We thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide quality teaching & learning experiences.

Tiffany Webb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Grants
SD150 NEWS

P.R.E.S.S. RELEASE
Parent Resources for Educational Support for Success

New Instructional Resources for FY2020

We now have Ready Mathematics and Ready Reading. Learners of all levels become active participants in their own learning, fortified by deep knowledge and reasoning skills that stay with them in their years ahead. Teachers get the guidance and tools they need to help them meet the needs of all learners, while strengthening their instructional practice.

Ready Mathematics
A top-rated K–8 program by EdReports combines rigorous instruction and engaging practice to build strong mathematical habits.

Ready Reading
Teacher-led instruction and practice puts an emphasis on close reading of complex, authentic texts from a wide range of genres.

Ready Writing
Aligned to the writing and content area standards, students learn to use writing as a tool for thinking and communicating.

Teacher Toolbox
Provides educators with access to thousands of digital, K–8 resources to differentiate instruction to each student's needs.

Freckle™ by Renaissance
Differentiating Math with Freckle
Assess student skills at a glance and assign standards-based practice at each student's own level.

"I have seen such tremendous growth... Freckle has helped my students fill holes in their mathematical thinking and has quickly accelerated their learning."
- Tara N., 6th-8th Grade Math Intervention Teacher

Ask you child to show you what they are learning in these programs.

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Check out the Action Guides intended to provide information and resources to support a family’s role as a partner in their child’s learning.

Also Check out the Parent’s Backpack Guide to the Illinois Learning Standards written to provide a consistent, clear and challenging set of learning expectations for all students.

You will find the following by clicking the link below...

Click Me!

Action Guides Grade K – 2  Parent’s Backpack IL Standards Grade K – 2
Action Guide Grade 3 – 5  Parent’s Backpack IL Standards Grade 3 – 5
Action Guide Grade 6 - 8  Parent’s Backpack IL Standards Grade 6 - 8

http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/family-engagement.html

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Involved Parents = Successful Students

The GreatKids Illinois Test Guide for Parents is a free, online tool organized by grade and subject to help parents use their state test scores to support their child(ren) at home. (Be sure to visit the link.)

Ten Tips for Test Prep

1. Give yourself enough time to study
   (Make a schedule and do not procrastinate)
2. Make sure your study space is organized
   (A pleasant space will help you to concentrate)
3. Use flow charts and diagrams
   (Visual aids can help you to grasp content)
4. Practice on old exams/quizzes
   (Review and know what to expect)
5. Explain your answers to others
   (Practice reasoning and soliciting help from others)
6. Organize study groups with friends
   (Two brains are better that one- make sure the group stays focused)
7. Take regular breaks
   (Give your brain a chance to regain its focus)
8. Snacking on healthy food is good for the brain
   (Keep your body and brain fit)
9. Plan the day of your exams
   (Be on time and reduce anxiety)
10. Drink plenty of water
    (Remain hydrated and $H_2O$ adds to your overall positive mood)

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Parent Resources for Educational Support for Success
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This suite of NGSS Parent Guides illustrates how the standards are a powerful foundation to help students build a cohesive understanding of science over time. The parent guides are available for Grades K-2, Grade 3-5, Grades 6-8, and Grades 9-12.

Parent guides are now available for NGSS and can be found at
https://www.nextgenscience.org/parentguides

Setting limits and being consistent are the keys to good discipline and self control. Be thoughtful and kind yet firm and fair when enforcing those rules. Focus on the reason behind the child’s behavior. This will help make it an opportunity to learn for the future, rather than to punish for the past.

explore these tools

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Tiffany Webb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Grants
Involvement Parents = Successful Students

Illinois Test Guide for Parents
Find state tests — and score reports — confusing? Use this guide to understand the skills your child is expected to know, why some kids struggle, and how you can help.

The GreatKids Illinois Test Guide for Parents is a free, online tool organized by grade and subject to help parents use their state test scores to support their kids at home.

Homework Tips

Schedule a regular study time.
Some kids work best in the afternoon, following a snack and play period; others may prefer to wait until after dinner.

Keep distractions to a minimum.
This means no TV, loud music, or phone calls. (Occasionally, though, a phone call to a classmate about an assignment can be helpful.)

