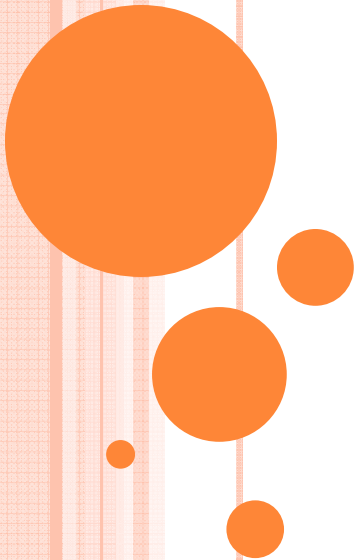


AN INVITATION TO PRE-AP AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT



WHAT IS PRE-AP™ ?

Pre-AP is based on the following two important premises:

- The first is the expectation that all students can perform at rigorous academic levels and **achieve academic excellence**.
- The belief that we can prepare every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge **as early as possible**. The middle and high school years are a critical time to impart higher learning and deeper understanding of curricular content.




PRE-ADVANCED PLACEMENT

- Typically grades 6-10, offered district-wide
- Academically rigorous
- Weighted GPA
- Strategies to develop skills necessary for success in AP classes
- AISD MS Pre-AP Institute by College Board
- HS Teachers attend College Board Institute at a university
- Renewal of training every 5 years
- Campus Pre-AP Coordinator



BENEFITS OF THE PRE-AP™ PROGRAM

- Helps students develop their potential in the classroom and beyond
 - Helps build good study habits
 - Helps improve writing skills
 - Helps students shape goals
 - Challenges students, but also makes them realize they can excel if they put their mind to it!
- 

What is the AP[®] program?

- The AP[®] program exposes high school students to the rigors of college work and high standards while the students are working in the more nurturing confines of the secondary school setting.
- Pre-AP[®] courses provide middle and high school students with the “active, high-level learning” needed to develop skills and study habits and learn the concepts they will need to successfully complete AP[®] coursework.



ADVANCED PLACEMENT

- Typically grades 11-12, offered district-wide
- Weighted GPA
- Academically rigorous
- College Board Monitored and Authorized Curriculum
- Potential College Credit
- Teachers attend College Board Institute at a university
- Renewal of training every 5 years
- Campus AP Coordinator



ADVANCED PLACEMENT

- College-level courses taught in high schools by high school teachers
- 37 courses offered in 22 subject areas
- Offered at all high schools and select courses at Fulmore and Dobie
- 3,064 students took 6,095 AP exams in May 2008
- 49% received scores of 3, 4, or 5



BENEFITS OF THE AP PROGRAM

- better prepared academically
- more likely to choose challenging majors
- likely to complete more college-level work
- likely to perform significantly better than students who did not take AP courses
- more likely to exercise leadership
- more likely to graduate with a double major
- twice as likely to go into advanced study

Facts About the Advanced Placement Program, 2002



BENEFITS OF THE AP[®] PROGRAM

★ Gain the edge in college preparation

- Get a head start on exactly the sort of work you will confront in college
- Improve writing skills and sharpen problem-solving techniques
- Develop the study habits necessary for tackling rigorous course work
- Improve your SAT performance by course selection

★ Stand out in the college admissions process

- Demonstrate maturity and readiness for college
- Show willingness to push yourself to the limit
- Emphasize your commitment to academic excellence

