

Parents Have a Part of Proficiency Too!

- ✓ Remind your student that the ISAT is an *important measure* of what they have mastered this school year. Most children will put forth their best effort when they know it is important to their family.
- ✓ Ensure that your student gets a *good night's sleep* and a *good breakfast*. These are essential to how your student performs. Lack of sleep can cause them to lose focus.
- ✓ Make the morning of ISATs a pleasant morning. Keep things *calm, stress-free*, and *full of positivity*. Do extra things that make your student laugh, smile, and relax.
- ✓ Be sure your student *arrives to school on time*. Getting to school late could throw off their routine and could also disrupt ISAT testing for others.
- ✓ The ISAT is not timed. Explain to your student the importance of *using time wisely*. If they get stuck on a question, encourage him or her to skip it and mark it to return to at the end.
- ✓ Reassure your child that he or she doesn't have to answer all questions correctly to pass- there is room for error. This should help lower the stress of the test.
- ✓ Remind your student to *attempt all questions* and not to leave questions blank. There is no penalty for guessing, and they can get partial credit on the open-ended items. Remind your student to eliminate the wrong answers first because it gives them a higher chance of getting the correct answer.
- ✓ Remind your child to *listen carefully to instructions* from the teacher. Remind them to *read* directions and all questions *carefully*. Encourage them to read every passage and every question at least two times.
- ✓ Remind your student that there are *useful ISAT tools* to help them take the ISAT (highlighter).
- ✓ Encourage your student to *stay focused* on the ISAT, even if other students finish early. It is human nature to want to speed up when others around you are finished.
- ✓ Reiterate to slow down, trust their instincts, and give their best effort.
- ✓ Remind your student to *start strong*, *stay focused* in the middle, and *finish just as strong as they started*.