



Current 7th graders:

Excel on the Selective Enrollment Entrance Exam. Registration is now open for September 2012 classes to prepare for the December/January Entrance Exam.



Getting into a Great High School

A Newsletter Focused on the Selective Enrollment High School Admissions Process

Get Ready, Get Prepped, Get In!

Spring 2012, Volume 6

Selective Enrollment Admissions Scores Rebound

This year was a brutal season for admissions to a Selective Enrollment High School. The level of competition increased – for nearly all students. Given its size, the leap in admissions

scores at Lane Tech has had an outsize effect on the overall level of competition system-wide.

Continued on next page.

Selective Enrollment Admissions Scores (2011 - 2012 & 2012 - 2013)

| | 11-12 average admission scores | 12-13 average admission scores | Change In Scores |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Brooks College Prep | 764 | 776 | +12 |
| Jones College Prep | 859 | 862 | +3 |
| King College Prep | 712 | 717 | +5 |
| Lane Tech | 803 | 833 | +30 |
| Lindbloom Math & Science Academy | 736 | 761 | +25 |
| Northside College Prep | 881 | 881 | 0 |
| Payton College Prep | 880 | 887 | +7 |
| Westinghouse | 752 | 769 | +17 |
| Young | 858 | 871 | +13 |

Upcoming Events

SelectiveMath Summer Classes (August 2012)

Registration is NOW OPEN for **Math Enrichment** (current 5th and 6th graders), **Algebra I** (current 7th and 8th graders), and **Geometry I** (current 8th and 9th graders). These programs are weeklong workshops designed for students who are ready to do more and enjoy problem solving, puzzles, and critical thinking.

FREE SelectivePrep High School Admissions Seminar (August 25th & Sept. 15th)

Current 5th, 6th and 7th graders -- master the complexities of the Selective Enrollment and Academic Center admissions process by attending one of these free seminars.

Selective Enrollment Exam Preparation (Sept. 2012)

Attention current 8th graders -- registration is NOW OPEN for fall classes to prepare for the December/January Entrance Exam.

Walter Payton College Preparatory High School
 Northside College Prep
 Whitney M. Young Magnet High School
 Lane Tech College Preparatory High School
 Jones College Preparatory School
 Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy
 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. College Preparatory High School
 Robert Lindblom Math and Science Academy
 Westinghouse College Prep

Where will YOUR child go to high school?



Invest In Your Child's Future

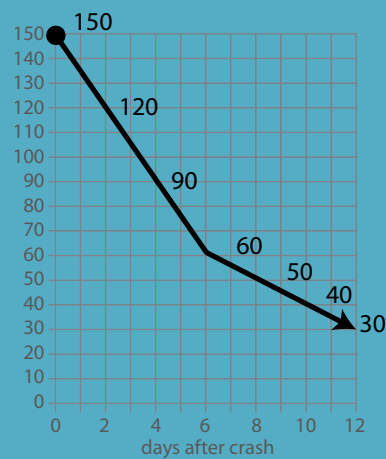
For more information, please visit www.selectiveprep.com or call 312-409-8411

NEW: Math Enrichment Classes NOW Offered for Summer Fun and Challenge

To find out more about SelectiveMath's August Math Programs, go to www.SelectiveMath.com

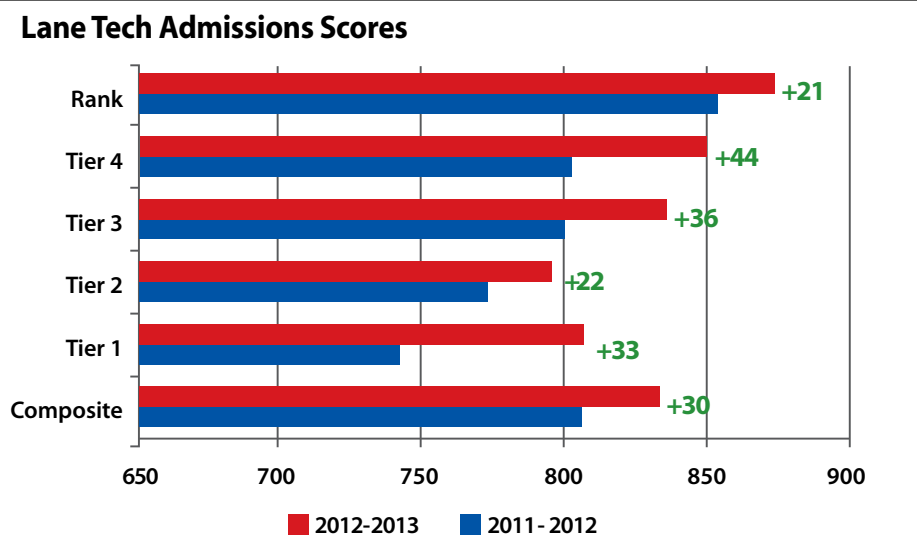
Q: A plane crash strands dozens of survivors on a desert island. If the survivors continue to consume their food supplies at the rate they have been since day 6, when can we expect them to run out of food?

- Day 13
- Day 18
- Day 24
- Day 28



A: b. Day 18. After day 6, the passengers consume 10 pounds every day. At day 12 they had 30 pounds of food remaining so at day 14 they will have 20 pounds, at day 16 they will have 10 pounds, and at day 18 they will have zero pounds remaining.