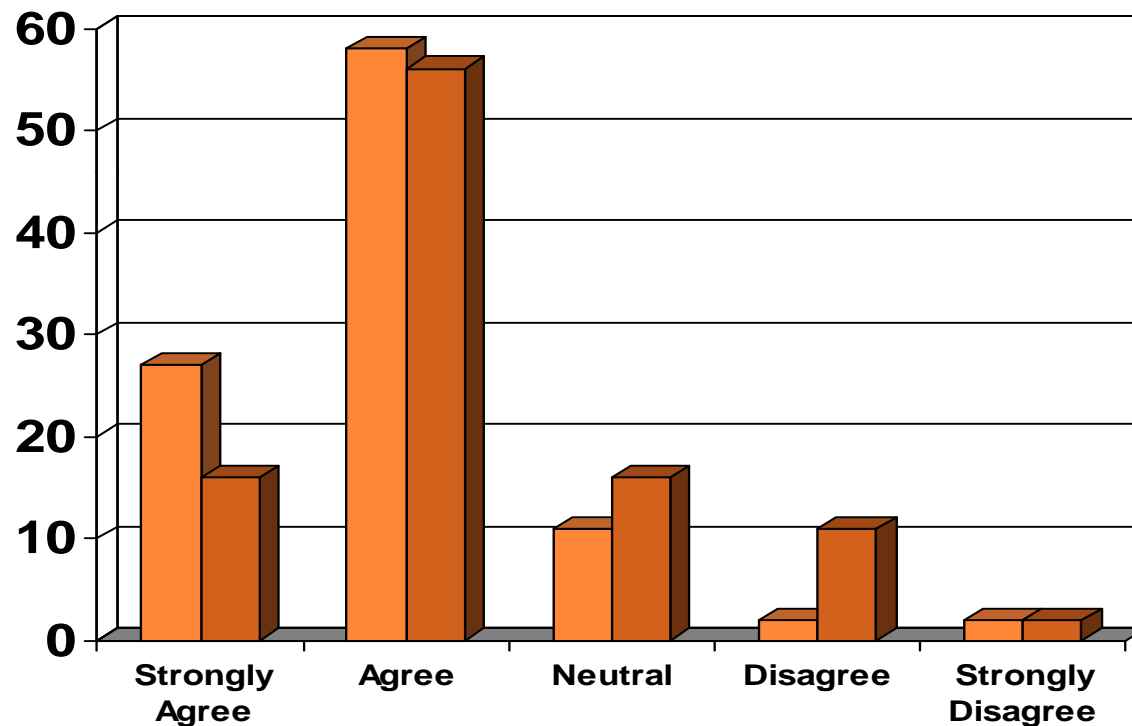
★ Broaden your intellectual horizons

- Explore the world from a variety of perspectives, most importantly your own
- Study subjects in greater depth and detail



AP AND COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

AP COURSE EXPERIENCE FAVORABLY IMPACTS ADMISSIONS DECISIONS AT 85% OF SELECTIVE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.



Admissions (selective institutions)

Admissions (non-selective institutions)

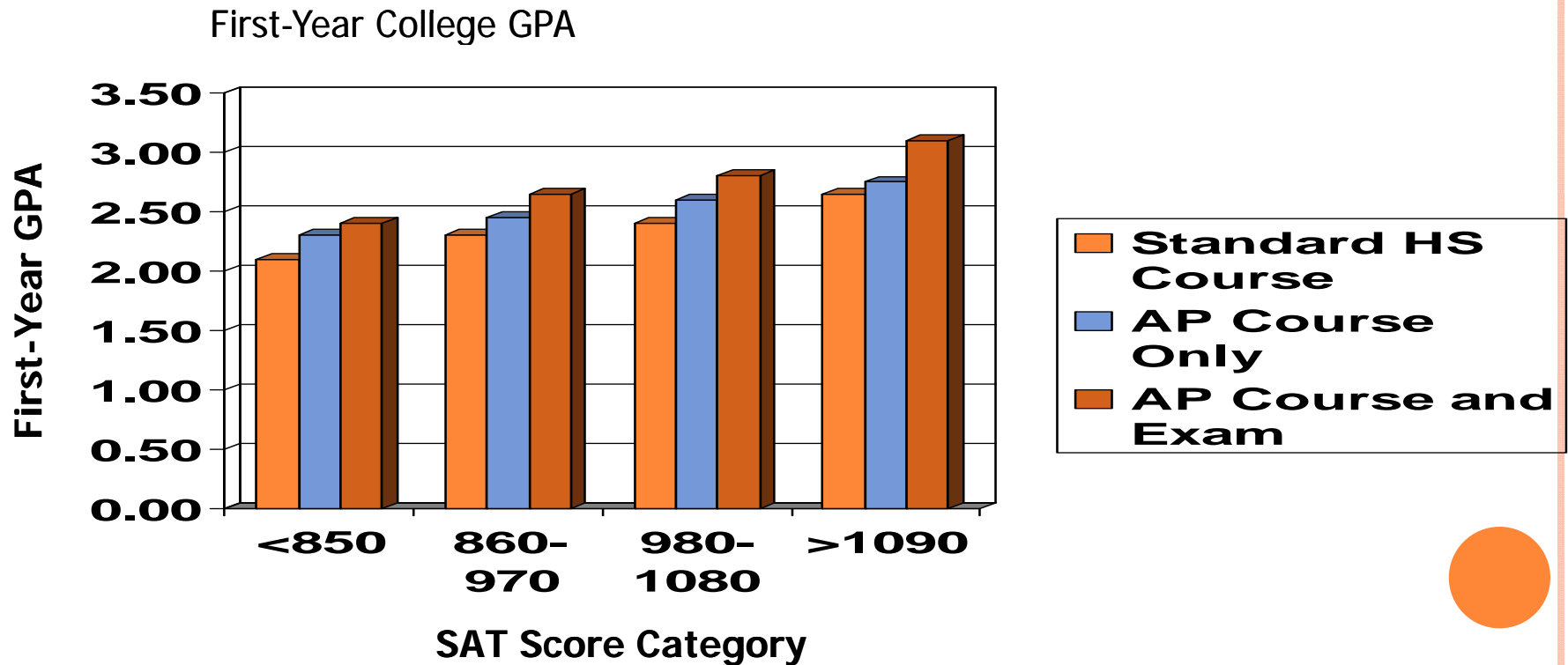
“We look favorably on students who have taken AP courses. The presence of AP courses is a sign that a student has chosen to challenge him/herself.”

