

The DAILY NEWS TRANSCRIPT

SAT prep discounts for WHS

By Greg Duggan/ Daily News Staff
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WESTWOOD -- In a town that prides itself on education, high school students and their parents may be pleased to learn the district has announced a partnership with an academic support company to offer cheaper SAT prep programs.

On Thursday night Superintendent John Antonucci told the School Committee that he and WHS Principal Emily Parks had decided to join forces with Chyten Educational Services after speaking with representatives from multiple SAT preparation companies.

"We were looking for a high-quality program," Antonucci said. "We believed for the most part that all programs have given our students good service in the past. We also wanted value. When we rated those two criteria, quality and price, Chyten just met it best. The discounts they were able to offer were far deeper than anybody else could offer."

Neil Chyten, president of the company, lives in Westwood and has a daughter in the high school and a son in Deerfield Elementary School. His company has locations in Westwood, Concord, Lexington, Newton and Wellesley.

Parks said the guidance office compared Westwood students' scores and approaches to the SATs to those of surrounding communities, and found that students in Westwood did not do as much preparation.

"We wanted to make an opportunity accessible, that was our goal," Parks said.

Through Chyten, students can choose from three options -- a group class of 15 or 16 students, a small group tutoring class with three to four students or a one-on-one tutoring course.

Small group classes will be discounted from \$895 to \$495, the small group tutoring from \$1,775 to \$999 and the private tutoring from \$218 per week to \$180 per week.

The program is geared toward juniors planning to take the SATs, and students will receive information in the mail in the next couple of weeks.

Chyten has partnerships with other communities and schools as well, albeit structured differently than the one with Westwood.

"It's one of the few win-win-win situations in the world," Chyten said. "It's good for the school because kids do better on the test, good for the kids because of the reduced rate and good for us as a business."

Chyten's ties to Westwood also affected the decision to make them a partner.

"We're committed to expand the relationship between schools and the community, in this case the business community," Antonucci said. "We're tapping into a Westwood resource."