MEASURE WHAT
MATTERS

A Report from the Measure What Matters Assessment & Accountability Council

October 2022

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Introduction

As our state and federal testing and accountability ratings systems have evolved over time, concerns from educators, administrators, parents, an community members regarding the emphasis on high-stakes student testing have increased. In 2005, Measure What Matters Assessment & Accountability Council member Dr. Angela Valenzuela wrote, “At issue is ot whether school districts should be held accountable, but what means sh d be used to accomplish the widely shared goals of ensuring that all childr receive a high-quality education.” The question still resonates today.

A Report from the Measure What Matters Assessment & Accountability Council is our call to action to hold ourselves accountable as a state for designing the educational systems our students and families need and deserve. For Texas to remain a national leader in public education, it is imperative that we utilize the vast expertise that exists across the state i order to design a more relevant assessment and accountability system. While many great e orts are evident throughout Texas schools, we continue to rely on a very narrow measure of school performance to de a ‘good school.’ At present, 100% of an elementary or middle school’s accountability rating is based on STAAR scores; STAAR scores are als e predominant factor for high school ratings. The quest for more meaning ways to measure student learning and make continued progress toward the goal of an excellent education for all students is a call that brings us together as Texans.

[1] Introduction: The Accountability Debate in Texas: Continuing the Conversation. edu/68735011/Introduction_The_Accountability_Debate_in_Texas_Continuing_the_Conversation