AP Admissions Officer
Online Bulletin Board

AP & COLLEGE SUCCESS

- Hargrove, Godin, Dodd Study conducted by University of Texas found:

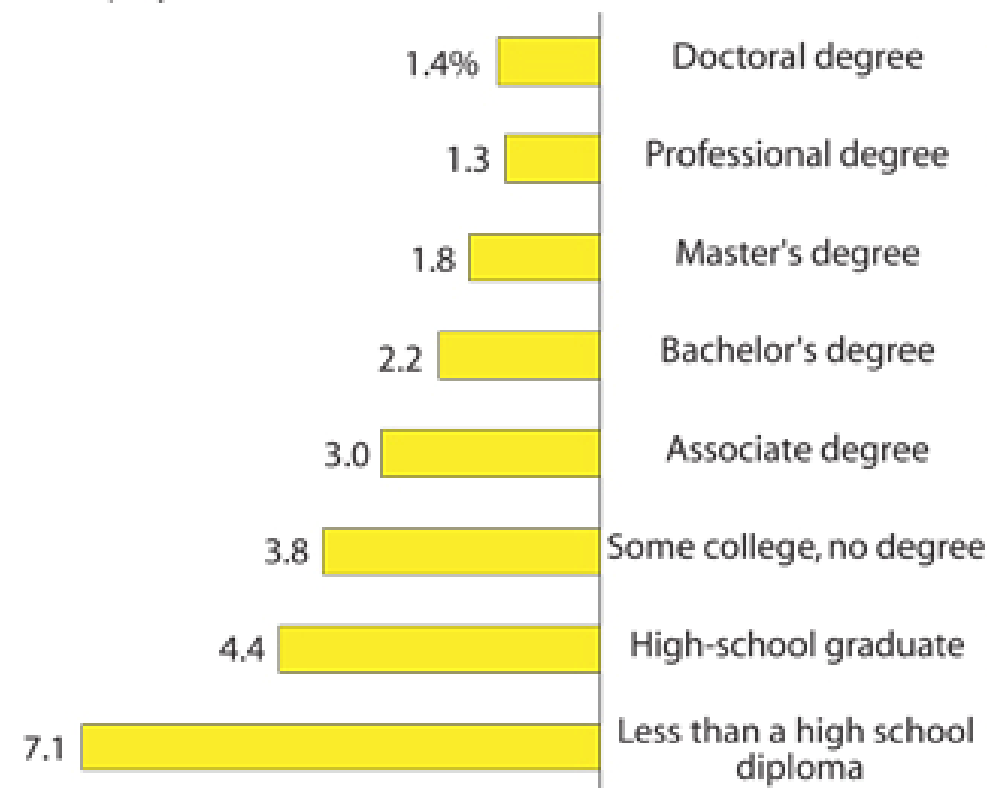
AP students statewide in Texas earn higher GPA's and have higher four-year graduation rates when compared to students with similar SAT scores and socioeconomic backgrounds who did not take AP courses and exams.



