

# Help Your Child Prepare For Testing



This year the SBA testing period is from March 22-April 23, 2010. However, all of the Clovis Municipal Schools are planning to complete testing from March 29-April 7. **We ask that you please be sure not to schedule any appointments that require your child to be away from school on these dates.**

If your child is late or absent, he/she may have to make up testing sessions on alternate days. If your child participates in an After School Program at one of our sites, please make alternate arrangements during testing as there will be no After School Programs from March 29-April 8.

The Standards Based Assessment is an annual test given to students that measures student performance against state standards. Students in grades 3-8 are tested on Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science. Eleventh graders are tested in the areas of Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. The SBA is required under No Child Left Behind (NCLB). As a result, the assessment does affect the school's rating in terms of student participation and performance.

Here are some tips to help students prepare for successful testing.

## **Before the test:**

- Get plenty of sleep each night.
- Eat a good breakfast each morning.
- Arrive to school on time each day.
- Relax and do the best you can.

## **During the test:**

- Keep a positive attitude. If you are nervous, take a few deep breaths.
- Follow directions and ask questions if you don't understand the directions.
- Pace yourself and read the entire question.
- Try to answer the easier questions first.
- If you don't know the answer, skip it and go on with the rest of the test and come back to it later.
- When looking at a difficult question, try to eliminate some of the choices, and then choose the best answer.
- Try to answer every question.
- When answering a question, be sure the number on the answer sheet matches the number of the question you are working on.
- Don't worry if others finish before you; focus on the test in front of you.

## **At the end of the test:**

- Check your answers for mistakes.
- Go back and recheck your answers if you finish before your classmates.
- Make sure you have completed all of the sections.
- Bring a favorite book to read when you are finished with the test.