

# **Giving Students a Competitive Edge**

Did your student take a state test last school year? If so, his or her test scores are now available and there are some key points you might be interested in.



### IT'S STILL ABOUT THE BIG PICTURE.

Oklahoma Students in grades 3-8 and 11 are required by federal law to take annual state tests. Oklahoma educators had a hand in building our state tests to ensure alignment to our standards and appropriateness for our Oklahoma students. State tests serve as a snapshot that help schools and districts evaluate their instructional programs by providing information about student readiness in Math, English Language Arts, and Science. This information helps us know whether students are on track as they move through our K-12 systems to ensure readiness for postsecondary success.



### **HOW DOES MY STUDENT'S SCHOOL USE THESE SCORES?**

Schools and districts use state testing data to identify strengths and gaps in their curricular and instructional programs. Although schools should never make important decisions about students based on a single measure, the tests do provide objective information that allows educators to compare the performance of their students with others across the district and state. Information from state tests can also provide insights that help schools and districts close achievement gaps.



#### **HOW CAN I HELP MY STUDENT?**

Remember that state tests are just one indicator that can be used, along with report cards, classroom performance, and teacher feedback, to provide a complete picture of your student's progress. Ask your student's teachers and school:

- What do you see as my student's academic strengths and areas for improvement?
- What curriculum and learning experiences do you provide to support my student?
- What can I do to support my student's learning at home?
- How do local and state test results contribute to school improvements?

You may also wish to have regular check-ins at your student's school to help ensure your student is learning the skills necessary to remain on track.



## WHAT DOES MY STUDENT'S REPORT TELL ME?

State test results, when combined with other information, (i.e.,homework, classwork, report card grades, and local assessments) can help you and the teacher understand where your student is making progress and where he/she may need extra support.

Ask your student's school for his or her score report. You can also get your student's scores electronically through the Oklahoma Parent Portal: <a href="https://okparentportal.emetric.net/">https://okparentportal.emetric.net/</a>

**Note:** You will need your student's ID (STN) number and date of birth to set up an account. Your student's ID (STN) number is located on his or her paper Parent/Student Report. If you did not receive a paper report, please contact your student's school.

