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**OUR MISSION:**

The mission of Gwinnett Online Campus is to enhance the learning of students in a world-class virtual environment as we empower them with twenty-first century knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the local, national, and global community.

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

From September 24 – October 2, 2018 your student will take the Iowa Assessments™. The purpose of this letter is to inform you about the tests so that—with your support and encouragement—your student will do his or her best on the tests.

**About the Iowa Assessments**

The Iowa Assessments help determine how students are performing on nationwide standards. These assessments measure achievement in several important content areas including Reading, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science (grade 5 only), and Social Studies (grade 5 only).

The Iowa Assessments help teachers identify a student's strengths and areas that may need additional emphasis. The Iowa Assessments also measure student growth and progress in the content areas assessed from year to year and may provide information about college readiness for older students. The assessments produce information that enables sound decision making and provides a focus for teachers to evaluate instruction.

Each test includes sample questions to help students become familiar with the content and format of the tests. Samples help students understand what to do—how to mark answers and move from question to question.

For most tests, students read the questions and mark their answers by filling in a circle for each question. All test questions are multiple choice, and the tests last an average of 10 to 35 minutes.

How your student can prepare for test taking—and what you can do to help:

A student who is well rested, well fed and has a positive attitude about testing is best prepared for testing. You can help your student do his or her best by considering these tips:

- Make sure that your student is in school and on time on test days.
- Make sure your student gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast before each day of testing.
- Remind your student that these tests are only one measure of what he or she has learned.

Emphasize that you have confidence in his or her ability to do the best job possible.

- Remind your student to listen to the directions and read each question carefully during testing. Encourage your student to ask the teacher for help if he or she does not understand the directions.

Thank you very much for encouraging and supporting your student during testing. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Torrens at [Melissa\\_Torrens@gwinnett.k12.ga.us](mailto:Melissa_Torrens@gwinnett.k12.ga.us).

Sincerely,

Melissa Torrens