

**Istahil** is a woman from Somalia who is enrolled in one of our ESOL for Parents classes. Istahil took the class to educate herself on the public school system in Boston and to learn how she could better support her three children's academic success.

Istahil is like every mom - she wants what's best for her children, and she wants them to grow up to be good people.

***"I want my kids to be hard-working, to learn, to be responsible."***

But Istahil's journey has been harder than many. And this past Monday, Istahil stood up in front of a large crowd at Boston Public School headquarters to receive an award for her leadership in her ESOL for Parents class and to share her experience as a mother learning in English.

***"I learned that, even if I can't help my children, I can take them to the library to get homework help. So now, sometimes I go to the computer if I don't understand. [I] go to the library, helping myself. Now I'm feeling comfortable. English class helps me a lot, and I hope many immigrant moms like me might also get chance to know an English class like mine."***