



The **Scottsdale Education Center** Journal

Scottsdale Education Center
Monthly Publication

September 2011
480-538-0828

SAT, ACT, PSAT, AIMS - Start Prep NOW!



September and October are very busy times for Seniors preparing for and taking SAT and ACT tests. Many are trying to take either their SAT or ACT tests one last time before submitting early applications to colleges. For Sophomores and Juniors, the PSAT is quickly approaching on October 12th/ 15th. The next available SAT test date is October 1. Our SAT Class for this date begins Tuesday, September 6th and runs Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8:30pm for 4 weeks. For the ACT, our next class starts Monday, September 19th and is offered Monday and Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30pm for the 10/22 test date. See our website for more details on all SAT and ACT class dates: www.sectutoring.com.



** GREAT option for these tests is a "12 Session Drop-In Pack" (12 hours) of semi-private, individualized tutoring. \$480. FREE diagnostic test with purchase of a 12-Pack for any of these tests.

** AIMS Retake Tests

What: HS AIMS Retake Tests
When: Writing Retakes - 10/25
Reading Retakes - 10/26
Math Retakes - 10/27

Who: Juniors & Seniors who have not yet met requirements or those who want to exceed
Where: Your High School
Why: (1) HS Graduation Requirements to meet standards in ALL three main areas before graduation your senior year (2) If you "exceed" requirements in all three areas by the end of your sophomore or junior year and maintain a high 'B' average, you may be eligible for the AIMS scholarship. Exact qualifications are being reviewed by the state.

**SAT TEST

What: SAT 2011
When: Saturday, 10/1, 11/5 and 12/3
*SAT Classes are available for these test dates at SEC. View our website for more SAT Class detail (www.sectutoring.com)
Who: Juniors and Seniors
Where: Must Register to pick testing site at www.collegeboard.com
Why: College Admissions, College Scholarships and Honors Program placement.

**ACT TEST

What: ACT 2011
When: Saturday, 9/10, 10/22 and 12/10
*ACT Classes available for last 2 tests dates at SEC on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm starting September 19th. Tutoring available only for 9/10 test date
Who: Juniors and Seniors
Where: Must Register to pick testing site at www.act.org
Why: College Admissions. It is generally recommended to take the ACT with writing

**PSAT TEST

What: PSAT 2011
When: Wednesday, 10/12 & Saturday, 10/15 (SUSD/PVSD)
Who: Juniors and sophomores and motivated freshman
Where: Register at your High School
Why: (1) Top 3% of Juniors qualify for prestigious National Merit Scholar Competitions. Winners are eligible for scholarships. (2) Good precursor test for performance on SAT

Private High School Placement Test Prep

One of our premiere workshops with an incomparable track record for private high school placement at **Notre Dame, Xavier or Brophy** will be offered December 3, 2011 from 9 AM to 1 PM at Scottsdale Education Center. This 4 hour class reviews all of the sections of the HSPT, as well as skills, strategies and techniques to "ACE" the exam. Two hours will be spent on English and the other two hours on math. Scottsdale Education Center has been assisting students with the HSPT for 13 years and has had a 100% success rate of students getting into their school of choice. The cost of the class is \$275 and space is limited to approximately 20 students. (Continued on Page 2)



Struggling with Online Classes?

If your student is STRUGGLING with an ONLINE Class – SEC can help!!!! Students who are retaking a class online because they did not do well the first time they took it in a classroom setting, can find the online process daunting. Math classes can be particularly difficult online as students may have to learn "equation editor" program usage as well as working on material that they found difficult the first time it was presented. SEC can help students work through concepts with which they are struggling. (Continued on page 2)



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Monthly Publication

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Just East of the 101

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Hours of Operation: Monday through Thursday
12pm to 9pm



Your Bridge to Academic Success

September Events

September Payment Due **Thu 9/1**

Labor Day Observed - SEC is Closed **Mon 9/5**

SEC SAT Session I Class Begins **Tues 9/6**

Official ACT Test (see www.act.org for details) **Sat 9/10**

SEC ACT Session II Class Begins **Mon 9/19**

DON'T FORGET:

- Register your child for the official ACT Test at www.act.org
- Register your child for the official SAT reasoning and/or subject tests at www.collegeboard.org

Fall Break - SEC is OPEN!