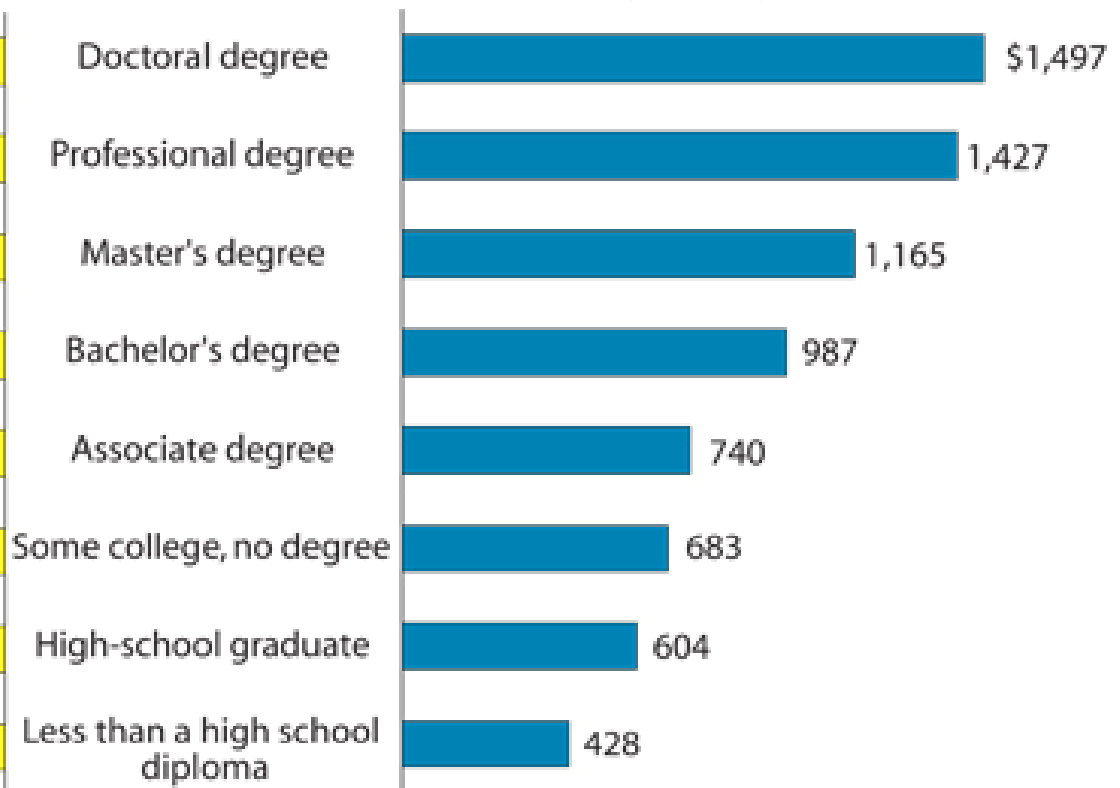
LEARNING = EARNING

Education Pays

Unemployment rate in 2007 (Percent)



Median weekly earnings in 2007 (Dollars)

