

SAT PREP COURSE January-March 2009

Preliminary Information

The PTSA/College Committee is once again offering an SAT Prep Course for juniors and interested sophomores. The following information is for planning purposes only. In November, final dates and times will be emailed to all junior and sophomore students, posted on Parent Organizer, and announced at PTSA meetings.

We have scheduled the SAT prep course to coincide with the **March 14th, 2009** SAT Test date. The course is provided by Prep Northwest in Kirkland. For the past five years, we have had great feedback from our students about this course, and are pleased to offer it again this year.

The SAT Prep Course consists of 8 weekly classes, to be held on Wednesdays at ICS, and 4 practice SAT tests, which are administered on Saturdays at the Prep Northwest facility in Kirkland.

Space is limited to 40 students, with juniors having priority.

Please note that this series of classes conflicts with the ski bus program. Students will not be able to participate in both.

WHEN and WHERE:

PREP CLASSES PROPOSED DATES:

All Prep Classes are held at ICS from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m.

- 1) Jan. 14th Wednesday
No class Jan. 21 due to Finals Week
- 2) Jan. 28th Wednesday
- 3) Feb. 4th Wednesday
- 4) Feb. 11th Wednesday
- 5) Feb. 20th Friday 2:15-4:15; (day changed due to Mid-Winter Break Feb. 16-18)
- 6) Feb. 25th Wednesday
- 7) Mar. 4th Wednesday
- 8) Mar. 11th Wednesday

PRACTICE TEST PROPOSED DATES:

All 4 Practice Tests are held at Prep Northwest 12006 98th Ave. NE, Suite 104, Kirkland from 1:00-4:45 pm.

- Jan. 10th Saturday (pretest)
- Jan. 31st Saturday
- Feb. 14th Saturday
- Feb. 28th Saturday

HOW: Registration begins in November by email. Watch for notices by email, PO, and PTSA meeting.

COST: \$345. Checks only, payable to "ICS PTSA." Checks collected at pretest on **Jan. 10, 2009**.

SAT TEST: Other 2008-09 SAT test dates are: Oct 4th, Nov. 1st, Dec. 6th, 2008; Jan. 24th, Mar. 14th; May 2nd and June 6th, 2009. For more information, visit www.collegeboard.com .

NOTE: It is best to register for the SAT several months in advance, as the eastside test locations fill up quickly!

QUESTIONS:

ICS parent contact: Ellen Graham Renfroe (erenfroe@verizon.net) 425.827.5048.

Prep NW contacts: Molly Metz and Terry Lin, 425.825.0702, www.prepnorthwest.com .

Testing, testing, testing . . . Information for ICS families

Here is a brief overview of some of the tests your 10th–12th graders may take as they prepare for college. Students and parents should consult ICS Counselor Kathy Comeau for specific questions and concerns. Each college or university has its own requirements, so students should look carefully at the individual college web sites that they're interested in.

PSAT/NMQAT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test): Offered in the fall. Register and take the PSAT at ICS. Cost is \$25. This test is intended for junior year students, both as a practice for the SAT, and to qualify for a National Merit Scholarship (NMS). Sophomores may take the test, although their score will not be considered for NMS. Space may be limited, and juniors have priority. We do not recommend that students take the PSAT before 10th grade.

SAT (formerly known as the Scholastic Aptitude Test, now just SAT): Administered at several locations 6 times per year. Visit www.collegeboard.com to register for an SAT test. Dates are posted July 1st each year. Cost is approximately \$45. Register early, as the testing locations on the eastside fill quickly. Students may take SAT test multiple times. Currently, *all* scores from each testing session go to the colleges listed by the student. A college will either select the highest combined score from a single testing session, or compile a score using the highest sectional scores from separate sessions. It is important to contact the individual college to determine their practice. The ICS College Committee offers an SAT Prep course, usually held in January and February, to prepare for the March testing date. Other prep courses and books are also available locally or online.

SAT Subject Tests (formerly SAT II: Subject Tests): Given throughout the year, but students frequently take them in May/June at the end of their academic year. Cost is approximately \$25 each test. Register at www.collegeboard.com. These tests cover individual subjects, such as math, history, chemistry or biology. Each college has its own requirements; while many colleges do not require any SAT Subject Tests, some require two Subject Tests, and a few competitive colleges may require three or more. Students generally take these tests in the subjects for which they are also taking AP exams (see below), but they may sometimes take a Subject Test following AP and Honors courses; be sure to consult with your teacher and Ms. Comeau.

AP (Advanced Placement) Tests: Given in the spring. Cost approximately \$80. Registration form available through the individual AP class teacher at ICS. There is one nationwide testing date offered in the spring for each AP subject. Students may get college credit, or they may have a college course requirement waived if they receive scores of 4 or 5 (out of 5). Again, colleges have different requirements, but it is not unusual to find two or three required AP tests, in addition to the SAT and SAT Subject Tests. Passing 3 or more AP tests (with a score of 3 or higher) qualifies a student as an AP Scholar.

ACT (American College Test): Offered 6 times a year at various locations. Cost \$31-\$46. Register at www.actstudent.org. The ACT (No Writing) consists of four multiple-choice tests: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. The ACT Plus Writing includes the four multiple-choice tests and a writing test.