



Contact: Marlisa Johnson
Mathtopian Preparation, Inc.
310-826-8400
learn@mathtopianprep.com
www.mathtopianprep.com

For Immediate Release

Female Math and Science Pros Offer Summer SAT Prep and Tips for Girls to Get Ahead

Female students can achieve the same level of success as their male counterparts on the SAT when they have female educators to serve as their teachers and mentors counsels Marlisa Johnson of Mathtopian Preparation, Inc. Johnson's best tip for girls and their parents: "Start early!"

Los Angeles, CA, May 2009 – The average SAT score historically has been higher for boys than girls. In particular, boys consistently outscore on the mathematics section of the exam by about 30 points. Although the SAT is supposed to be an indicator of student performance in the freshman year of college, girls have higher freshman GPA's. "Nevertheless, we must prepare girls to do well on the SAT because colleges still use these test results to determine who they will admit," says Marlisa Johnson of Mathtopian Preparation, Inc.

"Many girls who struggle with the SAT simply lack confidence, organization and guidance," says Johnson. "Early SAT preparation provides students the opportunity to become familiar with the test environment as well as the types of questions asked." In fact, there is evidence that as a version of the SAT gets older, the number of perfect scores increase. "Thus, contrary to College Board's assertions, it is most definitely possible to effectively prep for the exam," says Johnson. "As coaches become more intimately acquainted with the types of questions historically given, it makes sense that they can better prepare their students."

Johnson is the owner and director of Mathtopian Preparation, Inc., a California-based tutoring and prep center created to give *all* students an equal chance to excel in the academic area of their choice.

"We offer highly customized and personalized attention and are especially interested in mentoring young women to become leaders in the 21st Century," says Johnson. To achieve that goal, Mathtopian Preparation pairs tomorrow's female scientists, engineers, and mathematicians with female mentors. "For our female students, having female teachers to educate *and* mentor them as role models is extremely empowering."

Tutors Unlock the Door to Higher Achievement

Mathematics can be a barrier to access to higher education and limit a student's career options" notes Mathtopian Preparation tutor Jessica Gregson. Gregson received a full academic scholarship to study physics at Carnegie Mellon University and while there, she completed an internship in high-energy physics. She is committed to helping students "attack the SAT so that they can move on to better things in life – like science."

So when to start prepping? As early as possible! Mathtopian Preparation, Inc. tutor Jennifer Ceci offers some tips. "As you can imagine, the junior year is so full of testing and challenging courses, that there really is no time for students to study for the tests. At the very least, we recommend that they take a serious prep course the summer before their junior year." Ceci is a graduate of the University of Texas in Austin and current classroom teacher with a passion for robotics.

"If I had my way, students would begin even earlier – the summer before their sophomore year," advises Johnson. Then by the time they sit for the actual exam in the spring of their junior year, they are mentally prepared and not afraid of the test." Johnson herself earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Spelman College and a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Michigan.

About Mathtopian Preparation, Inc.

Mathtopian Preparation, Inc. provides one-to-one tutoring and test preparation as well as small group instruction for the ISEE, SAT and ACT. Owner and Director Marlisa Johnson created Mathtopian Preparation in 2004 with a goal of helping students develop the fundamental academic and organizational skills as well as the self-discipline needed to be high achievers.

###