Dear Educators:

Thank you for supporting your child’s participation in the 2019 Kansas Assessment Program. This year, students were assessed in the following content areas:

- English language arts: Grades 3-8 and 10.
- Mathematics: Grades 3-8 and 10.
- Science: Grades 5, 8 and 11.

In addition to assessment results, parents of eighth- and 10th-grade students will see an ACT predictive measure added to their child’s assessment report. This measure correlates with or predicts a likely range of ACT scores based on how the student performed on the state assessment.

Your student’s assessment report also will include a Lexile® measure and a Quantile measure.

Lexile measures indicate the level of difficulty at which your child reads most comfortably. Quantile measures indicate your child’s readiness for instruction addressing a particular mathematical skill or concept.

These ranges are your child’s “sweet spot” for learning and comprehension. Ask your school for additional information on how to use these scores to support your child’s learning.

Kansas’ students, teachers and parents are among the best in the nation, and we all share in the responsibility of making every child successful.

As you review your student’s results, please remember that assessments are just one of several measures teachers consider when gauging student progress. Something as simple as a student not feeling well on the day of the assessment could impact his or her performance. That’s why your student’s teachers use classroom interaction, homework and many other strategies throughout the year to identify learning and achievement levels.

Please contact your child’s school, teacher or principal to have them explain your student’s results in detail.

Thank you for being a positive part of your child’s education, and thank you for supporting the Kansas State Board of Education’s vision for education — Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randy Watson, Kansas Commissioner of Education
Understanding the 2019 Kansas Assessment Program

The Kansas Assessment Program (KAP) is a set of untimed, computerized tests in English language arts; mathematics; and science. The test content fully aligns to the Kansas content standards. The Assessment and Achievement Institute at the University of Kansas develops and delivers each assessment.

Test Purpose
The Kansas Assessment Program provides parents, educators, and policymakers with one piece of information about student learning. Additionally, KAP meets federal and state accountability requirements.

Test Content
In 2019, all students in grades 3–8 and grade 10 took assessments in English language arts and mathematics. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 took a science assessment.

Test Format
Computerized tests allow students to demonstrate their knowledge in various ways. KAP uses technology-enhanced items that ask students to do more than choose the right answer from a list. For example, students may be required to order items, create categories, label areas, plot graphs, select multiple options, and create written responses.

How are KAP assessments scored?
First, we add the points your student earned on the test questions without deducting points for incorrect answers. Some questions are worth more than one point. Next, we convert this raw score to a scaled score that has the same meaning for all versions of the test. KAP scaled scores range from 220 to 380 and are divided into four performance levels.

We use the same process to calculate your student’s performance in different categories of each subject-area test, such as Reading Informational Texts in English language arts or Algebra in mathematics.

How should you use KAP results?
Use these scores to help
- identify your students’ relative strengths and limitations
- indicate your students’ progress toward meeting state curriculum standards
- compare your students’ performance to other students in the school, district, and state

How can you help your students improve their KAP scores?
- Encourage parents and classroom teachers to discuss ways to develop students’ critical thinking skills.
- Establish time for students to read and provide engaging and appropriately challenging reading materials.
- Encourage parents to practice skills with their students at home by asking questions that require explanations and can’t be answered with a single word; having students write lists, letters, stories, or podcast scripts; and solving math problems using everyday materials, such as road maps, sporting event results, or recipes.
- Use the information about specific skill categories to identify areas your students need work in.
- Encourage classroom teachers to practice these skills.
Student Report Walkthrough

1. The level score corresponds to the numbered score on the meter. This score represents your student's performance across all sections of the test, which are described on the back of the report. Reports for students in grades 4–8 will also show the student's score in the previous year.

2. The meter shows where your student's score falls within the range of possible scores. The segments of the meter represent the four performance levels. The regions differ in size because the score ranges for performance levels are not equal. Your student's numeric score is displayed above the meter.

3. Additional meters show the median scores of students in the school, district, and state. A median score is the middle score when scores are ordered from lowest to highest; a median score is an accurate representation of an average score.

4. This list describes the skills your student has likely mastered, based on his or her performance level score.

5. This section shows the range of possible level scores and what they mean about your student's progress toward meeting state curriculum standards.

If a student did not take the test, did not complete enough of the test, or transferred schools during testing, or if a special circumstance prevented the student's test from being scored, the score report will not display a score and will be missing most other elements shown in this guide.
This page shows your student’s relative strengths and weaknesses on the different areas of the test. Each category represents a group of test items that assess related skills. All subjects have main categories (with all-caps titles). In math and English language arts, some of the main categories are broken down further into subcategories. In math and science, each category includes a different set of items. In English language arts, some items will be counted in multiple categories within the main groups of OVERALL READING and OVERALL WRITING. For example, an item that asks about the main idea of a story will be counted in OVERALL READING, READING: Literary Texts, and READING: Main Idea.

The symbols compare your student’s performance in each category to the performance of students who received the minimum Level 3 score.

For further information about the standards, assessment program, and tests, please visit these websites.

Your student’s scores on the KAP math and English language arts assessments are one indicator of whether he or she is on track for success on the math, reading, and English portions of the ACT. Visit this website for more information about comparing KAP and ACT scores.

Your student will receive a Lexile® Measure in English language arts and a Quantile® Measure in math.
The KAP assessments measure students’ understanding of the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards at each grade. The English language arts assessment asks students to read and answer questions about literary passages, informational texts, and writing samples. Students demonstrate their knowledge and skills related to reading and writing by selecting the right answer and selecting, matching, labeling, and ordering information.

This graph displays median scores for each grade. A median score is the middle score when scores are ordered from lowest to highest; median scores are an accurate representation of an average score.

### Students’ scores fall into one of four performance levels. This graph demonstrates the distribution of students’ scores across the four levels.

#### The standard error indicates how much students’ scores might vary if the students took many equivalent versions of the test (scores with different items but covering the same knowledge and skills).

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**Note:** Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.
This page shows your students’ relative strengths and weaknesses on the different areas of the test. Each category represents a group of test items that assess related skills. Both math and English language arts have main categories (with all-caps titles) that are broken down further into subcategories. In math and science, each category includes a different set of items. In English language arts, some items will be counted in multiple categories within the main groups of OVERALL READING and OVERALL WRITING. For example, an English language arts item that asks about the main idea of a story will be counted in OVERALL READING, READING: Literary Texts, and READING: Main Idea.

The symbols compare your students’ performance in this category to the performance of students who scored in the lowest range of Level 3 scores.

Your high school and eighth grade students’ scores on the KAP math and English language arts assessments are one indicator of whether they are on track for success on the math, reading, and English portions of the ACT. Visit this website for more information about comparing KAP and ACT scores.

For further information about the standards, assessment program, and tests, please visit these websites.