Assessment & Evaluation?

Sorry, but I’m too busy teaching...

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Focusing factors at work...

- CLB renewal
- Government priorities
CLB NCLC

- Common instructional approach
- Basis of standardized placement and exit tests
- Standard for language learning results and credentials
- Benchmark for occupations & mainstream post-secondary education
- Organizing principle for all federal & provincial programs
Government Priority

- CLB Milestone Test
- Portfolio Based Language Assessment (PBLA)
Assessment is ________
Assessment is...

- a systematic approach to collecting information on student learning and performance based on various sources of evidence to inform teaching and help students learn more.
Purposes of Assessment

- Diagnostic (Placement/Needs)
- Formative
- Summative
My Quest...

- An approach to assessment that would...
  - fulfill diagnostic, formative and summative assessment purposes
  - reflect CLB principles
  - promote learning
  - build on and enhance teacher expertise
Advantages of TBA

- scope
- reduces cheating
- validity
- reliability
- fairness
- feedback
- positive washback
- empowers Ts & Ss
- expertise
- cost-effective
TBA is valid & reliable when...

- clear standards
- assessment tasks/criteria
- clear goals
- adequate resources
- opportunity for moderation
- positive ‘assessment culture’
Questions...

- Does assessment improve student learning?
- If it does, are there assessment practices that are effective?
Assessment for Learning Principles
part of effective planning
focus on how Ss learn
central to classroom practice
key professional skill
sensitive & constructive
motivating

learning goals & criteria

guidance on how to improve

facilitate self-assessment

recognizes all learning achievement
Select one or two of the assessment for learning principles that stand out for you (see handout) and talk about why they stand out and what they mean for your teaching.
Assessment that is explicitly designed to promote learning is the single most powerful tool we have for both raising standards and empowering lifelong learners.