



## CERT Parent Information

Dear Parent,

Your child recently completed an in-school assessment using CERT, the College Equipped Readiness Tool. The assessment, which is aligned with the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, was designed to measure your child's proficiency in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. Below is information intended to help you better understand the results of this assessment and any previous assessments.

### **What are the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards?**

The ACT College and Career Readiness Standards (the "Standards") are the backbone of the ACT test, a test used by many colleges and universities to gauge the academic readiness of applicants. The Standards include the essential skills and knowledge that students will need to be college and career ready. While your child will not likely take an official ACT until 11<sup>th</sup> grade, we thought you would want to know how your child is performing now, while there is still time to change things, if necessary.

### **How does CERT work?**

Up to three times per school year, your child will take an ACT-like assessment through CERT. The results help us determine your child's strengths and weaknesses with regard to the Standards in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. With CERT's detailed assessment reports, we are able to provide the help and remediation your child needs as an individual. As a bonus, CERT offers teacher-controlled access to educational videos that explain answers, review important subject matter, and offer sensible test-taking advice. (Your child can access this video functionality at <https://certforschools.com/>). We highly encourage your child to use this free online resource.

### **Understanding Your Child's Course Report**

The scores for the test found online provide, among other things, a score in each of the four subject areas tested. To understand how your child currently stacks up against the Standards, you should compare your child's score to the benchmark scores (the "Benchmarks") in each of the four subject areas. The Benchmarks represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher, or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher, in a corresponding credit-bearing first-year college course. The Course Report also includes an estimated ACT composite range to help you predict how well your child is likely to do on the "real" ACT in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Kentucky has established different state benchmarks for accountability, known as Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) benchmarks.



ACT Subject-Area Test	Kentucky's ACT Benchmarks (CPE)	ACT National Benchmarks
English	18	18
Mathematics	19	22
Reading	20	22
Science	n/a	23