MCAS ALT: THE BIG PICTURE IN ELA

The 2011 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework in ELA/Literacy includes separate strands for Reading-Literature and Reading-Informational Text. Therefore, these genres may not be combined in the MCAS-Alt portfolio strand in Reading. Teachers may choose to assess one or the other, but not both. The following information will assist in determining whether a text is literary or informational.

READING: LITERATURE VS. INFORMATIONAL TEXT (from engageny.org)

- **Literature:**
  - Examples of literary text
    - A. adventure stories
    - B. nursery rhymes
    - C. poems
    - D. fables and folktales
    - E. legends
    - F. myths
    - G. fantasy
    - H. plays
    - I. historical fiction
    - J. mysteries
    - K. science fiction
    - L. realistic fiction
    - M. allegories
    - N. parodies
    - O. satire
    - P. graphic novels

- **Informational text:**
  - Examples of informational text
    - A. Literary nonfiction
      - biographies and autobiographies
      - exposition, argument, and functional text
        - 1. personal essays and speeches
        - 2. opinion pieces
        - 3. essays about art or literature
        - 4. biographies and memoirs (including autobiographies and diaries)
        - 5. journalism
    - B. Historical, Scientific, and Technical Texts
      - texts about history, social studies, science, and the arts
      - technical texts: (directions from a manual or a recipe), information displayed in graphs, charts, or maps, and digital sources on a range of topics (must be in the context of a text, not in isolation)
      - historical, scientific, technical, or economic accounts (including digital sources)
      - journalistic pieces (news articles, magazine features, including digital sources)