

## **ISEE Testing Grades 6-12**

### **Information Regarding ISEE**

Lake Highland Preparatory School requires students applying to grades 5-12 to take the Independent School Entrance Examination (ISEE). Test dates and registration information can be found at [iseetest.org](http://iseetest.org). We encourage students to register early because test sites do fill up, sometimes in advance of the registration deadline. When registering, please request scores be sent to Lake Highland Preparatory School, code 101294.

The ISEE is a three-hour admission test that has three levels: Lower, Middle, and Upper. The Lower Level is for students currently in grades 4 and 5 who are candidates for admission to grades 5 and 6. The Middle Level is for students in grades 6 and 7 who are candidates for grades 7 and 8. The Upper Level is for students in grades 8 through 11 who are candidates for grades 9 through 12. The ISEE has different forms at each level for security purposes. Sample questions may be found online in the [ISEE Student Guide](#).

The ISEE measures both ability to learn, through verbal and quantitative reasoning sections, and achievement (what a student has learned) through reading comprehension and mathematics achievement sections.

### **Information Regarding ISEE Test Results**

Test results are often misunderstood and, therefore, can create unnecessary anxiety. Test results are just one factor we use in gaining a clearer picture of each applicant. They serve to illuminate areas of ability and achievement for each student. Test scores also provide us with a common denominator, since our applicants come from many different backgrounds and academic settings. As educators, we are quite aware of what multiple-choice tests tell, and what they don't tell about a student. We know standardized tests do not reflect qualities like empathy, vision, motivation, resilience, patience, sense of humor, creativity, and the ability to work independently.

You may be puzzled by the fact that the test scores on the ISEE are lower than that of previous standardized tests your child has taken. In order to understand ability or achievement test scores, you need to be familiar with the group against who the student is being compared, i.e., the norm group. The norm group in this case is the nationwide population who is applying to independent schools, a highly competitive population. To illustrate the significance of the different norms, a student's reading score at the 87th percentile level on a National Norm can equate to the 50th percentile on the Independent School Norm.