

SYLVAN NEWSLETTER

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How Can Parents Know if Tutoring is Right for Their Child

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The notion of tutoring, whether it's to catch up, keep up or get ahead, has been around for a very long time - Socrates, for instance, tutored Plato and Plato tutored Aristotle. These were all bright philosophers and scholars who learned from someone who knew more. So, how can parents know when a tutor is right for their child?

A tutor may be the answer, if your child:

- Demonstrates a pattern of slowly worsening grades in school
- Develops low self esteem and thinks negatively of himself in relation to his school performance
- Makes excuses as to why she is not working up to potential
- Misbehaves in school or loses interest in learning
- Is preparing for college testing, including college entrance exams, SAT and ACT tests
- Struggles to focus on a task (e.g. - spending more time daydreaming than on homework)
- Has test scores that do not reflect her daily performance

A good tutor will inspire and help students, at all levels of academic accomplishment, develop study habits and organizational skills that will result in significantly improved schoolwork and test scores. Taking the time to consider whether to hire a tutor means parents are giving their children an opportunity to excel in the classroom.

When children are successful in school, they build confidence that translates into all areas of their life, helping them build a strong foundation for a successful future. The purpose of tutoring is to teach children efficient learning skills and techniques to use in the classroom and, ultimately, in the workforce as adults. It is important that parents take action early and seek a tutoring service that personalizes and develops these skills for success.

If you notice that your child is struggling with homework, the first step is talking with your child and determining the underlying cause. Once you know the potential source of difficulty, it will be easier to develop a strategy for changing the struggle into success.

Even a child who is doing well in the classroom may benefit from outside help to sharpen study and test-taking skills. A tutor or supplemental education provider can help your child prepare for a test, catch up or get ahead in a particular subject area.

What should parents look for when selecting a tutor? Make sure the tutor is licensed and certified. Get recommendations from family, friends and teachers, and ask prospective tutors for references from previous employers and students. Or, hire a respected tutoring company.

How Can Parents Know if Tutoring is Right for Their Child (continued)

Ask tutors how they will help your child master a specific skill and request an assessment to gauge your child's current level. A good tutor will require that a child learn a specific skill before advancing to the next academic level, and, by utilizing the results of an assessment, you can benchmark your child's progress. Most importantly, ensure the tutor will work with you and your child's teachers to create a personal program based on your child's current needs

If you're looking for maximum flexibility, consider online tutoring services. Look for online programs that offer real-time tutoring where students obtain individualized attention and personalized programs taught by highly trained and certified teachers – from the convenience of home.

Although parents may not have the necessary skills to tutor their child, they can take the right step by obtaining the proper academic help.

For more educational resources for children in grades pre-K through 12, please visit <http://www.sylvanwv.com> or call 304-842-0234 in the Bridgeport area and 554-3864 in the Morgantown area.

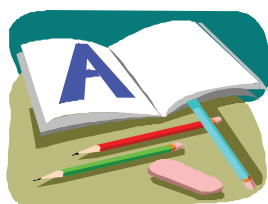
SYLVAN STUDENTS SUCCESS STORIES

BRIDGEPORT CENTER

Sylvan recently received a note from a proud parent with the following comment:
"Thought you'd like to know how Justin is doing in his Pre-Algebra/Geometry class. I sent you a copy of his progress report. Justin's grade is a B.
You all don't realize how much you have helped him. I'm so thankful for Sylvan.

Thank You So Much!

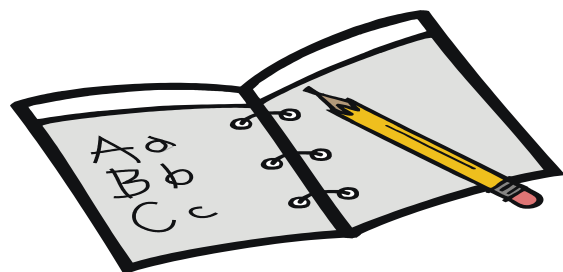
A former ACT student stopped by today to share her test results with the staff. She received a 21 in Math and an overall score of 23. She received the Promise Scholarship and received her acceptance letter to WVU in the mail today!



MORGANTOWN CENTER

Alex's mom called to let us know that he received his 2007 SAT scores. Alex increased by 250 points. He is very relieved and we're excited that his hard work has paid off.

Danny was excited to let us know that he received all A's and B's on his report card. Way to go Danny!! We proud of your hard work to achieve this goal.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

BRIDGEPORT CENTER

Feb 7th Brandon
 Feb 16th Joshua
 Feb 20th Andrea
 Feb 22nd Matthew
 Feb 23rd Katlyn
 Feb 24th Kelvin
 Feb 29th Eddie Ray

 Feb 14th—Ms. Heather



MORGANTOWN CENTER

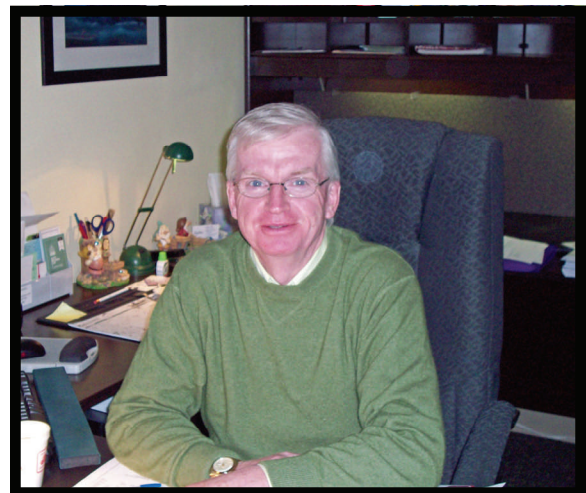
Feb 1st Emmah
 Feb 2nd Nicole
 Feb 6th Ryan
 Feb 17th Ana
 Feb 23rd Brandon

THOUGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the great joy's we have here at Sylvan is having a parent tell us how pleased they are with their child's improvement. We also hope that you share your success story with others.

So tell a friend about Sylvan and earn free instruction for your child!

Share the Sylvan Advantage and help a friend out by giving them the "Gift of Learning". They will receive \$50 off the cost of the Diagnostic Assessment and when they enroll, your child will receive 1 hour of instruction **FREE**. There is a "Gift of Learning" certificate in your Parents Notebook or just ask Heather, Melissa, Rae or Jared for one, two, three or more.



February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Ground Hog Day
3	4	5 Nat'l Weatherperson's Day	6	7 Laura Ingalls Wilder B'day	8 Boy Scouts Day	9 Toothache Day
10 Umbrella Day	11 Nat'l Inventor's Day	12 Lincoln's B'day	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15 Nat'l Gumdrop Day	16
17 Random Acts of Kindness Day	18 President's Day	19	20 Toothpick Patented	21	22 Be Humble Day Washington's B'day	23
24	25 Quiet Day	26	27 Polar Bear Day	28	29	