

In This Issue

- **Don't Underestimate the Under Dog**

**** It's Here! Summer 2021: The Summer of Enrichment**-are you worried your child has fallen behind because of the school changes due to COVID 19? We are offering enrichment this summer to address these deficits including: organizational and time management skills, reading comprehension, writing skills, study and test taking skills, math, and science. Our test prep services and college admissions consultation services continue to draw high school students. Act now to ensure your child's readiness for the Fall of 2021!

****Common App Update:** The new essay prompts have been sent to college admissions consultants like us. We are now working with rising seniors on these essays so that they are completed before summer break. Take advantage of this free time and sign up for essay services!

Don't Underestimate the Under Dog

As I write this article, Philadelphia is still licking its wounds from the Sixers' loss to the Atlanta Hawks in the second round of the NBA Finals. Seriously?! How could the **first seed** in the Eastern Conference lose to the **fifth seed**? Statistically, we had numbers. Sure, we were injured, but the Sixers were not nearly as banged up as their opponent. Did we go into this series overly confident? Did we underestimate Trae Young, John Collins, and Kevin Huerter? (I would have to argue we did.) And look at the Utah Jazz.... They too were the **first seed** in their conference and their players are now on the golf course.

The highest ranked number ones do not always prevail. Similarly, those who do not present as the obvious champion or success story can shock even the most skilled analysts and come out with a victory. Nothing could be more true when it comes to success in the classroom. I am not detracting from the successes mainstream students achieve in their courses. Whether they are in AP, Honors, or college prep level courses, when a student achieves academic accomplishments, there is no denying how amazing such a milestone can be.

But this commentary is not a comparison between mainstream and students who face academic challenges. On the contrary, the message is that students who have learning disabilities, ADHD, anxiety, and other challenges that make academic success somewhat elusive are resourceful in their own right. In fact, some of the most amazing demonstrations of personal growth and success have come from that outside-of-the-box know-how that so many students in this population are capable of.

Just like the Clippers (who beat the Utah Jazz) and the Hawks, these kids cannot be underestimated. Their resilience is frequently unmatched. Their desire to succeed is as strong as Trae Young's determination to



Helpful Links

For info about SAT I, II, and AP Tests go to:

www.collegeboard.com

For info about ACT test go to:

www.act.org

For info about test optional schools go to:

www.fairtest.org/university/optional

For info about financial aid go to:

www.FAFSA.ed.gov

www.fastweb.com

www.finaid.org

For college search info go to:

www.collegenavigator.gov

www.collegeprowler.com

To take a virtual tour of college campuses go to:

www.youniversitytv.com

To learn about Colleges That Change Lives go to:

www.ctcl.org

win despite a serious shoulder injury and a severely sprained ankle. These kids have fire in their bellies that would engulf the entire state of California if left unchecked. Traditional approaches to academic material may not work and that is ok. One size does not fit all-there is more than one road to success and these kids have frequently figured this out at some point in their academic careers.

What's the point? Don't ever count **any** student out because on paper, they do not necessarily meet the definition of success. Accomplishments come in all shapes and sizes; tasks can be approached in more than one way. It's time for all of us to recognize these truths and create learning environments that not only celebrate different learning styles, but the innovation and spirit that are implemented on the road to success.



AcademicAlly, LLC has launched the Summer of Enrichment 2021. We know academic gaps have widened or developed for many students as a result of C19. We also know there is a strong likelihood that schools will return to a virtual model of learning next year. We want to help students and their families by offering them customized programs to bridge gaps and prepare them for the fall. We are focused on the areas listed below.

We will continue to offer distance learning until the CDC grants clearance for in-person sessions to take place. Take advantage of this valuable opportunity.

Summer of Enrichment 2021

With our **individualized** programs, your student can still have a great summer AND keep those academic skills fresh.

Summer is the perfect time to **strengthen** academic skills, **get ahead** of the college admissions process, or **prepare** for classes this fall. (And we promise to make it fun!)

Organizational Skills:

- Establish time management strategies to better organize academic and personal responsibilities
- Create personalized set of tools to better manage time
- Implement a system to effectively access, submit, and store assignments in a digital format

Keeping on Track:

Rising Seniors: This is your year! Make sure you have fun this summer. Start your college essays so they are completed by August 1st when the Common App is released. Make sure you have spoken with your teachers about writing you a letter of recommendation. Visit college campuses (as long as it is safe to do so) so you can finalize your list of colleges, if you have not already done so. Don't forget to complete your summer assignments for school.

Rising Juniors: Make sure you make time for fun this summer. Determine when you will plan to take the SAT or the ACT and make sure you schedule a test date. Visit college campuses to get a flavor of what you are looking for in a college campus-make sure it is safe to do so. Don't forget to complete your summer assignments for school.

ACT: Here is the link for the latest ACT information:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

SAT: Here is the link for the latest SAT information:

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/sat-covid-19-updates>

****We are helping students with their college admissions essays and test prep now! Schedule your appointment today.**

Pay it Forward: Do you know someone who is struggling with the shift to virtual classroom learning?? Send them this newsletter or forward us their contact information. We want to help!

Contact Us

<http://www.Academic-Ally.com>

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610 647-3959 ext. 105

- Learn techniques and tools to organize personal space and belongings
- Establishment and maintenance of a homework protocol
- Effective self-advocacy and communication skills
- Self-accountability strategies

Writing Skills:

- Learn the value of pre-writing in order to organize thoughts and flow of a written piece
- Fine-tune editing skills, being mindful of proper punctuation and grammar
- Understanding how to effectively conduct research using key search words and appropriate resources, guided by strong essential questions
- Develop writing skills needed for creating a comprehensive paper

Reading Comprehension:

- Learn how to identify and record important information
- Create a personalized system for organizing facts from the reading.
- Learn how to effectively research sources for research-based assignments
- Utilize strategies to break down readings into smaller more manageable chunks

Math Skills: up to Calculus

Science Skills:

Whether you are taking biology, chemistry, or physics, we can help you master this material!

College Admissions Consulting:

- Assistance with creating appropriate list of colleges to which to apply
- Brainstorming and editing college essays
- Admissions interview preparation
- Strategies to maximize college visits
- Knowledge about the changing landscape of college admissions in the face of COVID 19

SAT/ACT Test Prep:

- Learn helpful test taking strategies
- Determine which test is right for you
- Up-to-date information about testing in the face of COVID 19

We work with you to **customize** a plan to ensure your student's success. Spaces are filled on a first-come first-served basis. Act now while space is available.

