

Externally Required and Internally Selected Standardized Assessments to Assess Student Learning and School Performance in Key Domains

The ANCS leadership team is in the process of evaluating the system of standardized assessments given to students--both assessments currently given and potential assessments to use in the future. Upon completion, we will determine the annual system of assessments to be used and in which grade levels to help provide information about student learning and growth for internal use and for accountability purposes.

The assessments listed below are ones that are either required by law or selected by ANCS for internal use. Please note that these assessments represent only standardized assessments and do not take into account teacher-developed assessments given.

Assessments in **green** are used currently

Assessments in **orange** are not given currently but have been under consideration

Domain: Academic Skills and Knowledge

1) Georgia Milestones:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

- *Overview:* The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school. Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take an end-of-grade assessment in each content area. Features of the test include:
 - open-ended (constructed-response) items in language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses)
 - a writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the language arts assessment
 - norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses, to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison
- *Grade Levels Administered:* 3rd-8th
- *Time of Administration:* Approximately 2 hours per test
- *Financial Cost:* None--provided by state and APS
- *Questions related to use of this assessment:* None--required by law to administer.

2) CAAS: <http://www.performanceseries.com>

- *Overview:* The Scantron Performance Series Computer Adaptive Assessment (CAAS) provides criterion and norm-referenced information about student skills in math and reading. Comparative data to other students in APS schools is also provided since the tests are given K-8 in nearly all APS schools.

- *Grade Levels Administered:* K-8th
- *Time of Administration:* Approximately 1 hour per test
- *Financial Cost:* None currently--provided by APS
- *Questions related to use of this assessment*
 - Do we want to continue to use this assessment or would we like to replace it with another assessment that serves a similar purpose? If so, which assessment (MAP, Iowa Assessments)?

STAR: <http://www.renaissance.com/products>

- *Overview:* STAR Reading and STAR Math tests
- *Grade Levels Administered:* 1st-8th
- *Time of Administration:* Given to students three times per year (fall, winter, spring); each administration takes about 25-45 minutes per test.
- *Financial Cost:* Approximately \$3,200 annually for subscription
- *Questions related to use of this assessment*
 - Do we want to continue the use of this assessment? If so, for what reasons?

Iowa Assessments: <https://itp.education.uiowa.edu/ia/>

- *Overview:* The Iowa Assessments (formerly the Iowa Test of Basic Skills) are a nationally-normed set of tests in language and mathematics.
- *Grade Levels Administered:* 3rd, 5th, and 8th
- *Time of Administration:* Approximately 2 hours per day for 5 days
- *Financial Cost:* Approximately \$2,800 annually for materials and scoring
- *Questions related to use of this assessment*
 - Do we want to continue to use this assessment or would we like to replace it with another assessment that serves a similar purpose?

Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS):

<http://www.gadoe.org/curriculum-instruction-and-assessment/assessment/pages/gkids.aspx>

- *Overview:* The Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS) is a year-long, performance-based assessment aligned to the state mandated content standards. The primary purpose of GKIDS is to provide ongoing diagnostic information about kindergarten students' developing skills in English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Personal/Social Development, and Approaches to Learning. GKIDS will also provide a summary of student performance in English Language Arts and Mathematics at the end of the kindergarten school year.
- *Grade Levels Administered:* K
- *Time of Administration:* Ongoing collection of data
- *Financial Cost:* None--provided by state.
- *Questions related to use of this assessment:* None--required by law to administer.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): <https://www.nwea.org/assessments/map/>

- *Overview:* MAP provides norm-referenced assessment of student skills in reading/language and math
 - MAP for Primary Grades (K-2): Reading and Math
 - MAP (2-12) - geared towards specific state standards : Reading, Language Usage, and Math
 - Common Core MAP (K-12): Reading, Language Usage, and Math
- *Grade Levels Administered:* Can be administered in grades K-8
- *Time of Administration:* Approximately 1 hour per test
- *Financial Cost:* For each assessment, NWEA charges a per student fee that allows for each student to take the assessment 3 times per school year. If at least 65% of students in the school are taking the assessment, it is approximately a \$12.50 per student cost (about \$8,500 for ANCS).
- *Questions related to use of this assessment:*
 - Would we like to consider using MAP? If so, in place of or in addition to other assessments?
 - Would we like to use MAP for purposes of SLO testing in place of CAAS?

Domain: Creative Thinking

1) Torrance Test of Creative Thinking: <http://ststesting.com/2005giftttct.html>

- *Overview:* “The highly reliable **Torrance® Tests of Creative Thinking** are the most widely used tests of their kind since testing only requires the examinee to reflect upon their life experiences. These tests invite examinees to draw and give a title to their drawings (pictures) or to write questions, reasons, consequences in the Figural TTCT and different uses for objects (words) in the Verbal TTCT. Each test assesses potentialities for creative production, fluency, and elaboration.”
- *Grade Levels Administered:* Both tests can be administered to students in grades K-8.
- *Time of Administration:* The Figural TTCT takes about 30 minutes and the Verbal TTCT takes about 45 minutes to administer.
- *Financial Cost:* Approximately \$10 per student per test for assessment and scoring. Scoring and interpretation support can be provided by the Torrance Center at the University of Georgia.
- *Questions related to use of this assessment*
 - If we chose to give this assessment, should we do so in only certain grade levels?

Domain: Student Health & Wellness

1) Quarterly Surveys

- *Overview:* Our quarterly student surveys contain questions that help us assess school climate and student wellness (feeling safe, being known well, experiencing respect)
- *Grade Levels Administered:* 3rd-8th
- *Time of Administration:* Short survey administered 3 times per year

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