



Contact: Sarah Arnold, Public Affairs Officer 203-977-4095

www.stamfordpublicschools.org

Stamford Public School Students Achieve Highest SAT Scores in Five Years *Average SAT II Scores in Math, Chemistry, and Physics Surpass State and Nation*

(September 14, 2010) SAT scores for the Stamford Public Schools (SPS) Class of 2010 increased in all 3 sections compared to the Class of 2009. Mean Critical Reading scores increased by 9 points to 496; mean Math scores rose by 15 points to 505; and mean Writing scores increased by 12 points to 499. Possible scores for each section range from 200 to 800. Statewide and nationally, mean SAT scores were relatively flat.

“I am extremely proud of our students for this outstanding achievement – and equally proud of our administrators and teachers for setting a high bar, helping students to meet that bar, and ensuring they are college-ready,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joshua P. Starr.

Stamford’s mean SAT scores have traditionally lagged behind the state and the nation, but they are making headway in closing that gap:

- In Critical Reading, Stamford’s mean score *is within 5 points of the nation and within 13 points of the State.*
- In Math, Stamford’s mean score *is within 11 points of the nation and within 9 points of the State.*
- In Writing, for the first time, Stamford’s mean score *is 7 points above the nation and within 14 points of the State.*

Results for Black and Hispanic students, while trailing those of Asian and White students in Stamford, are beginning to match or exceed the SAT averages posted by Black and Hispanic students statewide and nationally.

Over the past 5 years, Stamford’s scores have risen steadily, while State and national scores have declined slightly during that time. Since 2005, Stamford’s mean Critical Reading score has increased 18 points; the mean Math score has risen 24 points; and the mean Writing score has increased 19 points.

On the SAT II Subject Tests, the Class of 2010 continued Stamford’s record of excellence:

- Stamford’s mean scores in Literature, U.S. History, Math Level II, Biology (Ecological), Biology (Molecular) scores *exceeded the mean nationally*

SAT Scores (2)

- Stamford's mean scores in Math Level I , Chemistry, Physics, Spanish, and Spanish with listening *exceeded the mean for the State and the nation.*

In the past 5 years, the district has implemented many curriculum reforms to add academic rigor across all content areas. For example, the percent of SPS students who report taking 4 or more years of Math has increased over five years, from 63% for the Class of 2006 to 77% for the Class of 2010. Similarly, the percent of SPS students who report taking 4 or more years of English/Language Arts has risen over 5 years, from 82% for the Class of 2006 to 89% for the Class of 2010. An increased number of students also report taking 3 or more years of Science, from 89% for the Class of 2006 to 92% for the Class of 2010. The GE Developing Futures™ Program is infusing \$25.8 million into SPS in order to improve student achievement and increase college readiness through comprehensive school, business and community collaboration. In 2007, Westhill was selected as one of nine high schools in Connecticut to participate in Project Opening Doors (POD) through a five year, \$594,000 grant to increase the number of students scoring 3 or higher on AP Mathematics, Science, and English exams.

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