

Math Common Assessments Overview



Purpose

WCSD is committed to the PLC process to ensure that **all students** learn at high levels through rigorous grade level instruction. It is important to systematically collect evidence of learning to determine areas of need, resources, interventions, and/or extensions that best support student learning. To support the PLC process for K-8 mathematics, the Department of Assessment and Curriculum & Instruction (C&I) have developed high-quality math common assessments aligned to the WCSD essential standards, a subset of the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS). The assessed essential standards on each CMA correspond with the recommended instructional sequence, as identified on the WCSD Curriculum Pacing Frameworks and Course Guides. These assessments are designed to be used formatively, contributing critical data and student work samples for grade level collaborative meetings. Student scores from these math common assessments are not intended to be used in course grade calculations or to be used for teacher evaluation.

Summary

School sites will be provided with the math common assessments for teachers to preview, administer, and analyze results. Students and educators will use results to inform instructional decisions. School sites are encouraged to request support from Assessment and C&I to assist with the PLC process, backwards planning, assessment platform navigation, student self-reflection, feedback, data analysis, and intervention and extension planning.

Professional Learning Communities (PLC)

■ Common assessment and results will be used by collaborative teams to address four guiding questions:

1. What do **WE want students to know and be able to do?**

- View the assessments prior to the instructional window.
- Calibrate instructional plans to the grade level standards and assessment expectations.
- Adjust and scaffold Tier 1 instruction and supports to meet the needs of students.

2. How will **WE know if students have learned it?**

- Access SchoolCity reports (i.e., Test Results, Item Analysis).
- Share and analyze data with your collaborative team shortly after each administration.
- Identify strengths and weaknesses for each student.

3. How will **WE respond when some students do not learn?**

- Group students by common mistakes, misconceptions and errors.
- Plan and deliver instructional intervention strategies to address targeted student mistakes, misconceptions and errors.

4. How will **WE extend the learning for students who are already proficient?**

- Group students by areas of strength and proficiency.
- Plan and deliver instructional extension opportunities for students.

Logistics

- **Assessment Windows.** Testing windows are detailed in the Common Math Assessment Windows document found on the [Dept. of Assessment's website](#), in each grade level/subject area Microsoft Teams Teacher Community, and in each SchoolCity assessment folder.
- **Assessment Length.** Assessments are designed to be completed in approximately 45 minutes or less.
- **How to Access the Assessments.** Common Math Assessments are located on the SchoolCity platform.
- **SchoolCity Training.** Recorded videos, live training opportunities, and help documents are available on the Department of Assessment's SchoolCity webpage. www.washoeschools.net/Page/5408
- **Assessment Administration.** The common assessments are given online or by using a paper/pencil option. Printed copies of the assessments may be requested. The assessments are machine scored using the SchoolCity platform. Results will be immediately available to teachers/students.
 - **Paper/Online.** Students complete the test on a printed test. The students enter their answers on the SchoolCity platform.
 - **Online.** Students take the test directly on the SchoolCity platform. It is best practice for students to use scratch paper to record their work for use during self-reflection and PLC activities.
 - **Paper/Pencil.** Students complete the test on a printed test. Answers are bubbled in on a printed answer sheet. Teachers score the answer sheets through GradeCam (Elementary, MS) or a scanner (MS only).