



# CTP- Comprehensive Testing Program

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### Why was this (CTP) selected as an appropriate test for the GSA?

- CTP compares student performance and growth against similar students via national, independent, international, association, and district norms. We also utilize this test to ensure we are meeting the standards for our accreditation. GSA has utilized this test since 2003.

### When will the tests be administered?

- At the end of the academic school year before the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester. For the '23-'24 school year, the tests will be administered April 29<sup>th</sup>-May 3<sup>rd</sup> for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grades. The test will be administered to 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.

### Will testing take away a significant amount of class time?

- No. Tests are intentionally scheduled over several days to allow quality instruction to continue all week. Test Sections range from 30 to 45 minutes. Sections are not administered consecutively. Students are given time (minimum 50 min. class period) between test sections when two sections are scheduled on the same school day. No more than two sections will be given in a school day.

### Will more time be allotted for students with accommodation plans?

- Yes. CTP testing standards allow for extended testing time for students with documented learning plans.

### What subtests are given?

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** Math I, Math II, Reading Comprehension, Writing Concepts and Skills, Quantitative Reasoning, Writing Mechanics and Verbal Reasoning
- **4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades** Math I, Math II, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary, Writing Concepts and Skills, Writing Mechanics, Quantitative Reasoning, Verbal Reasoning
- **7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades** Algebra (only students enrolled in the course)

### How are results shared with parents?

- The results will be given to parents together with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester review in June.



Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> at the GSA

CTP is a rigorous assessment for students in Grades 1-11 covering reading, vocabulary, writing, and mathematics.

Verbal and quantitative reasoning subtests are part of the CTP beginning in Grade 3.

The CTP helps educators assess content specific, curriculum-based performance alongside reasoning ability and conceptual knowledge.

### **What does GSA do with the results?**

- The results of the CTP are used first and foremost as an assessment of us as a school and our curriculum. Teachers collaborate by reviewing the results to examine how students are mastering the learning objectives of the curriculum. The results also provide a way for teachers to improve curriculum alignment and ensure that there are no gaps that may hinder student motivation and progress. At GSA student growth is a priority. Therefore, teachers do not teach to the test but instead focus on delivering high quality instruction that promotes authentic student engagement.

### **Do Middle Schools or High Schools require test results as part of the application process?**

- Some schools ask for a copy of the most recent test results at the time of the application. Test results are only released upon parent request with parent permission. Schools typically provide a records release form that should be submitted to GSA for the release of academic records. Each school has different testing requirements for admissions, but most independent schools require students to take the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) as part of their admissions process. The ISEE was also created by ERB, the creators of the CTP.

### **Will students take any sort of practice test?**

- Yes. Students will take one practice test to acclimate to the logistics of the online test. These are not full tests and are not intended to help the students practice with the content, but rather to expose them to the format and feel of the test.

### **Want to learn more? Visit the links below:**

ERB (Educational Records Bureau) <https://www.erblearn.org/about/>

CTP (The Comprehensive Assessment Program) <https://www.erblearn.org/educators/comprehensive-assessments/ctps/>

Assessment Norms <https://www.erblearn.org/educators/comprehensive-assessments/assessment-norms/>