

How IDEA Public Schools Scales a Unified Assessment System Across Its Network

District:
IDEAPublic Schools

State:
Texas

Grades:
K-12

Interview:
Samantha Murillo,
Assessment Administrator



Key Takeaways

- **A unified platform supports all levels of assessment.** IDEA uses Edcite for everything from daily classroom checks to network-wide exams, ensuring consistency in rigor and delivery.
- **Centralized design drives alignment.** Curriculum teams develop assessments using standardized templates and blueprints to maintain quality and comparability across campuses.
- **Consistent student experience builds confidence.** Students engage with the same testing environment across all assessments, reducing confusion and increasing familiarity with state-aligned formats.
- **Data informs decisions at every level.** Teachers, campus leaders, and network teams use assessment data to guide instruction, interventions, and curriculum adjustments.

Building a Scalable Assessment System

At IDEA Public Schools, assessment is not just about measuring learning. It is a coordinated system designed to support instruction at scale.

Since discovering Edcite in 2021, IDEA has built a flexible assessment framework across its Texas campuses that supports both classroom instruction and large-scale testing. The shift to online state testing created the need for a platform that could deliver rigorous, standards-aligned assessments while preparing students for a digital testing experience.

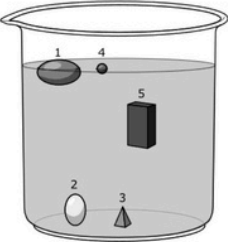
STAAR Grade 5 Science 2025 Released Test (7 out of 32)

Back Next Pause Highlight Selection Dictionary Reset Check Answer Notes Line Reader Zoom Out Zoom In

Q 7

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

A student drops five objects into a container of water.



Which statement **BEST** classifies some of these objects?

☐ A Object 2 and 5 are more dense than water, while Objects 1 and 4 are less dense than water.

☐ B Object 1 and 4 are more dense than water, while Objects 2 and 3 have the same density as water.

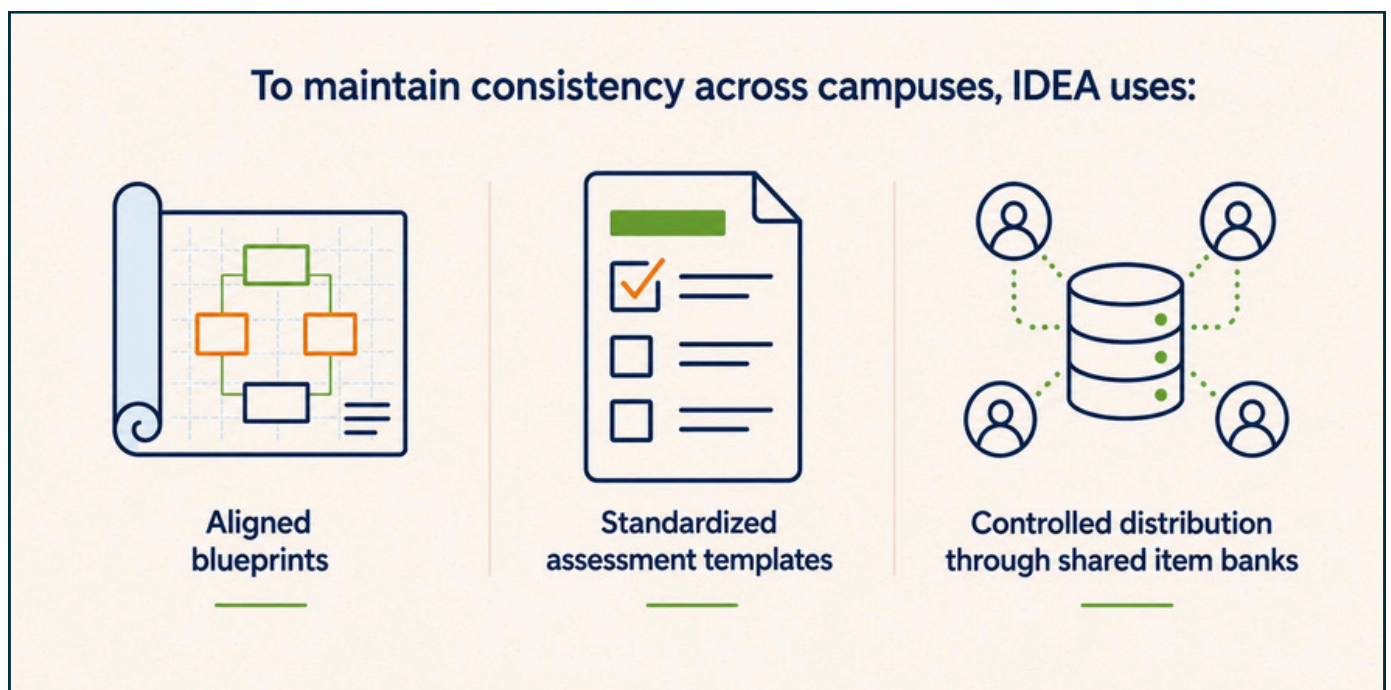
☐ C Object 2 and 3 are less dense than water, while Object 5 is more dense than water.

