Ethnography Supports Changes to Student-Centered Instruction

TQR 4th Annual Conference

Mary Ann Sprague, Maryann Fuhrmann Xerox Research Centre Webster January 18, 2013







US Education is changing



Race to the Top: Annual Professional Performance Review

State Teacher Evaluations

Advancing Technology



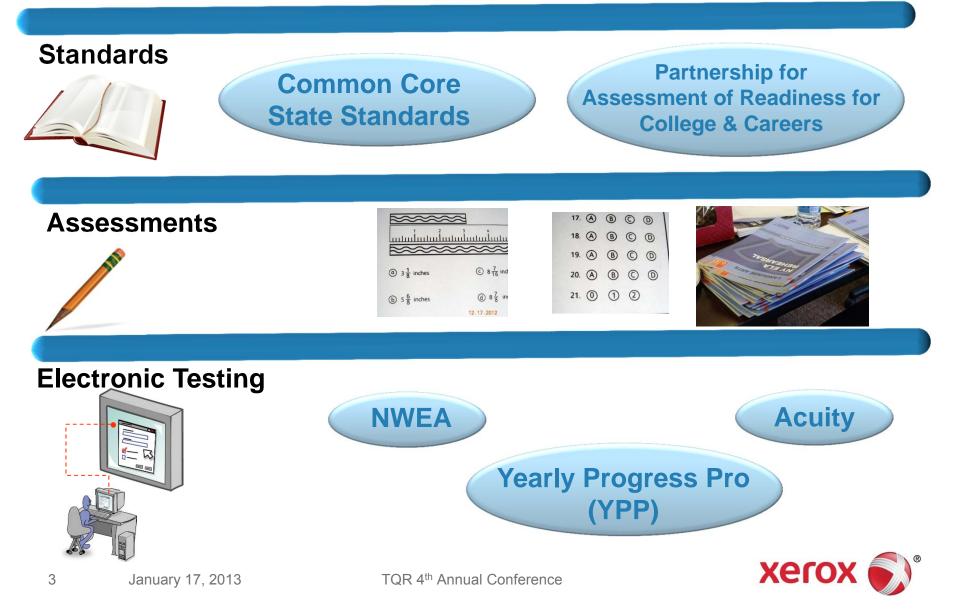


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Federal Programs

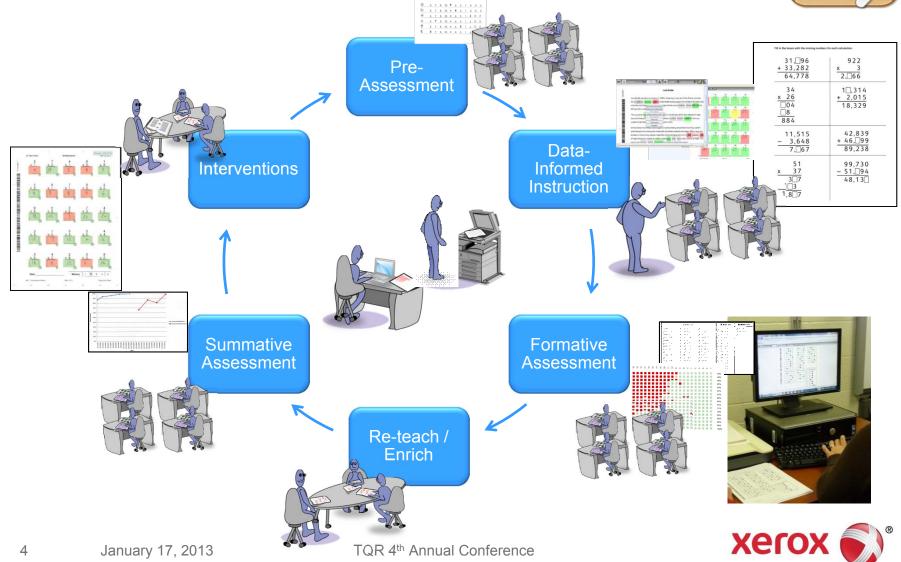
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Schools have to adapt

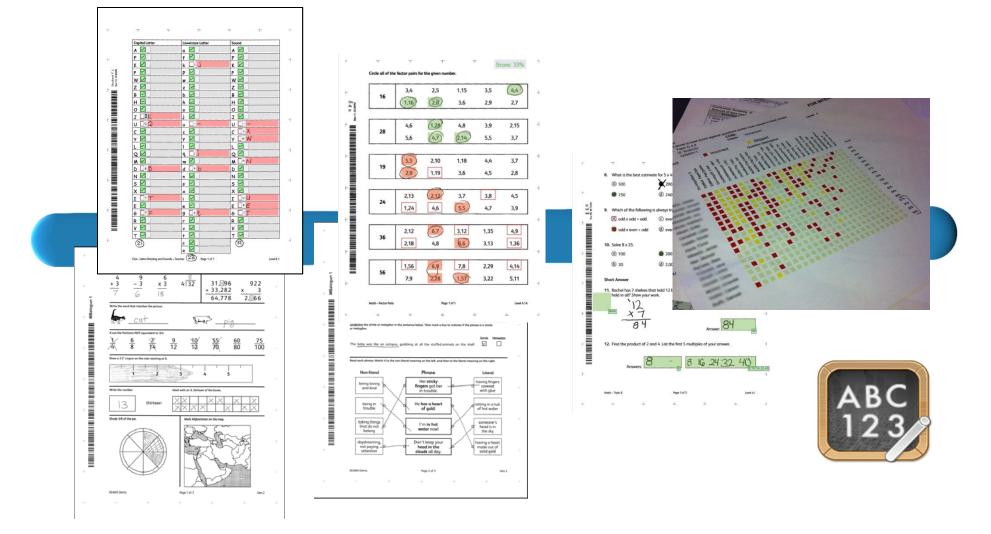


Xerox Educational Assessment Management System supports adaptive learning





Aiding the teacher behind the assessment





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Studying the Pilot

Work Practice Study

Alpha Test: 2011-12 school year

- Technology pilot in 4 elementary schools, ~100 teachers, ~1,200 students.
- Focus on assessment work process, user experience and administration data needs

