Cardinal O'Hara HIGH SCHOOL

HSPT EXAM TEST-TAKING TIPS

✓ Get plenty of rest the night before the exam and be sure to eat a good breakfast before the exam.

✓ Read the question before you look at the answer.

✓ Come up with the answer in your head before looking at the possible answers, this way the choices given on the test won't throw you off or trick you.

✓ Read all the choices before choosing your answer.

✓ Always take an educated guess and select an answer.

✓ Don't keep on changing your answer; usually your first choice is the right one.

✓ Check over your test after you are done with it. If you have time, redo the problem on a separate piece of paper and see if you come up with the same answer the second time around. Look for careless mistakes such as making sure the decimal is in the right place, reading the directions correctly, copying the numbers correctly, filling in the wrong numbered bubble for an answer and so on.

✓ Do the easiest problems first; don't stay on a problem that you are stuck on when time is a factor.

✓ Bring a watch with you to the test so you can better pace yourself.

✓ Keep a positive attitude throughout the test and try to stay relaxed; if you start to feel nervous, take a few deep breaths to relax.

✓ Always read the entire question carefully, and don't make assumptions about what the question might be.

✓ If you don't know an answer, skip it, go on with the rest of the test and come back to it later. There may be something on another part of the test that will help you out with that question.

✓ Don't worry if others finish before you; focus on the test in front of you.

✓ When you are finished, if you have time left, look over your test. Make sure that you have answered all the questions and only change an answer if you misread or misinterpreted the question.

✓ Relax and just do the best you can. That is all you can ask of yourself!