

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817273603321
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Titolo	Tests, testing, and genuine school reform [[electronic resource] /] / Herbert J. Walberg
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Stanford, Calif., : Education Next Books, c2011
ISBN	0-8179-1356-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (119 p.)
Collana	Hoover Institution Press publication ; ; no. 610
Classificazione	EDU030000
Disciplina	371.260973
Soggetti	Educational tests and measurements - United States Education - Standards - United States Educational change - United States School improvement programs - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index. Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front Cover; Acknowledgments; Book Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; 1. Introduction and Overview; 2. Why Tests are Necessary; 3. Well-Made Tests; 4. Types and Uses of Achievement Tests; 5. Preparing Standardized Achievement Tests; 6. Tests as Incentives; 7. Preventing Test Fraud; 8. Standards and Testing; 9. Using Tests to Raise Student Achievement; 10. Conclusion; About the Author; About the Hoover Institution's Koret Task Force on K-12 Education; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The author draws on scientific studies of tests and their uses to show how standardized achievement tests must play a central role in improving achievement in K-12 schools. He explains the central considerations in developing and evaluating tests and tells how tests can best be best used, covering such topics as using tests for student incentives, paying teachers for performance, and using tests in efforts to attain new state and national standards.