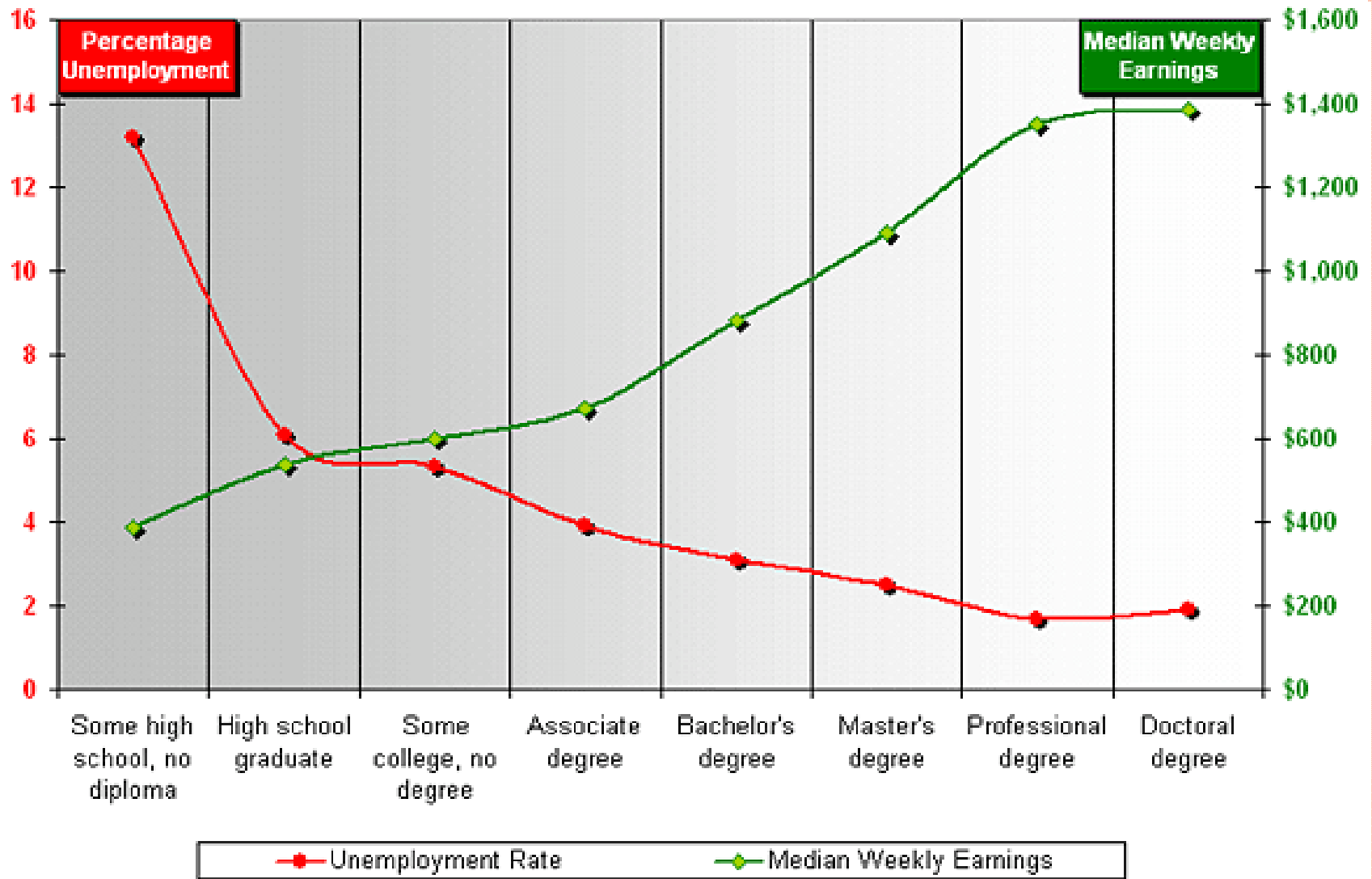


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey




UNEMPLOYMENT, INCOME

(UNEMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS FOR FULL-TIME WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS AGED 25 AND OLDER)



Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2004

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Accept the challenge of Pre-AP and AP courses
 - Read on a daily basis
 - Complete and turn-in assignments on time consistently
 - Study – take responsibility for their own learning
 - Get help – from parents, teachers, mentors
 - Set high goals, apply to competitive colleges
 - Always give 100% effort
 - Reap the benefits
- 

PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

- Set clear priorities for studying and learning in the home environment
- Communicate high expectations for your child's education and future career



SETTING CLEAR PRIORITIES

- Provide quiet time and place for doing homework and studying
- Supervise homework
- Eliminate distractions during study hours (TV, radio, video games, internet chat, cell phones, etc.)
- Follow district attendance recommendations and requirements
- Make sure children get enough sleep and adequate nutrition
- Monitor student employment, balance economic need with student performance



COMMUNICATING HIGH EXPECTATIONS

- Encourage children to take Pre-AP courses as seriously as AP courses
- Support and encourage children as they struggle to achieve
- Explain how middle and high school success is directly related to future success
- Encourage children to read through modeling and discussion



CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Questions?
- For additional information on Pre-AP and AP courses, please contact your student's campus guidance counselor.