☐ D Object 1 and 4 are less dense than water, while Object 2 is more dense than water.

Edcite serves as the backbone of IDEA's assessment system, enabling consistent, high-quality assessments across campuses and grade levels.

Designing Assessments for Consistency and Rigor

Assessment creation at IDEA is primarily led by curriculum teams and curriculum managers. This centralized approach ensures that all assessments are aligned to standards and reflect the appropriate level of rigor.



Teachers also have flexibility to create assessments for targeted practice or to address learning gaps. This balance allows IDEA to maintain alignment across the network while still supporting responsive classroom instruction.

Supporting Teaching and Learning in the Classroom

Beyond large-scale testing, Edcite is embedded in daily classroom instruction.

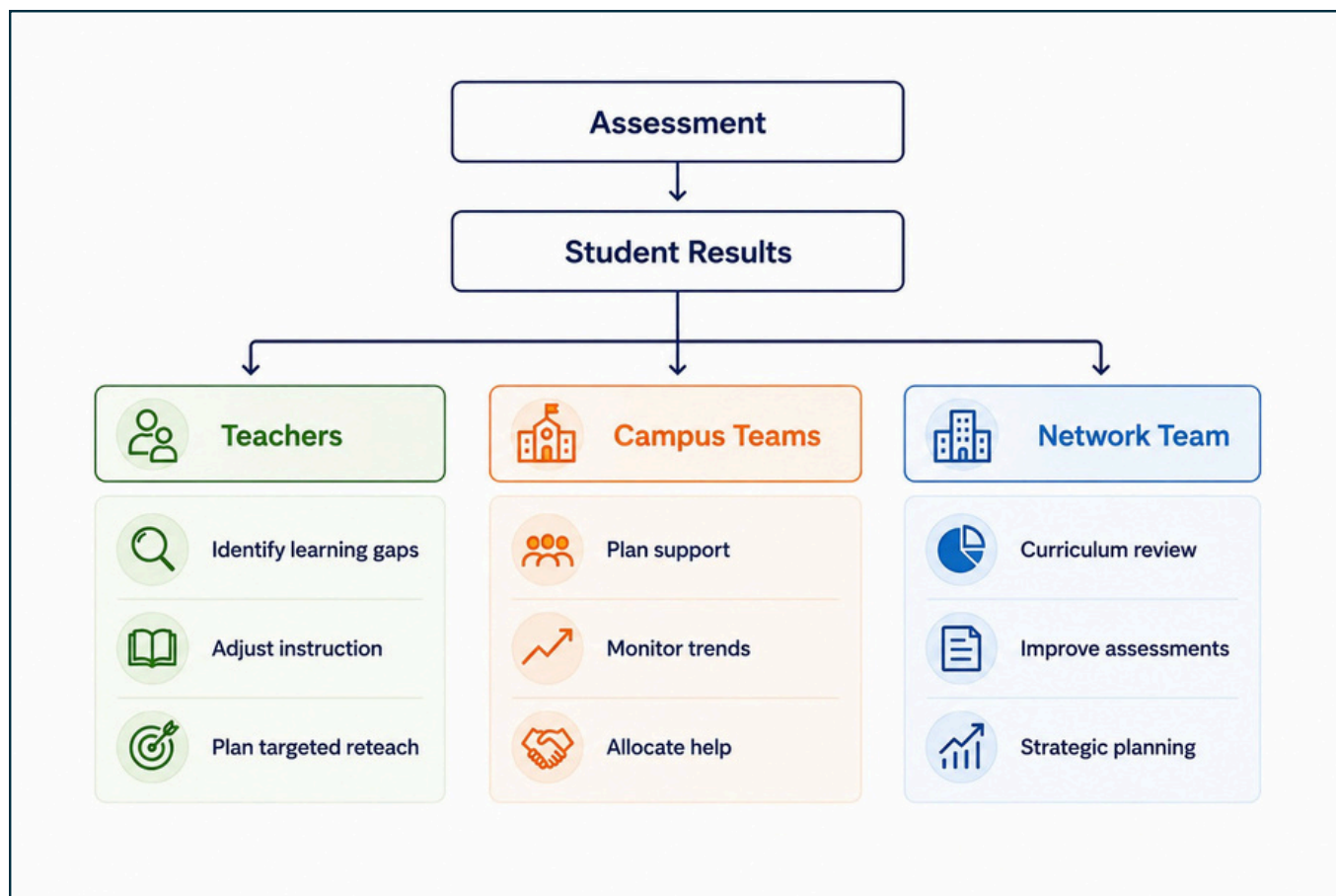
Teachers use the platform for:

