Union County T.E.A.M.S. Charter School and High School/College Leadership Academy
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"Become a Part of the Journey – 21st Century Education"

To: Parents of 3-8 Grades
From: Brian A. Albanese, Principal
Date: October 29, 2015
Re: Nov 3 and 4 Benchmark Testing (Tests utilized to develop the learner)

Dear UC Teams 3-8 Grade Families:

It is hard to believe that the first two months of school are almost complete. This includes a new parent portal and progress reports that will soon be on line. The intent is for all reports to be available on parent portal. However, for the first marking period progress reports will be mailed.   In addition, Grades K-8, have the Diagnostic Reading Assessments (DRA's) and Linkit Benchmark testing. The Tests are utilized to guide the UC TEAMS Administration, basic skills coordinator and teachers in understanding your child's strengthens and weaknesses.

New Protocol for November 3 & 4th Practice Benchmark Testing

As a result of the Linkit Benchmark test stated above, UC TEAMS SBC campus has decided to run the students through the testing again. However, the test will be run with a different purpose in mind. The purpose of the testing will be used as a time to better prepare our students for computerized tests. In order to do that, we will use the November 3 and 4 computerized test to work with students so that both the classroom teacher and student has a better understanding of how they learn. This will also further develop the Meta cognitive abilities and critical thinking skills of our students, your child.

At UC TEAMS, Technology will be a time where instead of allowing the computer to remove the teacher from the learning process and focus on the results of the tests, UC TEAMS will use computerized testing opportunities in a different fashion. UC TEAMS will use technology to further ensure that we not only understand what students are weak in but develop reasons why they have a strength or weakness and put in place strategies to further develop the learner.

These are the questions Teachers will be asking your child during the use of technology.
1.   Why did you select that as the best answer
2. What in the Question assisted you in obtaining the answer
3. What was challenging in the question causing you to miss the correct answer

Students will respond, teachers will listen. This will promote an environment:
1) that will provide both the teacher and student a more complete understanding of how your child learns; 2) that promotes students use of critical thinking skills; and 3) that promotes more effective use of technology.

Sheila L. Thorpe   Joi R. Fisher   Brian A. Albanese
Executive Director/Founder   Principal – Secondary   Principal - Elementary