



# DE-TERRORIZING TESTING:

How you can help your children  
fight their fears of tests

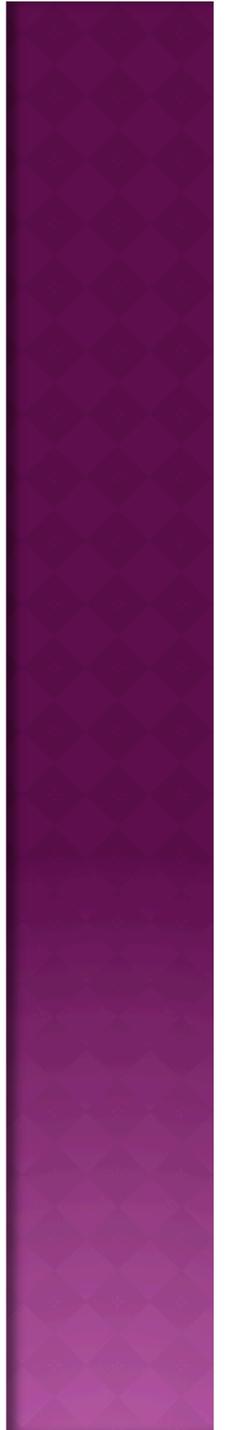


# THE WILD WORLD OF ACCOUNTABILITY

There is no getting around it, your child will be subject to testing- in public school, private school, charter schools, home school, and for college.

Why all of the testing?

- ◉ To track your child's progress
- ◉ To track your child's school's progress



# STEP ONE: LEARN WHAT TO EXPECT



"Today you're going to learn the meaning of 'irony'."

# WHAT KIND OF TESTING SHOULD I EXPECT?

- ◉ NCLB - No Child Left Behind
- ◉ AYP - Adequate Yearly Progress
- ◉ HSA - Hawaii State Assessment
- ◉ HCPS III - Hawaii Content & Performance Standards
- ◉ SSAT - Secondary School Admissions Test
- ◉ CTP 4 - Comprehensive Testing Program
- ◉ SAT- Scholastic Aptitude Test/ Scholastic Assessment Test
- ◉ Soon to come: Common Core Standards



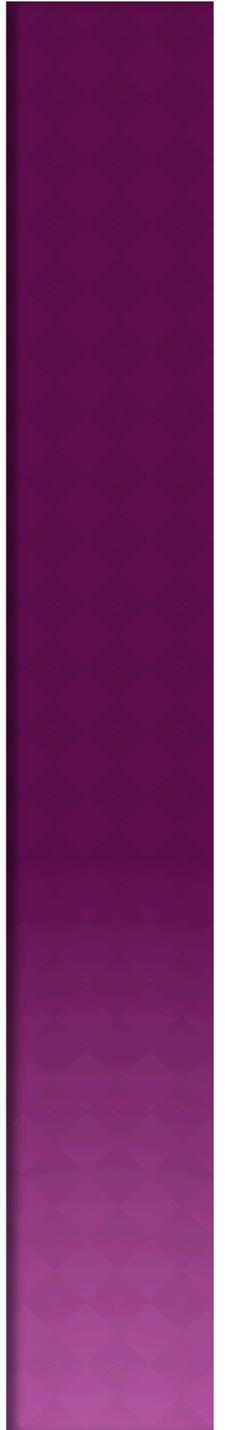
# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING: WHAT IS MANDATORY



# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

What is NCLB?

- ◉ Federal education reform
- ◉ 2001-2014, 100% proficiency
- ◉ Accountability



# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

What does NCLB mean to my child?

- ◉ Testing, testing, testing
- ◉ Math and reading- grades 3 through 8, and at least once during grades 10 through 12
- ◉ School Choice
- ◉ Supplemental education services
- ◉ AYP- incentives for your school and your child

# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

How is my child tested in Hawaii? What will she be tested in for math?

- HCPS III - Benchmark maps per grade level
- HSA - The Hawaii State Assessment (HSA) is designed to measure proficiency of the HCPS III
- Number and Operations; Measurement; Geometry and Spatial Sense; Patterns, Functions, and Algebra; and Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability

# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

What does the math exam look like?

- Online
- Word problems, equations, graphs, pictures, models

Example Question, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:

Mrs. Harris bought 6 cartons of eggs, as shown below.



Each carton contains 12 eggs.

Which number sentence shows how many eggs Mrs. Harris bought?

- A.  $12 \times 6 = \underline{\quad}$
- B.  $12 + 6 = \underline{\quad}$
- C.  $12 \div 6 = \underline{\quad}$
- D.  $12 - 6 = \underline{\quad}$

# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

How is the exam graded?

