Massachusetts has led the nation as a pioneer in public education through the promotion of world-class educational standards and assessments. To build on these accomplishments, the state seeks to provide educators with a comprehensive integrated suite of cutting-edge tools and resources that will promote best practices in classroom instruction and assessment.

ESE is launching Edwin, Massachusetts’ new, comprehensive teaching and learning platform. The vision behind Edwin is to provide educators with quality resources to continue to promote high-levels of student achievement and help reduce persistent achievement gaps among the state’s most and least-advantaged student groups. This system is intended to support educators and foster teaching and learning at every level—classroom, school, district, and state—by providing on-demand access to instructional resources, curriculum planning tools, model curriculum units, and a variety of assessments including curriculum embedded performance assessments.

Using Edwin, classroom teachers, principals, professional support personnel and district leaders are to be able to access data from a wide range of sources from attendance, to course enrollment, to the student’s growing acquisition of new knowledge, skills and abilities, to college matriculation. Student, teacher and course data coming in through the SIF exchange (Schools Interoperability Framework) as well as historical data including state assessment data will give educators new actionable information and tools to serve their current students and to grow as professionals. The platform will also aim to offer educators access to compelling print and multi-media resources aligned with current Massachusetts learning standards that they can use to improve their practice and the programs that serve their students. This suite of tools will be phased in over time, with the first components available to some users in the 2012-2013 school year.

Edwin’s suite of tools and resources are being targeted to help educators answer these broad questions:

- **How are my current students doing? How many of them are being served well by core instruction? Which of my students need additional support to stay on track? Which ones need additional challenges to remain engaged?**

Using the following tools, educators can use resources in the system to differentiate instruction and customize student learning and assessments:

- **Dashboards** summarizing and highlighting essential information educators want to see on a regular basis to better manage their classes, programs, schools or districts. Dashboards can include formative and summative assessment results by class, grade, and attendance.

- **Standard reports** providing educators detailed information about their students, class, program, school or district.

- **Data analysis and report development tools** available for those needing to perform more complex data analyses or design reports that help inform education needs and outcomes specific to the district, school, program or teacher.

- **An early warning indicator system** to help identify students who are at risk of missing critical academic milestones throughout the education continuum.

- **How can I learn more about what content my students understand?**

- **Assessment tools** allowing educators to develop and deliver customized formative and interim assessments either using their own questions, or a predefined bank of proven high quality items. In addition to being used at the classroom level, these assessments could also serve as common assessments across classrooms and schools in a district.

- **Results** from the classroom or common assessments can be uploaded to be included in dashboards and reports where the results can be weighed with other information critical to understanding the status and impacts of actions taken on students, classes, programs, school and district wide.
What are good ways to teach this content to my students? What instructional resources have other teachers found to be really effective?

Through Edwin, educators are to have access to:

- Model curriculum units aligned with the most up-to-date Massachusetts Frameworks provided for ELA, mathematics, science, history/social science, and vocational/technical education in grades PreK–12.
- A linkable digital library of vetted resources, including videos of educator practice.

 Taken as a whole, the goal of this system is to align with and support the workflow that teachers typically follow, providing educators with timely and relevant data and resources to inform practice and impact student learning, growth, and achievement. Edwin will provide teachers, as well as school, district, and state educational leaders with information to guide their decisions as they continually improve their practices, as well as the systems and structures that support high-quality teaching and learning at the classroom, school, and district levels. Think of Edwin as a GPS for teaching and learning from pre-K through to college and career.

ESE is consulting extensively with teachers and administrators in the design and piloting of Edwin. ESE’s goal is to provide a wide range of integrated services at a cost below what districts could expect to pay to purchase, build, or subscribe to for similar systems on their own. When fully implemented, Edwin is intended to provide a highly comprehensive and valuable resource to districts and free up resources for additional curriculum, assessment, and professional development that districts want to provide at the local level. ESE will work with vendors to make as much of this vision a reality as possible.

How can you help?

To make sure this comprehensive system fulfills these goals ESE will be reaching out to educators across the Commonwealth to solicit input on how the system will need to work for it to be of use to educators in the field (both classroom teachers, and school and district administrators). ESE will use online surveys, focus groups, and webinars to get feedback on the most pressing shared needs of educators statewide to inform system design and functionality. For more information on Edwin, or to get involved in its development, please contact: edwin@doe.mass.edu or visit www.doe.mass.edu/edwin.

A Special Note for Districts:
While ESE hopes this system addresses many district and school data and curriculum needs, it is not possible for it to address all needs. Districts will still be required to develop, collect, and host certain resources locally. However districts are encouraged to hold off on major commitments for the purchase or long-term lease of systems that could eventually prove duplicative and/or needlessly expensive, and instead maintain maximum flexibility for shifting to the ESE system as its components become ready for use.