2016 PARCC testing at Crestwood School

Math Test-Taking Tips

- **Always read math problems completely before beginning any calculations.** If you "glance" too quickly at a problem, you may misunderstand what really needs to be done to complete the problem.
- **If you know that your answer to a question is incorrect, and you cannot find your mistake, start over on a clean piece of paper.** Oftentimes when you try to correct a problem, you continually overlook the mistake. Starting over on a clean piece of paper will let you focus on the question, not on trying to find the error.
- **Do not feel that you must use every number in a problem when doing your calculations.** Some mathematics problems have "extra" information. These questions are testing your ability to recognize the needed information, as well as your mathematical skills.
- **Be sure that you are working in the same units of measure when performing calculations.** If a problem involves inches, feet AND yards, be sure to make the appropriate conversions so that all of your values are in the same unit of measure (for example, change all values to feet).
- **Be sure that your answer "makes sense" (or is logical).** For example, if a question asks you to find the number of feet in a drawing and your answer comes out to be a negative number, know that this answer is incorrect. (Distance is a positive concept - we cannot measure negative feet.)
- **When asked to "show work" or "justify your answer", don't be lazy.** Write down EVERYTHING about the problem, including the work you did on your calculator. Include diagrams, calculations, equations, and explanations written in complete sentences. Now is the time to "show off" what you really can do with this problem.

Visit www.crestwood.k12.il.us and click on the PARCC tab for more ways to help prepare your child for PARCC Testing.