

# Heritage Academy

## Why Participate in Standardized Testing?

*Heritage Academy exists to partner with Christian Parents to prepare college-worthy, character witness for Jesus Christ.*

Standardized tests offer one way for parents to receive an evaluation a student's knowledge and skill-set competencies in various academic areas. Standardized tests are not the only method of evaluating student's level of academic mastery. Standardized tests do not measure intelligence.

- Standardized test results offer parents a profile of their students' performance (knowledge and skill-set mastery) within the specific disciplines of writing, math, reading comprehension, etc. Test results may also help parents identify areas where skills are advanced or where additional support is needed.
- Standardized test results can provide a more objective evaluation of students' skill levels in comparison to other students of their age and grade level. **Results can be helpful for considering appropriate placement of the student in the classroom setting.**
- Standardized testing gives students the opportunity to become familiar with (and hopefully increasingly comfortable with) a testing format that they will need to be confident with and competent in as they move forward into higher grade levels. For many students, becoming comfortable with the test format itself is part of the first time a student takes a test. Because of this, parents are encouraged to test their students at least once prior to the time that they want to get the most accurate representation possible of where their student is academically.
- Heritage Academy requires students wishing to enroll in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to participate in testing so that both parents and staff can be confident of the student's readiness to succeed or be made aware of specific areas where extra support will be needed or summer enrichment may be appropriate.
- Nervous test-takers can become more comfortable with the idea of formal assessments by receiving opportunity to learn through practice.