- October 10 – 14 SUSU/ AZVA
- October 10 Notre Dame/Brophy/Xavier
- October 10-14 BASIS
- October 10-14 Rancho Solano
- October 10-14 Scottsdale Prep.
- October 13-15 SCA

Scottsdale Education Center will be open throughout all schools' Fall Breaks. If you will not be attending your regularly scheduled sessions, please call at least 24 hours in advance and let us know so that you can have a make-up session. Jessica can be reached at 480-538-0828. If you do not call or if you call without 24 hours notice, you will not receive a make-up for your session.

Private HSPT Prep - Continued

We already have several students enrolled! SEC offers tutoring for the HSPT Test as well. Consider first taking the diagnostic of the test and based off of the results we can set up a plan for tutoring. The cost for the diagnostic is \$100 and it is about 2 ½ to 3 hours in length. The cost includes a consultation that is to be scheduled separately from the test. If you sign up for tutoring and the class after the diagnostic, the \$100 fee will be waived. Depending on your student's scores, he/she may benefit solely from the class and not need actual tutoring. **Call 480-538-0828 today to register!**

Online Classes - Continued

We can also help students stay on track so that they don't get behind and end up trying to complete an entire course in a week. SUSU online classes are equally as challenging as classroom courses, so thinking that an online class is going to be "easy" may not be the case. Online classes can be great alternatives for busy students, but students will need to demonstrate mastery of concepts through homework, quizzes, midterms, and finals.

Midterm/Quarter Grades Are Coming!



Mid term tests are imminent. **CHECK YOUR STUDENT'S GRADES!**

Schedule time for preparation. The SUSU first quarter will be over on October 7. Don't wait until the day before the test to start studying. Schedule time now for September and even the first week in October. Often tests are weighted very heavily in the overall grade. In some high school math classes, tests for the quarter can be up to 80% of the overall grade, so although homework may

be stellar, a poor mark on a midterm test can tank a quarter or semester grade... Don't wait to get help. One-time individually scheduled drop-in sessions are available, as are small four-session packages. Call now to reserve your favorite day, time, and tutor. If your quarter grades are not where you want them to be, seriously consider starting ongoing tutoring until the semester is over. As the semester progresses, concepts build off of first of the year concepts.



New Math Tutors



SEC is pleased to announce the addition of two new math tutors to our staff: Christina Murray and Andrea Rohach. Christina has taught math at DMHS for 6 years where she was the Charros 2010/2011 Teacher of the Year. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Education from ASU and is in the pre-certification phase of National Board Certification. Christina is available

Wednesdays at Scottsdale Education Center. Andrea also teaches math at DMHS (this is currently her fourth year there). She holds a Bachelors degree in Economics from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a Masters degree in Secondary Education from ASU. Andrea is available on Mondays and Wednesdays. Call SEC today at 480-538-0828 to schedule an appointment!



Q & A Corner

How can I find and win college scholarships?



Some quick tips to winning scholarships:

- 1) Prioritize your applications
- 2) Create an accomplishments resume
- 3) Tailor your application to meet the Scholarship sponsor's goals
- 4) Ask to be nominated
- 5) Use a calendar and checklist to get organized
- 6) Make your application distinctive and memorable



- 7) Follow INSTRUCTIONS
- 8) Proofread....don't just let spell check do it!
- 9) Understand the selection process
- 10) If you fit the criteria.....APPLY

Some great Scholarship sites:
www.fafsa.ed.gov - to see if you qualify for financial aid
www.fastweb.com - scholarship listing site
www.scholarship.com- scholarship listing site
www.finaid.org - financial aid resources