

Chapter 7 Definitions

Confidentiality: Students' right to have test results, grades, and other school information held private, accessed and used only by those authorized to do so, and not released outside the school without permission.

Construct-irrelevant variance: Variation in assessment scores related to factors that are not part of the achievement domain or learning goal assessed, causing bias and distortion in the scores (sometimes called “test score pollution”).

Fairness: In standardized testing fairness means that assessment results have the same meaning for

individuals from all relevant subgroups. In classroom assessment fairness means that the conditions of teaching, learning, classroom interactions, and assessment result in assessment tools and processes that are appropriate, accessible, and useful for learning for all students.

Opportunity to learn: The extent to which students have had a chance to learn the content on which they are assessed—currently studied as a function of instructional time (including time to practice), the content of instruction, and instructional quality.