- Formative checks for understanding
- Exit tickets and quick checks
- Reteach and intervention practice
- Test preparation aligned to state standards

Because the same platform is used across all assessment types, students experience a consistent testing environment whether they are completing a quick classroom activity or a final exam.

This consistency helps reduce cognitive load and allows students to focus on demonstrating their understanding.

Using Data to Inform Instruction



Assessment data plays a central role in IDEA's instructional model, providing actionable insights for teachers, campus leaders, and network teams.

By making assessment data accessible at every level, Edcite enables teachers, campus leaders, and network teams to turn student results into timely instructional decisions.

Preparing for the Transition to the Student Success Tool (SST)

As Texas transitions from STAAR to the Student Success Tool, IDEA is taking a proactive approach to ensure readiness across its campuses.

This includes:

- Increasing exposure to a wider range of question formats
- Strengthening internal assessment practices
- Preparing campuses through training and clear guidance
- Ensuring systems can support more flexible and dynamic testing models

Edcite plays a key role in this transition by allowing IDEA to adapt its assessment approach without needing to overhaul its system.

With Edcite, IDEA can:

- Introduce and scale new item types aligned to SST expectations
- Provide ongoing practice to build student familiarity and confidence
- Maintain consistency in the testing experience across campuses
- Quickly adjust and deploy assessments as requirements evolve

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Edcite gives us the **flexibility** to evolve our assessment approach without needing to overhaul our system.

SAMANTHA MURILLO

Assessment Administrator,
IDEA Public Schools



Creating a Cohesive System Across the Network

Using Edcite as a unified platform, IDEA has built a system that captures and responds to student learning at every level.

For teachers:

- Simplified assessment delivery
- Immediate access to actionable data
- Tools to support both formative and summative assessment

For students:

- A consistent and familiar testing environment
- Regular exposure to state-aligned question types
- Opportunities to build confidence over time

For the system overall:

- Stronger alignment across campuses
- Greater efficiency in assessment delivery
- Scalable implementation across a large network of schools

