

When Parents Ask Questions About the HSEE, How Do I Answer Them?

Many parents are very interested in the HSEE. They want to ensure that their student passes the exam and receives his or her high school diploma. Parents will probably ask many questions about the exam and how they can help their children prepare. You can offer the following to help them with their questions and concerns:

- Provide the Web site for the official state HSEE site. It can easily be found using one of the common search engines (i.e., Yahoo!, Excite, Google, etc.).
- Show them how the school curriculum is aligned with the state content-based standards. The standards may be located in the principal's office or with the curriculum leader in your school. Show them how your curriculum is aligned with the academic content-based standards.
- Explain how you are helping students prepare. If you are not teaching a core subject, show the parent how you are still an active participant in the preparation process. Describe to the parent how students are able to apply the academic content through your curriculum. Provide examples of ways you integrate reading, writing, and mathematics into your curriculum.
- Encourage parents to support their students. Students learn to value their education when they know it is important to their parents. Ask them to discuss with their students what they are learning, how it relates to the exam, and any concerns they might have about the exam.