



For Immediate Release: March 27, 2009  
Office of the Associate to the Superintendent

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### **Amphi District makes recommendations for AIMS prep**

**Tucson, AZ** - As the annual AIMS test week approaches, the Amphitheater School District is making some recommendations to prepare students to take the high-stakes exam. Under law, meeting the state curriculum standards measured by the AIMS test is a prerequisite for graduating from a public high school in Arizona. This test consequently demands that students be both physically and mentally present and prepared.

The district recommendations are as follows:

- Make sure your child is attending school on a regular basis and actively participating in class.
- Make sure that your child gets enough sleep the night before the test.
- Review the Student Guides, sample tests, and actual AIMS questions at the Arizona Department of Education website at: [www.ade.az.gov](http://www.ade.az.gov)
- Make sure you child has a scheduled time and place to do homework and study.
- Make sure that your child eats a healthy breakfast and avoids heavy foods that may make him/her groggy and avoids high sugar foods that may cause energy spikes and crashes.
- Make sure that your child gets up early enough so that he/she will be on time to school.
- Talk to your child about maintaining a positive attitude while preparing for the test and while taking the test.

According to the Arizona Department of Education, the AIMS is a Standards-Based test that provides educators and the public with valuable information regarding the progress of Arizona's students toward mastering Arizona's reading, writing and mathematics Standards.

“These tests are one very important measure of a students’ academic progress in school. They help teachers and the rest of our staff to determine what students have learned and what they need to focus on, according to state standards.” Said Dr. Vicki Balentine, Superintendent, Amphitheater Public Schools. “It is imperative that our students are well prepared and that preparation needs to occur as much in the classroom as it does outside of the school. That is why we have provided this list of recommendations for our parents”

The Amphitheater School District was founded in 1893 and its 22 schools and programs educate more than 15,000 students in Northwest Tucson and Oro Valley.

**The testing schedule is attached**

## 2009 TESTING SCHEDULE

### AIMS HS (Grades 10-12)

**Math** (2 sessions of 1.5 hours with significant break between sessions).....**Wed, Apr 1, 2009**  
**Makeup Testing**.....Tues, Apr 7, 2009  
**Science** (1 session of 2 hours) .....**Thurs, Apr 2, 2009**  
(Testing all 10<sup>th</sup> grade AND 9<sup>th</sup> grade who are enrolled in a life sciences course and who elect to take the test)  
*No Makeup Testing will be offered for AIMS HS Science*

### TERRA NOVA (Grade 9)

**Reading/Language** (2 sessions of 50 minutes each) .....**Tues, Mar 31** and/or  
**Math** (1 session of 15 minutes and 1 session of 55 minutes) .....**Wed, Apr 1, 2009**  
**Makeup Testing**.....April 2-17, 2009

### Elementary/ Middle School AIMS DPA (Grades 3-8)

**Writing** (Grade 3-5: 2 sessions of 1 hr each; Grade 6-8: 1 session of 2 hrs) .....**Mon, Mar 30, 2009**  
**Reading 1** (All grades: 1 session of 45-60 mins)/ **Math 1** (1 session of 45 mins) .....**Mon, April 6, 2009**  
**Reading 2** (All grades: 1 session of 45-60 mins)/ **Math 2** (1 session of 45 mins) .....**Tues, April 7, 2009**  
**Reading 3** (All grades: 1 session of 45-60 mins)/ **Math 3** (1 session of 45 mins) .....**Wed, Apr 8, 2009**  
**Makeup Testing**.....April 9-17, 2009  
**AIMS Science (Grades 4 and 8)** (2 sessions of 45-60 mins) .....**Thurs, Apr 9, 2009**  
**Makeup Testing**.....April 10-17, 2009

### TERRA NOVA (Grade 2)

**Reading/Language** (2 sessions of 40 minutes each) .....**Mon, Mar 30, 2009**  
**Math** (2 sessions of 30 minutes each).....**Tues, Mar 31, 2009**  
**Makeup Testing**.....April 1-17, 2009

### MAP Testing (Grades 2-8)

Spring.....**Apr 20 – May 15, 2009**

### DIBELS Testing (Grades K-2)

Spring.....**Apr 20 – May 8, 2009**