



The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida

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Volunteers offer free evening FCAT tutoring at Newtown Estates Park

SARASOTA – Students in grades three-11 and their parents and caregivers can get help preparing for FCAT tests at free tutoring sessions weekdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 23, through Friday, March 6, in the recreation center at Newtown Estates Park.

Students and family members may attend any or all of the tutoring sessions throughout the 10 evenings, but they must call 941-544-3540 to register in advance for one or more sessions. Parents or caregivers are required to attend the sessions with students. Free family dinners will be served.

The tutoring sessions are organized by Brothers & Sisters Doing the Right Thing and supported by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Sarasota County Government, USF Sarasota-Manatee and a number of dedicated volunteers.

“Many parents have requested these sessions, since so much depends on how students perform on the FCAT tests,” said Dee Webber, one of the organizers of the tutoring sessions. “Our volunteers include a number of retired teachers and other community members, and we have a lot of resources that help show students what the tests are really like. It’s important for parents to understand how the FCATs work so they can help their students continue to prepare for the tests after these tutoring sessions.”

FCAT, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, is based on the Sunshine State Standards, skills and competencies that Florida students should be able to learn from an early age as defined by practicing classroom teachers, educational specialists, business people and concerned citizens.

Various components of the FCAT are administered statewide throughout the school year in grades three through 11 — writing for students in grades four, eight and 10; reading and math in grades three through 10; and science in grades five, eight and 11.

Newtown Estates Park is located at 2800 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota. More information about the tutoring sessions is available by calling Alice Faye Jones at 941-544-3540.

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