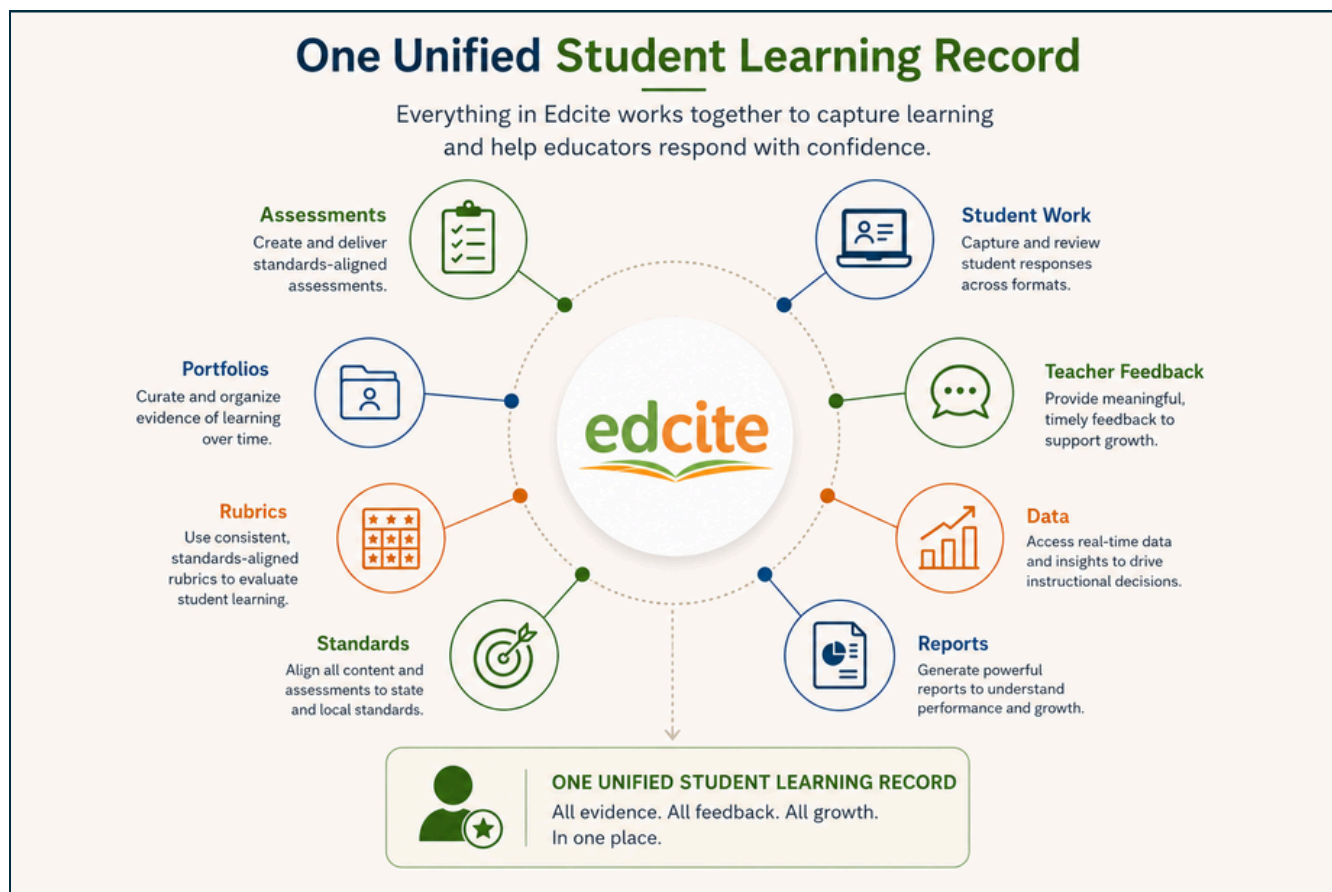


By using the same platform for both formative and summative assessments, IDEA creates a seamless experience for students and a more efficient workflow for educators.

Spotlight: A Unified System for All Evidence of Learning

One of the most powerful aspects of IDEA's approach is how the same system supports a wide range of student work, not just traditional tests.

In addition to classroom and network-wide assessments, IDEA also uses Edcite in courses like art, where students curate portfolios of their work over time.



Beyond traditional assessments, Edcite enables districts to capture student work, portfolios, teacher feedback, rubrics, standards alignment, assessment results, and reporting in one unified system. By bringing every form of evidence together, educators can evaluate learning more consistently and respond with greater confidence.

Looking Ahead

Assessment will continue to evolve, but IDEA has built a foundation designed to evolve with it.

By bringing classroom assessment, district-wide testing, portfolio curation, and instructional decision-making into one unified system, IDEA has created an assessment ecosystem that is both scalable and adaptable.

As new assessment models and state requirements emerge, Edcite provides the flexibility to expand that system while maintaining consistency, rigor, and a high-quality experience for educators and students alike.

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“Edcite has allowed us to bring our entire assessment system into **one consistent platform**—from daily classroom checks to network-wide testing—while maintaining alignment, rigor, and accessibility for both teachers and students.”

SAMANTHA MURILLO

Assessment Administrator,
IDEA Public Schools

Ready to Build a Unified Assessment System?

See how Edcite helps districts streamline assessment, respond to student learning with actionable data, and create a consistent experience for educators and students across every classroom.

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