

The Blumenfeld Education Letter

"My People Are Destroyed For Lack Of Knowledge" HOSEA 4:6

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EDITOR: Samuel L. Blumenfeld

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide knowledge for parents and educators who want to save the children of America from the destructive forces that endanger them. Our children in the public schools are at grave risk in 4 ways: academically, spiritually, morally, and physically — and only a well-informed public will be able to reduce those risks.

"Without vision, the people perish."

1989:

Another Disastrous Year for the SATs

The SAT scores of 1989 again confirm that the academic performance of American college-bound students continues to decline. The national average verbal score fell one point to 427, while the math score remained static at 476. In 1963 the average verbal score was 478, the math score was 502.

Since 1985 the average verbal score in South Dakota has declined an astonishing 36 points! Wyoming registered a decline of 33 points in that period, Montana a decline of 23 points, Arizona down 21 points, Oklahoma down 18 points; Mississippi and Washington down 17 points, Colorado 15 points, Kentucky 14 points, North Dakota 13 points, Utah 12 points; Arkansas and Nebraska 10 points; Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan and Ohio 9 points; New York 8 points; Indiana and Minnesota 7 points; Illinois and Vermont 6 points; Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Virginia 5 points; Missouri and Texas 4 points; Alaska, District of Columbia, Indiana, New Hampshire and Tennessee 3 points; California, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey 2 points; Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Mexico, North Carolina and Oregon 1 point. Louisiana, Rhode Island and Wisconsin registered no change.

Only four states showed an improvement: South Carolina by 8 points, Hawaii 5 points, Georgia 3 points, and Alabama 1 point. Despite South Carolina's improvement, its 1989 verbal score of 399 is the second lowest among the states. Georgia, at 402, is the third lowest. North Carolina at 397 is now at the bottom.

Mixed Results in Math

In math the results were quite mixed. From 1985 to 1989, 30 states registered declines in math performance; four states have remained static; and only 16 states and the District of Columbia have shown improvement. South Dakota, which led the decline in verbal scores, was also the downhill leader in math, registering a whopping decline of 32 points in that 4-year period. Montana followed with a decline of 24 points. Next came Wyoming, down 23 points; then Washington, down 17 points; followed by West Virginia, down 16 points; Colorado 13 points; Arizona and Mississippi 12 points; Idaho and Kentucky 10 points; Oklahoma 9 points, Ohio 7 points, Vermont 8 points; Utah, Delaware and

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