



Tsunami Newswaves

February 2009 Newsletter

Students Meet Insight Staff

During the first week of February, Insight staff had the privilege of meeting with three students enrolled in Insight School of Oregon. Senior Vice President of Development at Insight Schools, Brian Rose, along with ISOR Head of School, J.D. McMahan, met with students and parents from Three Rivers School District in Grants Pass, OR. Rose, a 1980 graduate of Three Rivers School District himself, and McMahan were able to answer questions for the students over lunch.



Students Abigail Robinson, Ariel Clark, Shelby Fickett, and families with J.D. McMahan

Rose & McMahan enjoyed getting to meet with the students in person and the students were excited to learn more about the program. This was the students' first opportunity to make face-to-face contact with people, including other students, who they had formerly only connected with online. "I really liked how friendly and helpful JD and Brian were," said Abigail Robinson, a freshman at ISOR. "They immediately made you feel right at home." Rose said that it was a great experience to get to meet some of Insight's students face to face and see the difference the program is making in their education. "At the end of the day," he said, "I felt blessed to be involved and thankful for everyone at Insight that made it possible to serve these kids."

Principal's View: Lesson's Learned—JD McMahan

We are very proud of every student who is part of our online family. Our students who log on daily, establish a study routine, and make a consistent effort are doing very well. When a student is "on top" of their courses they then are capable of redirecting their energy to spend extra time on a particular course that they find needs a little more focus to realize success. We have learned that students who spend 30 to 90 minutes a day on each of their courses consistently demonstrate "A" and "B" level work. Be on Time, Be on Task, and Be on a Mission to enjoy success. You are special and we appreciate you. Our commitment to you is to provide the best technology, teachers, courses and support to help you be the best you can be. As a supportive group we can all succeed together.

Go Tsunami, JD

February Dates to Remember

2/10—last day to sign up for SATs

2/16—President's Day: No School

2/27—End of first five weeks

2/27—Last day for Full Time and Part Time Enrollment



Amy McCoy—iMentor

Meet the Staff: Amy McCoy, iMentor

Amy grew up in Mississippi and moved to Phoenix, AZ after Hurricane Katrina. She received her BA in Sociology and Anthropology from Millsaps College in Jackson, MS, and worked as an archaeologist in Mexico and the Caribbean after graduation. She loves Cajun food. She has two cats, Louise and Floyd. Amy is also an iMentor for iSucceed in Idaho. She has been with Insight Schools for almost one year, and has loved her time here so far. Rumor has it that she has the most awesome Illuminate sessions!

Counselor's Comments—Robin Holly

Why should students take the SAT?

Students and parents often ask why it is important to take the SAT. Reasons include:

- All colleges accept the SAT as an **objective measurement** of students' college readiness.
- Used with GPAs and high school transcripts, SAT scores allow colleges to **fairly compare** applicants.
- Taking the SAT gives students **access to scholarship** opportunities.
- Most 4 year colleges require an admissions test like the SAT.
- The SAT provides students with the most comprehensive performance feedback of any admissions test.

The next SAT test will be March 14, 2009. Deadline for registration is **Feb. 10th**, and late registration deadline is **Feb. 24th**. Registration information, test locations, and fees are all available at www.collegeboard.com. Our School Code is 381174.

Why is Homeroom on my schedule?

Homeroom is a great place for students and parents to get good information. Make a habit of checking regularly for new items to be posted in "Lessons". There you will find folders and links to valuable resources like college and career information, parent handbook, and staff contact numbers. We're always adding to it, so be sure to check back often so you don't miss anything!

Tech Tips—William Johnston

Did you ever wish you could have someone review your essay before you turn it in to your teacher? Do you ever need a question answered late at night and your mentor has left for the day? Both are at your fingertips 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Visit "Smarthinking" for your student website. If you are not familiar with this tool, ask your mentor or simply click [here](#) for a recorded tutorial.

What tips and tricks would you like to know? Contact Insight's Operations Manager, William Johnston at williamj@insightschools.net

Tsunami Stars!

And the prize winner is...

Check here for the list of each month's Tsunami Stars! This is where you will find the results of our random draw. You could win our monthly prize!

Here's what you have to do to qualify:

- **Progress:** progress must increase by 20% over the course of the month
- **Quality of work:** average must be 75% or higher
- **Attendance:** no attendance warnings (3 consecutive missed school days)

Your name could be here!

