



# COMMON ASSESSMENTS INSTRUCTIONAL UPDATE

Garrard County Schools' staff is dedicated to creating common assessments that feature rigorous, standards-aligned questions.

## Our Goals

Below are the key objectives of our efforts to enhance common assessments in Garrard County Schools:

- Elevate expectations for teaching and learning
- Achieve complete alignment of district curriculum with Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS)
- Foster collaboration across the district, promoting both vertical and horizontal alignment
- Ensure the provision of equitable education to all students within the district

## Our Process

Our Common Assessment development was part of a 2023-24 district initiative. Our GCS staff:

- Initiated work during our August professional and staff development days
- Crafted district learning targets in alignment with Kentucky Academic Standards
- Organized the learning targets into units with a year-long pacing plan
- Designed assessments mirroring KSA, ACT, and CTE assessments
- Rooted assessment questions in Kentucky Academic Standards (district learning targets congruent to KAS)
- Quality controlled assessments (conducted by school and district administrators with feedback provided to teams)

## Our Next Steps

Below are key goals of our ongoing efforts in enhancing common assessments and student achievement in Garrard County Schools:

- Regular discussion of assessment results within PLCs, including a focus on individual student data, grade-level outcomes, and district-wide student achievement.
- Continuous revisions to assessment question banks, formatting, pacing guides, and platforms for delivering instruction and assessments.
- Establishing and working towards specific educational goals.
- Celebrating and recognizing student achievements throughout the district.

