



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Wednesday, August 18, 2010*

Contact: Madeleine Saxler, Communications Intern
School District 197 – West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan
651.403.7022 - office
Maddie.Saxler@isd197.org

Henry Sibley average ACT scores rise in 2010, remain above state average

(Mendota Heights, Minn.) --- Henry Sibley High School in District 197 has improved its average composite ACT score, according to ACT profile data for 2010, released today. Henry Sibley remains above the state average, which has also increased over the past school year for the college entrance exam.

The ACT test indicates the extent to which students are prepared for college-level work, and consists of English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science portions, which combine to determine their composite score. The average ACT composite score of Henry Sibley students that took the exam was 23.5 out of 36 in 2010, an increase from 23.4 in 2009. This remains above the state average of 22.9, and further still above the national average of 21.

“It is very encouraging to see our ACT test scores continually improve and to remain above state and national averages,” says Dr. Robin Percival, principal of Henry Sibley. “We work hard at Henry Sibley to provide rigorous academic standards that prepare our students for life after high school, as college and career readiness are increasingly important to our graduates.”

Minnesota’s state ACT score average remains almost two points higher than the national average, and also showed an increase over last year’s Minnesota average score of 22.7.

These ACT results come at a time when national emphasis on education is being placed on adopting new college and career readiness standards throughout the high school grade levels. Many states have already taken on or are in the process of implementing the Common Core State Standards.

According to ACT’s annual *Condition of College and Career Readiness* report, 2010 score results reflect once again a strong relationship between the courses students take in high school and their college and career readiness. The recommended minimum core curriculum in high school is four years of English and three years each of mathematics, science and social studies. Results showed that students who took the recommended minimum core curriculum in high school were much more likely than those who took less than the core requirements to meet or surpass the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks in each subject area. Students who took additional courses beyond the core curriculum were even more likely to achieve the benchmark scores.

####