Rebound continued



Lane Tech Scores Jump

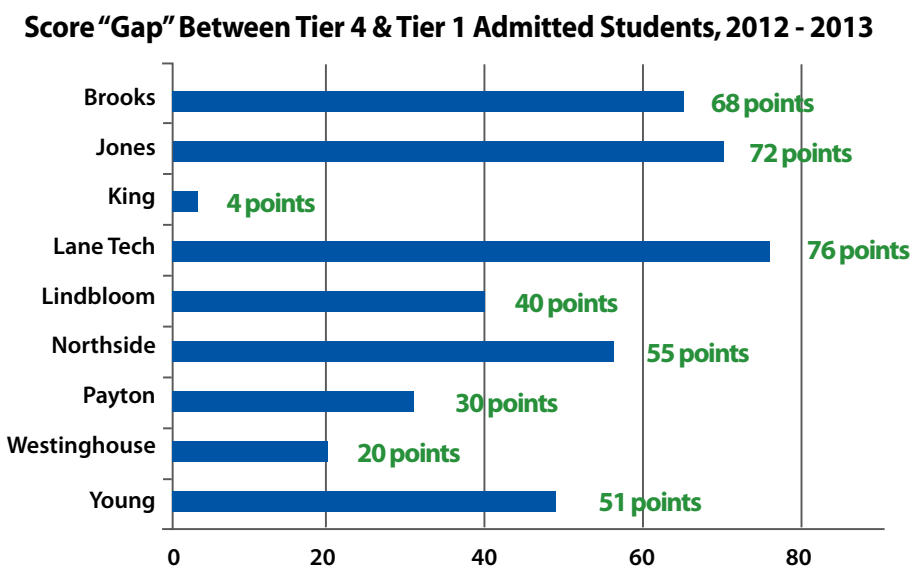
Lane Tech, the largest school in the Selective Enrollment system with about 40% of total seats, saw its average admissions scores increase an eye-popping 30 points.

This jump came as more students competed for scarce spots across all Selective Enrollment High Schools. Additionally, high achieving students who were excluded from other Selective

Enrollment High Schools received offers from Lane Tech.

Huge Score Gaps Between Tiers

The already significant "gaps" between Tier 4 and Tier 1 admitted students at the more competitive schools widened -- nearly across the board -- as students in the higher Tiers needed to turn in dramatically better performance to be accepted.



In fact, five of the Selective Enrollment High Schools had gaps of over 50 points between the average score of admitted Tier 4 and Tier 1 students. For example, the average score of an admitted Tier 4 student at Lane Tech was 850, but for a Tier 1 student it was only 774, leading to a gap of 76 points. For Jones it was 72 points, for Brooks 68 points, and for Northside, 55 points.



CPS Revises Its Tier Data:

North Side Students Big Losers; South and West Side Students Big Winners

Getting into a top Selective Enrollment High School or Elementary School just got a lot tougher for some students and a lot easier for others. In February 2012 CPS revised the data driving its Tier System for admitting students to Selective Enrollment Schools.

The "losers" in this latest scheme are students living in areas of the City of Chicago who were moved to a higher Tier Group, and "winners" are students living in areas that were re-classified to a lower Tier. Among the neighborhood "losers" are Rogers Park, Uptown, Edgewater, Logan Square, Wicker Park, Ukrainian Village, and South Loop. Among the neighborhood "winners" are Gresham, Chatham, Morgan Park, Lawndale, Homan Square, West Englewood, Garfield Park, and Austin.

A Quirk of the Tier System: More Applicants in Higher Tiers

Under the current admissions system for Chicago's Selective Enrollment High Schools and Academic Centers, there are many more qualified Tier 4 students than Tier 1 students, yet each Tier gets the same allotment of Selective Enrollment and Academic Center seats. This makes it more difficult for any qualified Tier 4 students to land a spot since they will have more competition.

Qualified School-Age Students by Tier

| | Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Tier 3 | Tier 4 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| % of school-age students in each Tier | 25% | 25% | 25% | 25% |
| % of Tier qualified to take the Exam (Selective Enrollment) | 56% | 62% | 70% | 81% |
| % of Tier qualified to take the Exam (Academic Center) | 36% | 41% | 50% | 64% |

To qualify to take the Selective Enrollment Exam as an 8th grader -- and be eligible to apply to a Selective Enrollment High School -- a student must score a minimum of stanine 5 (e.g., above 40%) in both Reading and Math on his/her 7th grade standardized test. Furthermore, only a 6th grader who scores a minimum of 70% on both Reading and Math on his/her 5th grade standardized test can apply to an Academic Center. Since fewer Tier 1 students reach 40% (or 70% for Academic Centers) than their Tier 4 counterparts, the pool of qualified Tier 1 students is much smaller than the pool from Tier 4. And since both Tiers are allotted the same number of seats, a qualified applicant from Tier 1 faces far less competition than does a qualified Tier 4 student.

If each qualified student were to have an equal chance at a Selective Enrollment slot, then 21% of the slots (70% of the Tier slots multiplied by 30% -- the percent of qualified students) should be allocated to Tier 4 students vs. the current 17.5% and only 14.7% (70% of the Tier slots multiplied by 21%) vs. the current 17.5% should be allocated to Tier 1 students.

Admissions Based on Qualified Applicants

| | Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Tier 3 | Tier 4 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| current allocation system | 17.5% | 17.5% | 17.5% | 17.5% |
| % of slots allocated to each Tier if each qualified student gets an equal chance (Selective Enrollment) | 14.7% | 16.1% | 18.2% | 21% |
| change in allocation (Selective Enrollment) | -2.8% | -1.4% | +0.7% | +3.5% |
| % of slots allocated to each Tier if each qualified student gets an equal chance (Academic Center) | 12.6% | 15.4% | 18.2% | 23.8% |
| change in allocation (Academic Center) | -4.9% | -2.1% | +0.7% | +6.3% |