

HCOP Saturday Academy Newsletter

"It's as hard to get from almost finished to finished as to get to the beginning to almost done"

- Elinor Fuches



We're Almost at the End of the Semester!

We are at the halfway point of the Spring semester and this would be a good point to review the progress of the entire class. So far this year the students have taken two practice tests with 18 students participating on January 24th and 14 students on February 28th. We will take a look and compare the practice tests scores of this semester.

STD stands for Standard Deviation which is a statistical measure

that shows the variation of the distribution of the scores.

Test Date	ACT	English	Math	Reading	Science
1/24/09 (18)	16.10 (STD 2.51, SE 0.59)	18.16 (STD 3.24, SE 0.76)	16.33 (STD 3.01, SE 0.70)	13.22 (STD 3.99, SE 0.94)	15.94 (STD 2.69, SE 0.63)
2/28/09 (14)	17.07 (STD 3.02, SE 0.81)	17.14 (STD 4.05, SE 1.08)	18.07 (STD 2.7, SE 0.72)	13.85 (STD 3.08, SE 0.82)	18.92 (STD 3.54, SE 0.95)

Table 1- ACT Scores

The class shows most progress in the Science category with a 3 point increase and next would be Math with a 2 point increase. English and Reading sections were lower than the other subjects. To increase improvement in these two areas, the students need to spend more time reading and reviewing materials on how to read and understand the questions and answering them effectively.

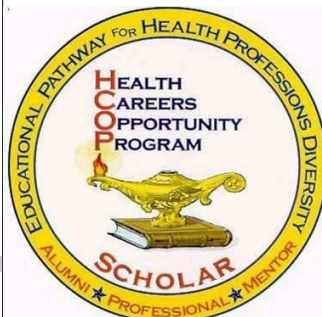
In April and May we will invite a former OPS teacher to work with the students on reading comprehension. There are two remaining practice test in March and May 2009. The next official test will be the SAT in May and the ACT in June 2009. That gives the class plenty of opportunities to continue improving its average test scores. The students need to take advantage of skills reviews from Kaplan and test taking strategies offered by such guest as Mr. Art Ortiz.

HS-MACA

- Program director- Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki
- Author- Mr. Arthur Stallworth
- Editors- HS-MACA Staff

ACT composite score average was 16.1 for 1/24 with an STD of 2.51, which would be like saying the majority of scores will range between 14 and 18 for that set of data.

Since the English and Reading sections are the more difficult sections for the class the students need to supplement the school instruction with Kaplan some after-



Date	Material Covered	Teacher	Afternoon
4/4	No Class (ACT Test for some) SPRING BREAK!	Arthur Stallworth	None
4/11	No Class-Easter	None	None
4/18	Session 9 (Lesson)	Takijah Collins	Tutor
4/25	Session 10 (Lesson)	Tammy Steele	Mrs. MacBean Reading Comprehension

Here is the Schedule for Next Month!



Since Issue 3 February 2009

Issue 3 focused on understanding the multidisciplinary side of the Health Sciences as well as facts on Black History Month. The class had an opportunity to learn more about Sickle Cell Anemia from one of HS-MACA's Post-Bac students, Hannatu Tunga-Lergo. Post-Bac students are students with their Bachelors degree working towards entrance into medical school. She focused on Sickle Cell due to personal experience and that it is a common disease among Africans and African-Americans.

Mark Patten did a presentation on HIV and STDs which are very prevalent in disadvantaged communities.

The students had the opportunity to watch a film titled "Not So Wild a Dream" which detailed the lives of disadvantaged students of all races and how they found their way to and through college. The students achieved this in various ways mainly through programs like this one and mentors along the way to guide them through their experiences.

April includes the much needed spring break and holiday for the students. As a result, there will be no classes during the first two Saturdays. Midway through the month of April, the class will be preparing with Kaplan as well as getting extra lessons on Reading Comprehension from former Omaha Public School (OPS) teacher Mrs. MacBean for the up incoming SAT and ACT!

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