

IMPORTANT BULLETIN FROM DR. PACE ABOUT THE CURRENT AND NEWLY REDESIGNED SAT® TESTS

AND COLLEGE ADMISSIONS POLICIES FOR NEXT YEAR'S JUNIORS

Posted January 2015 by Dr. Pace

Next year's juniors will be in an interesting position regarding the SAT: They will have the option to take the current version of the SAT (which will be administered in October, November, and December of 2015, and in January of 2016), or the newly redesigned SAT (which will be administered starting in March of 2016), or both versions.

I have taken the College Board's redesigned SAT practice test, and it is a tougher test than the current version of the SAT. Given the extra challenges presented by the new test, I wondered if my students who are now in sophomore year could opt out of taking the new test and instead take the current version of the SAT next year when they are juniors. Will colleges accept SAT scores from the current version of the test if taken by juniors in the 2015-16 school year? To find the answer, I called three universities and asked about their policies. I specifically asked their admissions officers two questions regarding next year's juniors and the SAT:

1. Will your college accept scores from the current SAT, if taken in fall 2015 or January 2016?
2. If the answer to the first question is yes, will scores on the current version of the SAT be sufficient for entrance to your university, or will you require next year's juniors to also take the redesigned SAT for entrance to your school?

I spoke with admissions officers at the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, and Drexel and discovered that all three schools have the same policy: Next year's juniors will have the option to take the current version of the SAT that will be offered on the October, November, December 2015, and January 2016 test dates. Moreover, these colleges will accept scores from either or both versions of the SAT so that next year's juniors are not required to take the redesigned SAT in their junior or senior year. It is likely that most, if not all, colleges will follow a similar admissions policy for next year's juniors, although students should check with the specific colleges to which they will apply for their current/redesigned SAT admissions policies.

Based on my knowledge of both the current and redesigned versions of the SAT, I am encouraging my students who are sophomores this year to take the current version of the SAT on any or all of the October, November, December and January SAT test dates. I am offering this advice because I believe that students will find the redesigned SAT to be more difficult than the current version of the test.

Note: Any current sophomore whose sophomore year PSAT® scores indicate you are a National Merit Scholarship contender, you should definitely consider taking the current SAT because you already know that you will do well on it. However, the PSAT that you will take in junior year will be the redesigned PSAT, which will be different from the redesigned SAT in important ways.

In sum, I am advising my students who will be juniors next year to take the current version of the SAT, even if they also take the redesigned SAT.

Dr. Pace

SEISMIC SHIFT IN THE SAT® IS COMING!

1. Advice to Students Entering Junior Year:

Take the current version of the SAT, which will be administered in October, November, December and January. (Note: Information about the redesigned SAT/PSAT can be found on a bulletin that I reprinted on the back page of this Newsletter.)

2. Summer:

For students who plan to take the current version of the SAT and who want to work with me—I am offering three 25-hour SAT seminars this summer (see inside for schedule).

3. Taking the October SAT?

Prepare this summer because fall 2015 leaves little time for comprehensive preparation:

October 3: "tentative" SAT test date, as of this Newsletter's printing

September 25-27 Pope Francis visits Philadelphia and many schools/students will be involved

September 4-7 Labor Day weekend

Therefore, if you want to take a 25-hour SAT seminar with me, enroll in one of my summer programs!

4. PSAT Plan of Action

- a. The PSAT administered in October will be the redesigned PSAT.
- b. In my summer SAT seminars I will guide students to representative problems from the redesigned PSAT. (Note: I already teach students how to solve math problems without using their calculators, which will help prepare them for the "no calculator" math section of the redesigned PSAT.)
- c. I am currently working with interested area principals to help design a one-day PSAT Academic Retreat that I hope to offer with teachers at their schools before the October PSAT test date.

DR. PACE TEST PREP

www.drpaceseminars.com
Summer 2015 Schedule

25-Hour SAT® Academic + SAT® Retreat

3 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS, 3 DIFFERENT WEEKS, SAME 25-HOUR PROGRAM!

COVERS: MATH, CRITICAL READING, VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, ESSAY + SAT RETREAT

Comprehensive review of Mathematics, Sentence Completions, Critical Reading, Grammar, and Essay Writing, with strategies and real SAT practice tests. PLUS the *SAT Retreat*: techniques for dealing with the non-academic factors (such as test-anxiety, distractions, and low confidence) that thwart personal best performance. This seminar prepares students for the SAT tests that will be administered in October, November, December and January. Connections to the redesigned SAT/PSAT will be included.

