# HOUSTON GATEWAY ACADEMY, INC.

# Elite College Prep Academy

"Our mission is to develop strong critical thinkers that will graduate from four year competitive colleges by providing strict character development and a rigorous academic curriculum."

### March 13, 2015

# Post #7

# Let's get ready for the STAAR/ITBS TEST!

# STAAR/ITBS Dates:

March 30<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Day 1 March 31<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Day 2; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading April 20<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math April 21<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science April 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> ITBS PK – 5<sup>th</sup>

Whether we agree with standardized testing or not is a nonissue when it comes to our students in the classroom. They have to take the test regardless of our personal opinions, so if you want to know more about STAAR, there are some great resources on the Texas Education Agency website. <u>http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/</u>

#### Students do their best when they: Arrive to school on time.

Get plenty of sleep: A tired student cannot stay focused.

Eat a healthy breakfast: Protein helps keep their energy stable for a longer period of time.

Exercise and free play after school: The test is stressful and their normal routine is different this week. Their minds need a mental break.

Support and praise them: Tell them you are proud of them and know they will do a great job.

Surprise them with a special note: Our students need love and support on a daily basis.

Celebrate when the testing is complete: Acknowledge your child for their effort and success.

### U P D A T E S

**March 16 – 20, 2015 SPRING BREAK** – There is NO SCHOOL for students.

**Open House:** Parents have the opportunity to retrieve their child's report card and discuss their academic progress on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Character Virtue:** The character virtue for this month is **HONESTY**. We believe it is important that our students practice and embody this trait. A healthy dialogue regarding honesty is important and we encourage all traits to be modeled throughout your daily routine.

**Saturday School:** All students are to report to school on the following Saturdays from 7:45 until 2:30 p.m.

March 28<sup>th</sup> April 11<sup>th</sup> April 18<sup>th</sup>

These three Saturdays are essential for our students to succeed academically.

**Re-enrollment:** It's that time of year again! The reenrollment forms will be sent home during the week of March  $23^{rd}$  and to secure a spot for the upcoming school year, forms must be submitted by April 1.

New enrollment is scheduled to begin April 1<sup>st</sup> for ALL grade levels.

Did you know you can easily download all enrollment forms on our schools website at <u>www.hgaschools.org</u>? Check it out!