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**SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT ADMISSIONS SCORES JUMP AS
COMPETITION FOR SCARCE SLOTS HEATS UP**

Chicago, IL – The scores needed to attend Chicago’s Eight Selective Enrollment High schools rose yet again this year with some schools’ average score rising more than 10 points and one by more than 20 points.

According to Matthew Greenberg, partner of educational services firm SelectivePrep – “There’s just no let-up in the rise of the scores needed to attend these elite schools. A student’s performance on the Selective Enrollment Exam will play an ever larger role in determining admissions success.”

“Grades and attendance are critical,” continued Greenberg. “But “average” scores in these two areas are already near 100%. So while stellar grades will allow you to play the game, superior scores on both the 7th Grade Achievement Test and the Selective Enrollment Entrance Exam will give you the winning edge.”

Figure 1. Selective Enrollment Admissions Scores (07-08 through 08-09)

	07-08 average admissions score	08-09 average admissions score	year to year change in point total
Brooks College Prep	862	860	-2
Jones College Prep	912	931	+19
King College Prep	842	824	-18
Lane Tech	877	898	+21
Lindblom Math & Science Academy	828	843	+15
Northside College Prep	968	979	+11
Payton College Prep	956	956	0
Young College Prep	941	949	+8

School Highlights:

Lane Tech moved from 877 to 898 (+21 points). With an incoming freshman class of approximately 1,200 students, Lane Tech constitutes over 40% of the total Selective Enrollment High School student body. Given its large population, an increase of this magnitude represents a significant acceleration in competitive intensity. According

to Greenberg, “Students who in prior years may have designated Lane Tech as their “safe” school may now be choosing Lane Tech as their primary option as spots in Payton, Young and Northside become increasingly scarce.”

Jones College Prep moved from 912 to 931 (+19 points). “Its central location, strong reputation and new facilities have made Jones a compelling rival to Payton, Young, and Northside,” said Greenberg.

Lindblom Math and Science Academy with an average score of 843 (+15 points) pulled ahead of King College Prep and within range of Brooks College Prep, traditionally the most competitive school on the south side. “Innovative new programs and increased visibility are continuing to move Lindblom forward,” commented Greenberg.

Northside College Prep moved up from 968 to a stratospheric 979 (+11 points). Each year Northside and other top Selective Enrollment High Schools see an increasing number of students who achieve perfect scores of 1,000 points. This year over 20 incoming Northside students had perfect scores.

Background

Fewer than one in five applicants will be accepted for the limited number of freshman spaces in Chicago’s Selective Enrollment High Schools, creating a fierce competition to secure one of the spots in these top schools – many rated among the best public high schools in all of Illinois.

Admission is determined by a student’s score on a 1,000 point scale. Of these 1,000 points, 700 are determined by 7th grade performance, including 300 points for an achievement test (currently the Illinois Standards Achievement Test or ISAT in the CPS system), 300 points for 7th grade grades, and 100 points for 7th grade attendance. The final 300 points are determined by the Selective Enrollment Exam given in 8th grade.

About SelectivePrep

SelectivePrep was founded by test prep veterans with over 25 year of test preparation experience – and extensive backgrounds in both classroom teaching and curriculum development. SelectivePrep offers the *only* classroom program that prepares students for both of the standardized tests needed to gain admission to a Selective Enrollment High School.

SelectivePrep knows what it takes to train and motivate students who are intent upon gaining admission to the eight Chicago Selective Enrollment High Schools, and has

developed unique and intensive classroom programs to prepare students for both the 7th Grade Standardized Test and the Selective Enrollment High School Entrance Exam. With a track record of successfully preparing students for achievement tests, SelectivePrep helps students approach the Selective Enrollment High School admissions process with confidence.

For additional information and registration go to www.selectiveprep.com or call (312) 409-8411.