Some Key Questions to Examine Using Pearson Benchmark, Pearson Inform, and Data4SS Data Inquiry Tool

- For a given grade and subject area and test (MEAP,MME, or local assessment)…on which HSCE/GLCE are we scoring the best? The worst?
- Can this high or low performance be connected back to specific strengths or weaknesses in curriculum? Resources? Teacher training? Teaching and learning strategies? Formative assessment strategies?
- Are there one or more strands with low scores across the expectations in the strand?
- How do results look over time? Look at one grade/subject over two or more years. Look at one group of students (cohort) as they progress upwards from grade to grade. Try this with subgroups.
- How do local assessment scores compare to state or national scores? Look at the student level as well…are the students who are performing well on local assessments also performing well on state/national assessments (and vice versa)?
- Which subgroups of students are performing the best? Worst? Is there a trend across this content area, grade level, building, etc. for these subgroups?
- What percentage of each subgroup is proficient?
- What percentage of each subgroup is not proficient?
- How close is this subgroup to proficiency?
- How was "proficiency" (cut score) determined?
- How does the picture look if we use alternate cut scores (proficiency profiles)?
- What information do teachers need to enable this subgroup to score proficient?
- How do course grades compare to assessment scores?
- How do grading practices toward homework and tests affect the course grade?
- Are all teachers of a course or of a department grading the same?
- How do you predict your students will have scored on the Fall 2009 MEAP and/or Spring 2010 MME for each content area? Once scores are out, check back in the Data 4SS inquiry tools and in Inform.