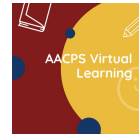# Fall 2020 Assessing in the Virtual Classroom

Assessing in the virtual classroom provides many new opportunities and methodologies to assess student learning. Below are some best practices and ideas.

- When available, use the assessment item banks and suggested assessments found in the AACPS Curriculum Guides/Compacted Scope and Sequence documents.
- Stress academic honesty (and link it to your Google Classroom). Acknowledge that we know that students could use the Internet and other tools to complete assessments and assignments but that our expectation is that students adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy in the virtual environment.
- Embrace **performance-based tasks** as assignments and assessments. Although Google Forms and Performance Matters are available for traditional assessments, the validity of the data might be in question (and the items will no longer be secure for future use). Performance-based tasks require students to demonstrate their skills, thinking, creativity, and learning in ways that are more likely to reflect their efforts and understanding rather than their "Googling" skills. Consult this link for ideas for types of products students could complete instead of a traditional assessment.
- To promote test security, any "traditional assessments" should be conducted during scheduled class time. Students may work on performance-based assessments/ assignments during homework/independent time, but teachers should be mindful of the amount of time some of these tasks might take so as not to exceed the AACPS Grading Regulations related to homework time (see below).
- Consider assessing "smaller" assignment/project slices rather than larger projects. In the virtual world, a big "project" might be too overwhelming for students.
- Introduce students to a variety of tools (digital and non-digital) and allow student choice in the tools (audio files, videos, google docs, etc.) that they will use to complete and submit student work.
- Voice and choice options appeal to all students and allow for students to highlight their strengths. Consult the tools available on Classlink as well as those here (Paper to Digital) for ideas on student options.
- Students may work on performance-based assessments/ assignments during homework/independent time, but teachers should be mindful of the amount of time some of these tasks might take so as not to exceed the AACPS Grading Regulations related to homework time (see Grading Teacher Guidance Sheet).

AACPS Teacher Guidance Sheet