Dear Parents,

The administration of our first round of PARCC testing (Partnership for Readiness of College and Career), the Performance Based Assessment (PBA) went extremely well. Our students were cognitively ready and very adept at navigating through the test on their computers.

On April 27th we will enter into round two, the End of Year (EOY), testing. This round of tests is not quite as extensive as the PBA tests. Middle school students will test first this time beginning with the English Language Arts (ELA) tests on April 27th and 28th. They will then take the math tests on April 30th and May 1st. Elementary students will take the English Language Arts (ELA) test on May 4th, and then take the math tests on May 5th and 7th. The EOY and PBA scores will be combined for an overall score that will be reported in the fall of 2015. For more information on what data that report will provide, go to the PARCC Illinois web site: http://parcconline.org/parent-score-reports.

We appreciate you helping to prepare your child for the questions on the first test. We are asking you to again help prepare your child at home for the PARCC test by going to the PARCC web site and practicing the test questions with your child. The sample questions can be found at: http://parcconline.org/samples/item-task-prototypes.

Reviewing the test questions helps your child become more familiar and comfortable with them as well as the format of the test. Based on their positive demeanor this last go around, our students took the practice sessions at school and at home seriously. Let’s get ready to do it again!

If you have any questions about the tests, please contact your child’s teacher or check out the PARCC web site at: http://www.parcconline.org/illinois.

Thank you for helping your child with this important academic assessment!

Sincerely,

Ed Howerton, Ed.D
Assistant to the President for STEM
Aurora University