

2010-2011 School Year Financial Aid Awards
Applications made through *School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS)*
Educational Testing Service
Seacrest SSS Code Number: **7225**

Dear Parents,

Seacrest is committed to being a diverse and inclusive community, made up of people from all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, and from all racial and ethnic origins. What better enriches the education of all of our students than a school community that reflects the diversity of the world in which our graduates will live and work?

To that end, Seacrest commits well over 10% of our operating income each year to need-based financial aid which means that almost one-third of our students receive some amount of financial assistance. The funds for the financial aid program are raised during one evening at the school's annual auction: Gala for Treasures. We encourage every family in the school to participate at some level in the Gala—it is especially important that families receiving financial assistance volunteer time and talents as the evening would not be a success without thousands of volunteer hours.

For the 2010-2011 school year we are expecting a higher than normal number of applications. Therefore it is extremely important that families apply to SSS as soon as possible and submit all required paperwork. Awards are made first to students currently receiving financial assistance and then according to the order that applications are received.

Complete the SSS form and **submit it directly to SSS** following the instructions. You may also apply online through the SSS link at www.nais.org. In addition, **submit directly to Seacrest both a photocopy of the SSS form and a copy of your 2009 income tax return including copies of all W2s.** (A copy of the 2008 taxes may be submitted until the 2009 returns are completed). **Seacrest cannot process applications until these requirements are fulfilled.**

Once Seacrest receives a recommended level of award from SSS (and your tax return and copy of the SSS form) your complete application is submitted to the Financial Aid Committee. We make every attempt to meet each request, however it should be noted that the school can not be certain of its ability to meet the needs of all admitted candidates in a particular school year. When making an award, the Committee takes into account the family assets, debts (excluding consumer credit), and any extenuating circumstances.

In considering family assets, the Committee looks at assets of the natural parents, stepparents, grandparents, as well as any assets that the student may hold. (The Committee does realize that stepparents may have financial obligations to other children.) The Committee also assumes that families will choose to have both parents working if there are no young children at home.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Gloria Thomas or me.

Sincerely,

Helen

Helen S. Ruisi
Chief Financial Officer