

### **School Testing Program:**

Each spring, Praise Academy students take a nationally recognized achievement test. In previous years, we have used Stanford Achievement Test (SAT), a nationally recognized test to measure academic progress. In 2012, Praise Academy began administering the ACSI Edition of *TerraNova, Third Edition* Achievement Test. This assessment is published by CTB/McGraw-Hill, and, through its partnership with ACSI, is available to Christian schools across the nation and around the globe.

Be assured that the *TerraNova 3* is a technically sound and up-to-date assessment program and provides the most recent national comparisons. Out of the three major national achievement tests available, the *TerraNova 3* is used by 42% of the schools testing in the United States, which is a definitive majority of the testing demographic.

*TerraNova 3* content is closely aligned to state and national standards. It is designed to measure concepts, processes, and objectives taught throughout the nation in Reading, Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The ACSI Edition includes the Bible Assessment Subtest and five additional PLUS tests for assessment in Word Analysis, Vocabulary, Spelling, Language Mechanics, and Math Computation. This complete testing program provides teachers and parents with valuable and in-depth information in all subject areas.

All the scores that are familiar to you from our previous testing program are included in the *TerraNova 3* score reports: percentiles, scale scores, stanines, and normal curve equivalents. After the testing season, our school will receive transition norms, which will allow us to compare student scores to past years' scores.

This assessment program also includes new services that will help our school make the most effective use of testing results. These enhancements include a quick turn-around time for schools and parents in receiving testing results and professional development for our teachers. Since achievement testing is such a critical component of our school's instructional program, *TerraNova 3* and the complete assessment program will provide valuable information to you and to your child's teacher about his/her academic progress. It also becomes a teaching resource for our faculty, allowing us to collect student data that, in turn, helps us make wise decisions in meeting the learning needs of your child.

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The PSAT is the pre-SAT test given to students in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades to help prepare them for the SAT college entrance exam. This test covers the three content areas of critical reading, math, and writing. The test scores are used to help the student better determine their college readiness. The PSAT is administered in October at Praise Academy.