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## **Preparation key to SAT success, more doors opening**

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The annual SAT exam, given to all Illinois high school juniors in April, is a key college entrance metric and can make a difference in a choice of colleges and the amount of scholarship aid a student receives. While we tend to resist defining a student by a test score, the SAT is one important measure where a student's college and career readiness skills must be translated into success on a test, one in which he or she will be compared to all students nationally.

In addition to strong background knowledge in reading, writing, mathematics and analysis, students must be adept at specific test taking skills. For example:

- Students must use a sequence when reading the passages that prevents them from running out of time and losing points.
- One question in each passage is almost always more difficult than the rest. Students must learn how to approach these questions with confidence.

Glenbard District 87 devotes time and resources to ensure that all of our juniors are confident and prepared for this important exam. More than 500 juniors are participating in a free 87 SAT Prep+ program that includes three major components:

- Khan Academy's personalized online SAT test modules
- Cambridge Test Prep's classroom curriculum
- Some curriculum to help students understand their scores and how this can impact their college, career and scholarship options.

A famous 20th century educational scholar, John Dewey, said, "What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all of its children." Glenbard District 87 strives to live out this belief and commitment every day as we provide programming and services so all of our students can meet the standards that we set for the best of our students, including the SAT exam.