Dear educators:

Thank you for all your hard work ensuring each Kansas student receives a quality education. The Kansas Assessment Program helps support educators in evaluating student learning and meeting the requirements for federal and state accountability.

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 on 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.

Students’ assessment reports also 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 a child’s sweet spot for learning and comprehension.

Please remind students and their parents/guardians that assessments are just one of several measures to consider when gauging student progress. This is why it is so important to use classroom interaction, homework and other strategies throughout the year to identify learning and achievement levels.

I want to thank you for being such an integral part of Kansas education. Together, we will reach 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 2023 Kansas Assessment Program
The Kansas Assessment Program (KAP) is a set of untimed, computerized tests in English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science. The test content fully aligns to the Kansas Content Standards. The Assessment and Achievement Institute (AAI) at the University of Kansas develops and delivers each assessment.

Test Purpose
KAP provides parents, educators, and policymakers with information about student learning. Additionally, KAP meets federal and state accountability requirements.

Test Content
In 2023, all students in grades 3–8 and 10 took assessments in ELA and mathematics. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 took an assessment in science.

Test Format
Computerized tests allow students to demonstrate knowledge in various ways. In addition to multiple-choice items, students see technology-enhanced (TE) items. Depending on the subject area, TE items might include ordering, matching, or completing a matrix.

How are KAP assessments scored?
First, the points a student earned on the assessment items are added together without deducting points for incorrect responses. Some items are worth more than one point. Next, this raw score is converted to a scaled score that has the same meaning for all versions of the assessment. KAP scaled scores range from 220–380 and are divided into four performance levels.

The same process is used to calculate a student’s performance in different categories of each subject-area test, such as Key Ideas & Details in ELA or Algebra in mathematics.

How should you use KAP results?
Use these scores to help

- Identify students’ relative strengths and limitations.
- Determine students’ progress toward meeting state curriculum standards.
- Compare students’ performance to that of other students in the school, district, and state.

How can you help students improve their KAP scores?
Show parents and students where to access Kite® Practice Tests they can take at home.

Encourage parents and educators 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 the skills at home by asking students questions that require explanations and cannot be answered with a single word; having students write lists, letters, stories, or podcast scripts; and giving students math problems to solve using everyday materials, such as road maps, sporting event results, or recipes.

Use the information about specific skill categories to identify areas where students need additional support and encourage classroom teachers to have students practice these skills.
Student Report Walkthrough

1. The level score corresponds to the numbered score on the meter. This score represents a student’s performance across all sections of the test, which are described on the back of the report. Reports will also show a student’s level score in the previous year, if available.

2. The meter shows where a 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. A 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 a student has likely mastered, based on the student’s performance level score.

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

If a student did not take the test, did not complete enough of the test, 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 a student’s relative strengths and limitations on the different areas of the assessment. Each category represents a group of test items that assess related skills. All subjects have main categories (written in all capitalized letters). In ELA and mathematics, some of the main categories are broken down further into subcategories. Each subcategory includes a different set of items.

The symbols compare a 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 ksassessments.org.

A student’s score on the 8th and 10th grade KAP ELA and 8th grade mathematics assessments is one indicator of whether the student is on track for success on the math, reading, and English portions of the ACT. Visit ksassessments.org for more information about comparing KAP and ACT scores.

A student will receive a Lexile® Measure in ELA and a Quantile® Measure in mathematics.
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 illustrates the distributions of students’ scores across the four levels.
This page shows students’ relative strengths and limitations on the different areas of the assessment. Each category represents a group of test items that assess related skills. Both ELA and mathematics have main categories (written in all capitalized letters) that are broken down further into subcategories. Each subcategory includes a different set of items.

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

Tenth grade students’ scores on the KAP ELA assessment are one indicator of whether they are on track for success on the reading and English portions of the ACT. Visit ksassessments.org for more information about relating KAP ELA scores to ACT scores.

For further information about the standards, assessment program, and tests, please visit ksassessments.org.