

Dear Parent:

On _____, your child will be taking a standardized test or a state proficiency test. Students across the state and across the country are required to take these tests periodically to check their academic progress and achievement. Educators use the students' test scores to assess how well a school's curriculum is meeting the needs of its students and make improvements when necessary.

Test taking can be a difficult and threatening experience for many students. Researchers have found, however, that regular test-taking practice can help students become good test takers, ease their anxiety, and improve scores.

To help prepare our students for testing, we have been using the *Test Ready* program in the classroom. The lessons and practice tests in this series review key concepts in a variety of subjects and are modeled on actual standardized tests and state proficiency tests. Since tests are not graded, these practice sessions provide an opportunity for students to develop good test-taking skills in a relaxed situation. Your child has been learning and applying helpful strategies and test-taking tips intended to make the actual test-taking experience positive and rewarding.

You can help prepare your child for testing by encouraging him or her to go to bed early the night before the test and to eat a healthy, well-balanced breakfast the day of the test. Try not to express worry or concern about test scores so that your child does not become upset or worried. Take time to praise your child's accomplishments and hard work. Finally, remind your child that this is just one test. No one will judge what he or she is capable of doing or becoming from the results of this one test.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. If you have any questions about the *Test Ready* program or the upcoming test, please contact me at _____.

Sincerely,
