

Dear Parent,

Statistical research has shown that students who participate in academic extracurricular activities score higher on achievement and assessment tests than those who do not participate in such academic programs. We also have found that participants whose parents are actively involved in working with their children in extracurricular academic programs have the greatest success in competition, as well as in their future academic studies.

Your school has elected to participate in the Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) extracurricular academic program for elementary and middle schools. PSIA participation motivates your child in these ways:

- refine mental aptitudes
- affirm self worth
- bring new excitement to learning (especially in the spring time)
- develop teamwork and a sense of fair play
- experience a sense of pride and dignity
- appreciate that rules, consistently applied, create order and discipline
- experience the joy of achieving in a wholesome environment
- foster self discipline and perseverance
- achieve recognition for academic excellence
- make better choices of after-school activities
- enjoy camaraderie with students from other schools
- receive tangible awards for their academic ability
- HAVE FUN!

Over the next few weeks, your child will have the opportunity to consider trying out for one or more of these PSIA academic events: Please note the addition of grade levels to some events

Art Memory 4/5	Maps, Graphs & Charts 4-8	Prose 4-8
Calculator 6-8	Mathematics 4- 8	Ready Writing 3-8
Creative Writing 1/2	Modem Oratory 7/8	Science 6-8
Dictionary Skills 4-8	Music Memory 3-7	Spelling 2-8
Impromptu Speaking 7/8	Number Sense 4-8	Storytelling 1-3
Listening Skills 4-8	On-Site Drawing 6-8	Vocabulary 5-8

Since your school administrators and academic “coaches” may select only three students at each grade level to be entered at the district level in an event or three students from combined grades in some events, we encourage you to visit with your child about his/her interests and the possibilities of entering different events. From your district meet, to be held March 26 at Immaculate Conception in Denton, two students will advance in each contest at each grade level to the PSIA State Meet, to be held May 7 at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Further information about each contest may be found on the PSIA web site: <http://www.psiaacademics.org/> or from your campus teachers. We anticipate an exciting academic year. Thank you for your participation.

Your School PSIA Director  
Brenda May