DATES: Each 25-hour seminar is offered Monday through Friday in the following weeks:
 July 13 - 17, 2015 August 10 - 14, 2015 August 24 - 28, 2015

LOCATIONS: Archbishop Wood Nazareth Academy Saint Basil Academy
 655 York Road, Warminster 4001 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia 711 Fox Chase Road, Jenkintown

TIME: 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.

COST: \$510
 Fee includes Dr. Pace's Flash Cards (Math, Vocabulary, Grammar & Essay) + revised SAT Retreat workbook (Essentials Kit)! Fee also includes the College Board textbook with DVD, trade book, CD, folder of material, 2 parent meetings, tutorials, and online assistance until the October test!

SPOTLIGHT ON DR. PACE'S STUDENT: BRIGID HURST

Brigid Hurst | Presentation BVM School



Dr. Pace,

I am writing to inform you that this past fall Brigid had taken three High School scholarship exams and was invited to sit for the Connelly Foundation's Neumann Scholarship exam. We have heard back from all with very good news!

- St. Basil Academy extended her the highest merit scholarship they offer at \$5k/year for a total of \$20k.
- Bishop McDevitt extended her a merit scholarship of \$3k/year for a total of \$12k over four years.
- John W. Hallahan extended her a merit scholarship of \$3k/year for a total of \$12k over four years.
- Connelly Foundation awarded her a Neumann Scholarship of approx. \$6500/year for four years (About \$26k total), a fully paid scholarship to any Archdiocesan High School of her choice.

Of course we were pleased with all of the offers, but were very proud and thankful of the Neumann Scholar Award. We wanted to let you know that you have another success story to add to your list, and for that we are very grateful. She has chosen to attend Hallahan in the fall, and is looking forward to what the future has in store. Thank you so much for all that you have done thus far for our children, and you have a committed customer in us for the others. Of course, we will still have Brigid see you for your SAT prep and maybe other offerings as well.

Bob and Kathy Hurst

DR. PACE TEST PREP

www.drpaceseminars.com
Summer 2015 Schedule

High School Entrance and Scholarship Programs

+ **HSPT SEMINAR**
 (THE HSPT IS THE TEST USED TO DETERMINE ENTRANCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO MOST AREA HIGH SCHOOLS)

This 10-hour Academic program covers all areas of the HSPT: Math, Reading, Grammar & Cognitive. Dr. Pace includes her unique strategies, a review of all areas, practice tests, a daily Progress Report, homework, daily tutorials, and a plan of action for the time leading up to the fall test dates.

DATES: July 27 - 31, 2015 (M-F) **LOCATION:** Nazareth Academy, 4001 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia
TIME: 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. **COST:** \$162, includes material

+ **SLAYING THE DRAGONS OF STANDARDIZED TESTS**
 HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6 TO 8 AND THEIR PARENT(S)

This program prepares students for all High School Entrance and Scholarship Tests!

The Holistic component prepares students physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually to perform at their best on high stakes tests.

The Academic component provides a selection of Math, English and Cognitive problems.

At least one parent must attend most of the sessions.

DATES: July 27 - 31, 2015 (M-F) **LOCATION:** Nazareth Academy, 4001 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia
TIME: 11:00a.m. to 11:50a.m. **COST:** \$80, includes student & parent workbooks, CD, and a trade book

Refund Policy for all of Dr. Pace's programs: Students who miss sessions can make up time in other pre-approved programs. Full payment is required for all programs whether or not the student can attend all sessions.

PSAT/NMSQT® is a registered trademark of the College Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which were not involved in the production of, and do not endorse, this product.

Note: Any professional educator planning to sit in on or use Dr. Pace's teachings and/or techniques needs to call Dr. Pace. 215-725-6568

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SPOTLIGHT ON DR. PACE'S STUDENT: DOMINIC NGUYEN



Dominic Nguyen | Saint Helena-Incarnation School

Dominic Nguyen has been honored as

ONE OF THE MOST ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS in the Philadelphia Archdiocese!

As such, Dominic was awarded two academic scholarships: a Saint John Vianney Scholarship at \$3,000/year for 4 years, and a 4-year, \$3,000/year scholarship to Bishop McDevitt.

"Thank you so much for your program, Dr. Pace." Anne Nguyen, Dominic's mother.



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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dr-Pace-Test-Prep/229248080447750>



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