Beta Test: 2012-13 school year

- Additional schools, commercialization focus
- Identifying process changes and improvements









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Site Challenges

No video allowed in classrooms

Relied on observation, audio and notes

Team coordination

Participants confused by multiple Xerox contacts

Repeated information transfer



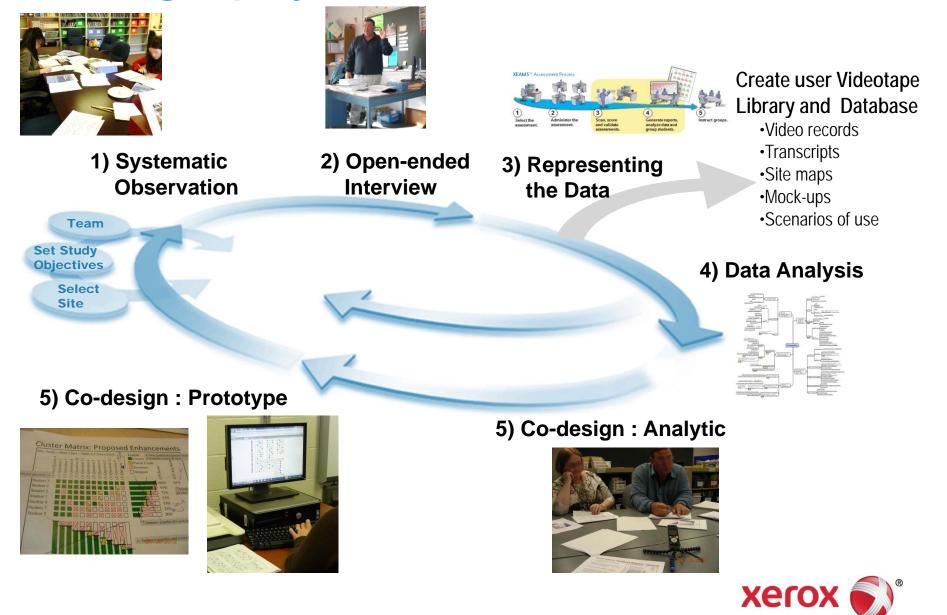




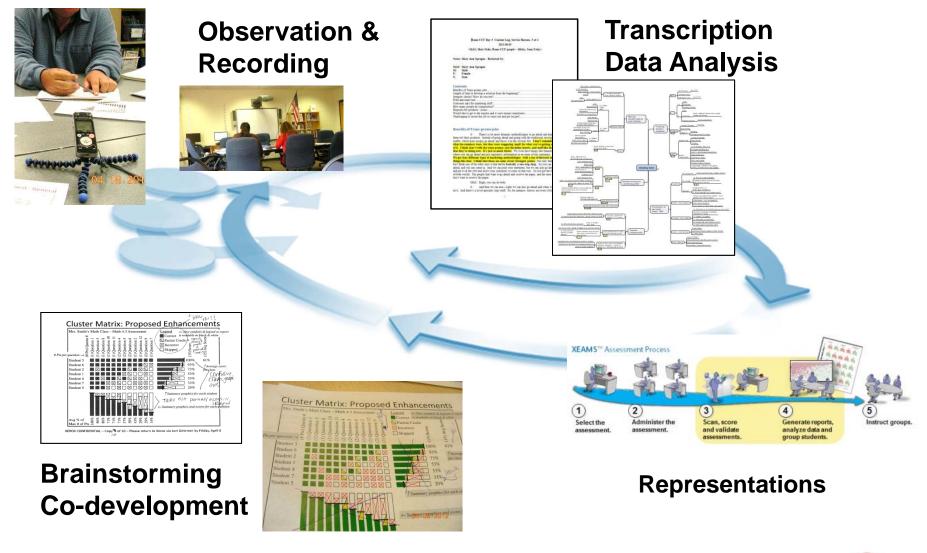
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Ethnography Process & Methods



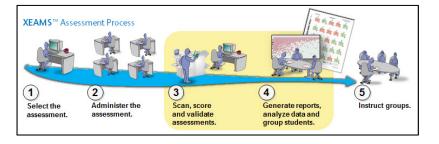
Ethnographic Technology

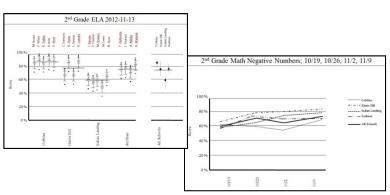


Outcomes

- Improving integration with teacher processes
 - Making the assessment process seamless
- Flexibility for forming learning groups
 - Providing data needed for regrouping

- Administration roles and requirements added
 - New data analytics for school and district personnel









Insights

- Different timelines accelerated feedback
 - Limited teacher and administrator availability
 - Ethnographers shared findings with pilot team, & participants iteratively
- Utilized pilot support team experiences
- Identified new development areas and opportunities
- Ethnographic process still works without technology





Thank you

