

## **Testing company says 500 students from Scripps Ranch must retake AP Exam**

### **Schools announce plans to hold free test prep sessions and retesting over the summer**

The College Board and its test administrator, Educational Testing Service (ETS), have notified Scripps Ranch High School that some 500 students will have their Advanced Placement exams invalidated due to errors in the administration of the test. The Board and ETS said they are taking this action in response to an adult proctoring error and not in response to any evidence of student cheating or misconduct.

"I'm very disappointed the proper protocols were not followed at this site for Some AP tests. I'm equally disappointed that the College Board and the ETS test company is invalidating the scores which I think is an overreaction as there is no evidence of student cheating. After consulting with our legal department about possible recourse we explored previous case law which has demonstrated that other districts efforts to embargo such actions have failed in the courts. Given our current situation we will do everything we can to minimize the impacts of this situation on our students. The dedication of our teachers at Scripps Ranch high school is unparalleled as they have all volunteered to come in and teach review classes to help the students prepare for the free retest opportunities we will provide in July and then again in August. I am confident that under the leadership of Matt Lawson vice principal at Scripps Ranch high school and former Marshall middle school principal Rick Novak that parent and student questions will be addressed in a timely manner and that free retesting will move forward.. Parents and students can go to the Scripps Ranch Falcons webpage and click on the link on the top AP free retest for information about free review opportunities and to sign up for retesting."

Superintendent Marten took part in a press conference this morning with Trustee Beiser at Scripps Ranch High School to inform the community of the need for retesting. The Superintendent announced the District will be offering free retesting over the summer and free prep sessions with AP teachers, who have volunteered to work over the summer to help students prepare. For students who choose not to retake the test, their fees will be refunded.

"We will do everything within our power to minimize the impact of this very difficult situation on our students," said the Superintendent. "Working with our Area Superintendent and the Scripps Ranch High School, we have asked retired Scripps Ranch Administrator Rick Novak to lead our efforts to make sure every family is fully supported. This will include either free retesting or full refunds, free prep sessions and personalized help communicating with any colleges to explain this situation."

"We want to stress again that the students of Scripps Ranch have not done anything wrong to precipitate this decision by the College Board and ETS. On behalf of Scripps Ranch High School and all of San Diego Unified, we deeply regret the fact established procedures were not followed in this instance. We have accepted responsibility for that fact and are conducting an internal review of all AP test taking procedures at other high schools. We will make the annual training for proctors that is currently option into a mandatory requirement. And, we have assigned a new proctor to the Scripps Ranch High School community."

The College Board and ETS decision to invalidate multiple AP exams at Scripps Ranch was based on their investigation, which determined students taking these tests were seated too closely together and that partitions were placed between students. Seating rules, which include the prohibition of partitions, are in place to ensure that no students can gain an unfair advantage over other students.