ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATIONS

**GOAL 1**
Maintain and continually improve a high-quality and rigorous system of assessments

1a) Enhance the precision and accessibility of the existing summative assessment
1b) Enhance existing and create additional interim assessments
1c) Build the capacity of vendors to support member states by improving the quality and volume of test platform specifications
1d) Strengthen the evidence-base and partnerships necessary for Smarter Balanced to be more broadly recognized and used as a measure of college and career readiness

**GOAL 2**
Provide educators, policymakers, students and families with robust and actionable information on student performance and the tools and resources to improve instruction

2a) Enhance the accessibility, functionality and use of the Digital Library
2b) Improve reporting to provide more actionable information in less time and with a more user-friendly format
2c) Design tools and trainings to support the understanding and use of Smarter Balanced assessment data by students, their families and policymakers
2d) Support states in identifying high-quality professional development providers to improve the use of data to inform instructional practice

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**GOAL 3**
Improve organizational capacity to support state-led efforts to communicate and advocate for Smarter Balanced's value

3a) Provide state-specific support to assess communications and public affairs needs and align flexible, resources to support the local efforts
3b) Streamline and continue to provide information and tools for state-based communications and advocacy (e.g., convening state communications directors, customizable Member portal resources)

OPERATING MODEL AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

**GOAL 4**
Ensure Smarter Balanced has internal capacity and leadership to navigate and be responsive to states' evolving assessment needs and the assessment market overall

4a) Maintain Smarter Balanced's strong, participatory, member-led governance structure
4b) Create a more agile business model that allows for greater flexibility in the service offerings to the field (e.g., interim assessments), but also creates greater stability in the membership
4c) Enhance Smarter Balanced's ongoing capacity to effectively assess and make strategic, market-informed and politically-informed decisions

LONG-TERM GOAL

**GOAL 5**
Maintain Smarter Balanced's position as a leader in innovative assessment design

5a) Allocate and prioritize resources for ongoing research and development for new, innovative assessments that build on Smarter Balanced's core competence
5b) Conduct a feasibility analysis on the development of a competency-based assessment with the potential to certify student-acquired bodies of ELA and math knowledge portable to various post-secondary contexts