



Volume 3, Issue 11

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Telephone: 574-288-5333
Fax: 574-288-5388



Weeks Current Pledge

This Week's Life Skill

"Responsibility"

To be accountable for your actions

**Respect
Responsibility
Integrity
Perseverance
Problem Solving**

Mission:

Success Academy will establish a community of self-directed learners focusing on relationships, relevance, rigor and shared decision making through the use of PBL learning activities; utilizing our community, current technology, and 21st century skills.

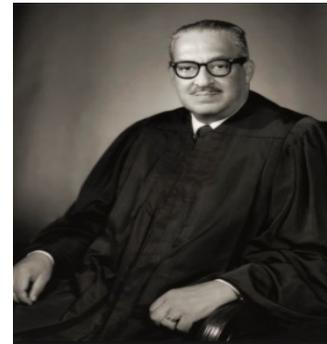
HEROES HERALD

Success Academy Newsletter

Where we develop **H.E.R.O.E.S.** through innovation and excellence

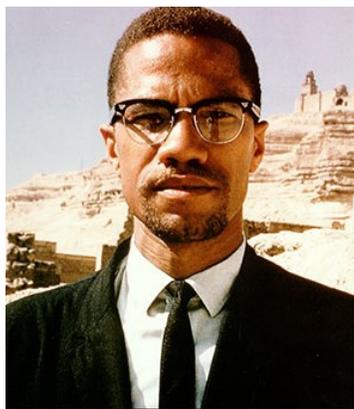


With Black History Month wrapping up, it is very fitting to share words of wisdom from some of the greatest African American leaders. These leaders have played a pivotal role in American history. We hope these words inspire and encourage you to change the world and fight for a quality education for each child and invest in our future leaders.



"Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out because it is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on." -

Thurgood Marshall



"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Malcolm X



"Invest in the human soul. Who knows, it might be a diamond in the rough."

-Mary McLeod Bethune

ISTEP TESTING

ISTEP and IREAD

Here are the following dates for these tests:

**February 26th through March 9th – ISTEP+
Part 1 (grades 3-5)**

**March 14 – March 18 – IREAD
(3rd grade students only)**

**April 18 – May 6 –
ISTEP Part 2 (grades 3-5)**

Below are some quick tips for parents and students:

Week before ISTEP

- Establish an early bedtime routine, to ensure your student receives at least 8 hours of sleep each night.
- Remove televisions, CD players, or other distractions from his/her bedroom to ensure they have an uninterrupted sleep.
- Make sure your student eats a healthy breakfast before school.
- Limit the number of sodas your student drinks.
- Be positive about the test! Don't put undue pressure on your student's performance.
- Reassure your student, let them know that they just need to do his/her best.
- Encourage your student to take his/her time, they are given plenty of time to complete the test.
- Have your child practice math facts orally, utilizing flash cards, to improve speed and accuracy.
- Ask your student to read aloud to you and occasionally stop them to ask questions about a paragraph they just read.

The week of ISTEP

- Do all the same things above, and,
- Limit the number of sodas they drink.
- Encourage your student to play outside after school, if weather permits, for at least 30 minutes. (The physical exercise helps relieve stress.)
- Reschedule any appointments for that week.
- Continue practicing math facts and reading aloud.

♦ Test Taking Tips for Students:

- Read the question before you look at the answers.

Eliminate answers you know aren't right. If you do not know the answer, make a smart guess and select an answer. Mark your answers carefully. Make sure you work at a pace that will give you enough time to finish the test. If you have time left, go back and check your answers.

♦ Test Taking Tips for Parents/Guardians:

Praise your child for the things he or she does well, and be supportive of his or her efforts, especially in areas or activities that are challenging. Kids who feel good about themselves and their abilities - and who aren't fearful about making mistakes - will feel more confident and less anxious when taking the test.

Talk with your child about what they're doing in class and ask what he or she is reading. Studies show that kids who talk with their families on a weekly basis about school and what they read score higher on the national standardized reading test than kids who talk about these things with their families less often.

Limit your child's TV time. Studies show that kids who watch fewer than three hours of television a day scored higher on the national reading test than those who watch more.

Express a positive attitude about the test and confidence in your child's ability to do well on it. Research shows that parents' and teachers' attitudes influence children's attitudes. So if you're upbeat and encouraging about the test, your child is likely to feel good about it.

Encourage your child to read-newspapers, magazines, food labels, recipes, letters, and instructions, in addition to fiction and non-fiction books. Test makers draw on a wide variety of formats when choosing items to evaluate reading comprehension skills.

Reassure your child that test scores are only one measure of his or her abilities, not the whole picture. Don't judge your child based on his or her test score.

Ensure that your child gets a good night's sleep the night before the test and eats a nutritious breakfast the day of the test. 8-10 hours of sleep is recommended.