Help them make a plan.
On heavy homework nights or when there's an especially hefty assignment to tackle, encourage your child to break up the work into manageable chunks. Create a work schedule for the night if necessary — and take time for a 15-minute break every hour, if possible or needed.

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Need Help?

Check out the GREAT instructional support tool below!

Khan Academy
A personalized learning resource for ALL ages
Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. They tackle math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Their math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. They've also partnered with institutions like NASA, The Museum of Modern Art, The California Academy of Sciences, and MIT to offer specialized content.

https://www.khanacademy.org

Khan Academy’s 100 and Change Proposal: https://www.youtube.com/user/khanacademy

Khan Academy is a nonprofit with a mission of providing a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. We’re entering a MacArthur Foundation competition, called 100&Change, for a $100 million grant to help solve a critical problem of our time. Millions of people lack the skills and credentials to participate in the global economy. To address this, our long-term goal is to develop internationally-recognized diplomas that provide direct access to economic and educational opportunities. We also plan to create free content and tools to help people earn the diplomas. If we win the grant, we’ll be able to accelerate the development of the diplomas, content, and tools. We want to connect people to real economic opportunity and unlock human potential for generations to come.

explore these tools

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Tiffany Webb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Technology
Parent Resources for Educational Support for Success

Involved Parents = Successful Students

Stay connected with information about how you can help build your child’s success in learning. This updated P.R.E.S.S. Release will be posted on our district home page (www.sd150.org) so that you can access these resources with a click of a button. These learning tools will help you support your child in subjects like Math, Reading and Language Arts.

Use the Super 5 to help you get started and find the answers to these important questions through easy to use resources and videos from Learning Heroes, National PTA, Scholastic and others on this resourceful website. You will find grade level homework help and more!

This nonprofit organization has created a website with articles, worksheets, and other resources to help parents with ways to provide support to guide children to great futures. Click on the Parenting tab to access academic tools in various subject areas, articles on child development and helpful articles on learning issues for all types of learners.

To assist in the important role of helping children be successful with homework activities, GreatMinds has assembled a suite of parent resources that will help you support your child in becoming proficient in math. Check out the Homework Helpers, Parent Tip Sheets and Sample problems by clicking the icon above.

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Visit the websites listed below to access information about what your child is learning in school. This P.R.E.S.S. Release will be posted on our district home page (www.sd150.org) so that you can access these resources with a click of a button. These tools will help build a stronger connection with your child’s progress in education.

PowerSchool is our student information system that allows parents to access their child's grades, assignments, schedules and more. Click HERE to view the PowerSchool for Parents video. The icon will take you to the district’s PowerSchool site.

Renaissance Learning provides several innovative tools to help you support and further your child's education that makes learning more enjoyable. You'll find the following parent resources for Renaissance Learning products by clicking the Renaissance icon: Renaissance Home Connect, Parent Guides, AR BookFinder, and Strategies for Early Readers.

By logging onto Renaissance Home Connect, you will see your child's progress in reading and math and so much more. Use your student’s log in information to sign on. Click HERE.

To encourage parent awareness of state testing, a website for PARCC has been developed for parents. Parents can use this tool to navigate the changes occurring in classrooms across the country and to help their child(ren) be successful in school. Click the icon to access this resourceful tool.

Attention Parents: To view more information about our efforts to provide a supportive and successful learning environment for our students, be sure to visit and explore our district’s website www.sd150.org.

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PARCC has developed a website for the community of educators, parents, and others committed to quality assessment leading to student success. You are encouraged to register, browse, learn, and implement to enhance your knowledge of assessments within the classroom.

Once you visit the site, **CREATE a USER ACCOUNT** to Join the Partnership Resource Center for PARCC.

*Along the top tool bar click the drop down arrow next to the profile symbol to create account.*

**To view resources and set up your account be sure to visit:**
https://prc.carcconline.org/

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**What are we doing to prepare/inform all stakeholders?**

**Teacher Evaluations:** Reflect and Discuss Process and Progress

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**In what ways are we Infusing STEM into our Instructional Practices?**

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**STEM**
Science • Technology • Engineering • Math
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