other interested parties, seeks to help readers get beneath the surface of educational testing by taking a deep look at key issues that affect students' scores.

Inspired by a popular Harvard course for students without an extensive mathematics background, *Measuring Up* demystifies educational testing—from MCAS to SAT to WAIS, with all the alphabet soup in between. Bringing statistical terms down to earth, Daniel Koretz takes readers through the most fundamental issues that arise in educational testing and shows how they apply to some of the most controversial issues in education today, from high-stakes testing to special education. He walks readers through everyday examples to show what tests do well, what their limits are, how easily tests and scores can be oversold or misunderstood, and how they can be used sensibly to help discover how much kids have learned.