



April/May 2014
 RYAN ROYAL REPORTER
 Ryan Elementary School
 4600 S. Bright Angel Way
 Chandler, Arizona 85249



—————Phone Numbers—————

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Health Office	480-224-3202		

—————Website—————

<http://www.cusd80.com/Domain/3534>

Hear Us Roar!

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Dear Ryan Families,

April is a very important month for schools across the state as we gear up for high stakes testing. Our students in grades three through six take AIMS while students in second grade take the SAT 10. AIMS is a criterion referenced test which measures how well students have learned the standards for their grade level in reading, math, writing, and science, while the SAT 10 is a norm-referenced exam that gives students a percentile ranking in reading and math comparing them to other children across the nation.

Attendance is critical during these next two weeks as our students review concepts and practice test taking strategies in preparation for these important assessments. Please review the testing schedules included in this newsletter and mark your calendars now in order to avoid any potential conflicts. We ask that you only keep your child home from school if he/she is too ill to attend, and that you refrain from making appointments for your child during testing times. Once a testing session has begun, a child is not able to make up that part of the exam if they are signed out of school. We know that you will support our efforts to have excellent attendance during testing days since absences count against us as a school when the state calculates our school's grade.

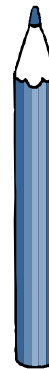
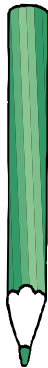
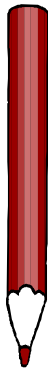
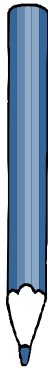
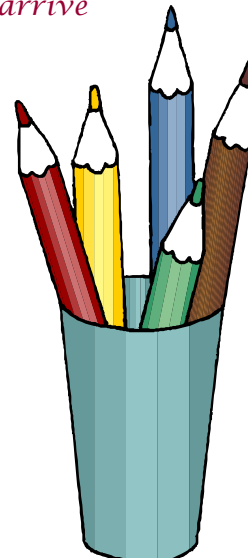
On another note, I'd like to remind you that supervision on the playground is not provided prior to 8:10 a.m. For that reason, it is critical that you have your students arrive at school after that time when we have teachers on duty.

Thank you for your continued support of Ryan Elementary!

Warmly,

Liane Wells

Mrs. Diane Wells



Dear Royal Families,



AIMS/SAT 10 is right around the corner. You play an important part in helping students give their best performance on these important tests. As you know, we have been busy preparing and reinforcing the skills necessary for students to demonstrate their learning. Even though these assessments are a snapshot - *one single perspective* - it is important that our students have every advantage to do their very best. We don't want to cause test anxiety, rather we want our students to be as prepared as possible. There are many ways in which you can help your child put his/her best foot forward. The following guidelines can help set our students up for success:

The week LEADING UP to the test:

- ◆ Begin to talk with your child about doing his or her best. You know your child better than anyone.
- ◆ Emphasize the importance of the test, but remember to build confidence, not anxiety.

The NIGHT BEFORE the test:

- ◆ Make sure your child goes to bed on time so he or she is well-rested.
- ◆ Keep your routine as normal as possible. Upsetting natural routines may make children feel insecure.
- ◆ Be positive and confident in the fact that you know your child will do his/her best.
- ◆ Plan ahead to avoid conflicts on the morning of the test.

The MORNING OF the test:

- ◆ Get up a few minutes early to avoid rushing and make sure your child arrives at school on time.
- ◆ Have your child eat a nutritious breakfast. There is strong correlation between breakfast and memory and cognitive functioning.
- ◆ Have your child dress comfortably and bring a healthy snack to school including a water bottle to stay hydrated.
- ◆ Remind them that during the test, a good strategy is to read the directions carefully, as well as all the choices before selecting an answer. Use the process of elimination to eliminate the choices that are incorrect. Take their time! If they finish the test early, the students should go back to make sure all questions are answered.
- ◆ Be positive and communicate that this is your child's chance to show what he/she knows. The most important thing you can do right before the test is build confidence about doing his/her best.

AFTER the test:

- ◆ Talk to your child about his/her feelings about the test. Discuss what was easy and what was hard; discuss what your child learned from the test. Keep in mind it is okay if your child doesn't know all the answers. Some questions are designed to challenge the limits of knowledge at a grade level.
- ◆ Explain that performance on a test does not define him or her as a person. It is just one opportunity to demonstrate learning.

For additional information on how you can support your child, please visit: <http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/23148/> Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. Together we can make a difference!



Yours in education,
Dawn Koberstein





Dear Ryan Parents,

It is difficult to believe that we are beginning our last quarter of the school year. This time of year signifies that we are ready to participate in the AIMS and Stanford 10 testing. AIMS testing for grades 3-6 will begin on Tuesday, April 8th and continue through Friday, April 11th. Stanford 10 testing for second grade students will begin on Wednesday, April 9th and continue through Thursday, April 10th. It is very important that students are in attendance and on time during testing. We would also ask that parents refrain from withdrawing their children from school early during our testing days. This is a distraction for other students who may still be testing. If a student leaves during a testing session, they will not be able to finish the test at a later time.

You can still register your child for Chandler Academically Talented Students (C.A.T.S.) spring testing. The application can be found online on the district website under the departments tab (Gifted Education). Testing typically takes place on a Saturday at various school sites. Once you register, you will be contacted by the department as to the day/time that your child will be scheduled for testing. Results for the second grade on site testing that was completed in January are now available. Parents who have children that qualified for the C.A.T.S. program through testing have been notified. Any parent may request scores by filling out a score request form. The forms are available on the website as well as at the main office at Ryan.

Summer Academy information is available on the Chandler Unified School District Website under the community education tab. Flyers are available on the side menu under the option of "overview" for both elementary and junior high school classes. Please take the time to check this out. Community education offers some fun classes as well as advanced and recovery classes. It is important to remember that transportation is available only for junior high and high school students. You can sign up for most classes online, however there are some junior high classes that require counselor approval. All sixth grade students have been provided a junior high course approval form. If you wish for your child to take a junior high class which requires an approval code, please fill out the form and return it to my office. A signed approval form will be returned to you with codes that you can use to register online.

Junior high transition meetings for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) are being scheduled with case managers from both Santan and Payne Jr. High Schools. The meetings will be short and will focus on your child's schedule to ensure that their individual needs will be met when they transition into junior high. Santan Jr. High transition meetings are scheduled for Monday, March 31st. Payne Jr. High transition meetings will be scheduled for later in April. If you should have any questions about transitioning IEPs or 504 Plans to the junior high level, please do not hesitate to contact me at 480-224-3200.

Yours In Education,

Yvette Stene

Student Services Specialist

