Louisiana Drops Testing Consortium in Favor of Cosmetics Tests

At the urging of Gov. Bobby Jindal, Louisiana has decided to withdraw from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for Colleges and Careers (PARCC). Instead of using PARCC’s Common-Core aligned assessment, Louisiana will switch to a series of cosmetics tests that were originally designed for bunny rabbits.

“These tests have been validated over the past couple decades and have proven their worth time and again,” explained Jindal. “Just as importantly, they were designed by private industry, not the socialist Obama administration.”

State officials said that they’re still working out the details but are leaning toward tests pertaining to perfume, lipstick, hair color, eye and facial makeup, nail polish, shampoo, and skin cream.

Jindal praised the tests as contributing directly to the economy, and he added that the tests would be much cheaper than the PARCC tests that he once championed. “There’s a good chance that the cosmetic companies will administer the tests for free and may actually pay the state for the privilege of learning from our students—so it’s really win-win!”

Responding to reporter inquiries about safety, Jindal’s advisor pointed out that all high-stakes standardized testing has negative health effects on a subset of students. But he offered the assurance that parents wishing to opt their children out may instead have their children sit through six consecutive hours of CNN’s coverage of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

Harvard Research Team Links Teacher Traits to Value-Added

Using a data set that includes all Google searches for the last three years, Harvard Professor Sage Petty and his colleagues were able to determine that teachers with higher value-added scores were 0.0408% more likely to prefer Mary Ann to Ginger, 0.0783% more likely to purchase their firearms at discounted prices, and 0.0281% more likely to be able to distinguish a Mallard from a Fulvous Whistling-Duck.

“It’s really amazing the sorts of associations one can tease out with a large enough data set,” said Petty. He pointed to additional associations between value-added scores and purchases of laundry detergent (powered-detergent teachers have higher scores) and searches combining ROTFL and IMHO (lower scores).

“Surprisingly,” noted Petty, “teachers at all value-added levels had an equal likelihood of wanting to slap me and my colleagues upside the head with a trout.”