Example assessment for the previous question:

Strand: Patterns, Functions, and Algebra

Benchmark: MA.3.10.1 Model situations that involve multiplication and division of whole numbers using objects/pictures and number sentences

Answer Key: A

This answer is correct. Students should use multiplication to find the number of eggs Mrs. Harris bought because they want to find the total number of objects (eggs) when there are multiple groups of equal size (cartons of eggs). This is the only number sentence that uses multiplication. It represents this situation because there are 12 eggs in each of 6 cartons, so students would multiply 12 x 6 to find the total number of eggs, which is represented by the blank box.

# PUBLIC SCHOOL TESTING

You will receive:

- ◉ An *individualized* assessment of your child's progress
- ◉ Your school's assessment
- ◉ See example assessment





# PRIVATE AND HOME SCHOOL TESTING

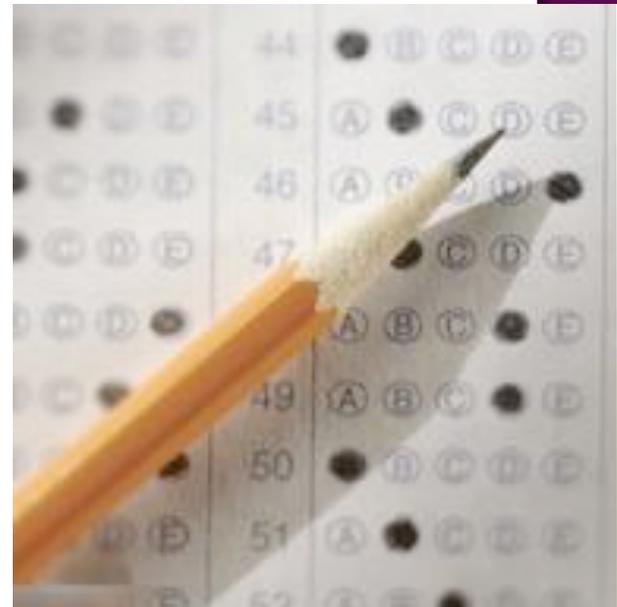


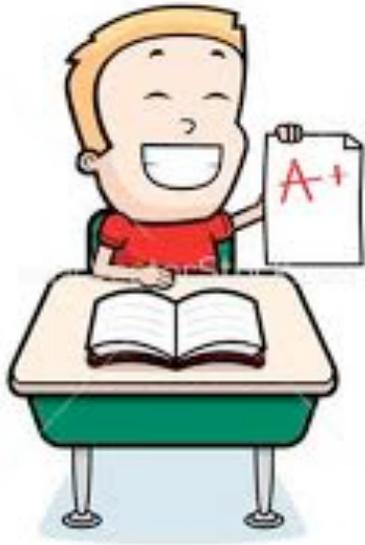
# HOME SCHOOL TESTING

- ◉ Options for assessment testing
- ◉ 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> mandatory testing
- ◉ [hawaiihomeschoolassociation.org](http://hawaiihomeschoolassociation.org) to learn more

# PRIVATE SCHOOL TESTING

- ◉ Private schools are not mandated to take the same tests
- ◉ CTP 4 and other types of assessment tests may occur
- ◉ Entrance testing





# STEP TWO: UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF TESTING



# HOW DOES TESTING AFFECT MY CHILD?

How does NCLB-related testing affect my child's:

- ◉ Grades?
- ◉ Class placement?
- ◉ GPA?
- ◉ Future?

The answer is: NCLB-related testing, and other assessment tests DO NOT affect your child's status.



# HOW DOES TESTING AFFECT MY CHILD?

If testing is not used for grades or class placement, why test?

- ◉ Track progress of your child
- ◉ Track progress of your school
- ◉ Track progress of your district/state



# HOW DOES TESTING AFFECT MY CHILD?

Although testing does not affect your child's grades, testing matters.

Your child may feel pressure to perform well by:

- ◉ You (parents)
- ◉ Teachers/administrators
- ◉ Peers
- ◉ Herself
- ◉ Family members





# STEP THREE: HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD

# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

- Preparation
- Emotions
- Deal with grades/scores
  
- While your child should understand that tests are important, she should not feel that tests alone determine her future.

# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

- ◉ De-terrorize tests:
  - Familiarity with testing rituals
  - Practice
  - De-emphasize scores, emphasize understanding concepts



# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

## ◉ De-terrorize tests:

- Create a partnership with your child's teacher/school
- Understand your child's strengths and weaknesses
- Become aware of your child's grade-level benchmarks
- Talk about it

# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

There are many resources available for test prep:

- ◉ Check with your child's teacher/ school counselor
- ◉ Practice tests/booklets
- ◉ Outside resources (Kumon, etc)
- ◉ Resource handout
- ◉ You (parents) are the best resource!



Don't let testing become a monster!

## Q & A

- ◉ Resources handout
- ◉ Any questions?

