



Buckeye High School

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Medina, Ohio 44256
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September 7, 2011

Dear Parents and Students,

Buckeye High School is excited to announce its first annual school-wide testing day! On Wednesday, October 12, 2011, we will be administering several assessments as follows:

- **Freshmen- EXPLORE**
- **Sophomores- PLAN**
- **Juniors- PSAT**

These are important tests for your students and Buckeye High School as they help us to understand how students are progressing toward college readiness standards. Students will receive room assignments for testing ahead of time and it will be posted in the cafeteria the day of testing. School will begin at the regularly scheduled time of 7:35 a.m. and students will resume a typical school day once testing concludes around 9:35 a.m. On the testing day students should bring two #2 pencils and a calculator.

Seniors will have an opportunity to receive an excused absence by attending one of the following options:

- **Medina County College & Career Fair**, at the Medina Fairgrounds from 6:30-8:00pm
- **A Job Shadowing Experience** for students to arrange independently
- **A College Visitation** for students to arrange independently (college contact information available in Guidance)

Permission forms have been distributed in Government classes and plans must be approved by a counselor by Friday, October 7th. Students are required to turn in their verification of attendance when they return to school the following day.

Buckeye High School looks forward to a great day of testing where our students will explore career options, prepare for college entrance exams, and gauge college readiness. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact our Guidance Department.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Vrabel
Principal

School-Wide Testing Day
Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Buckeye High School will administer the following assessments to students

- Freshmen- EXPLORE
- Sophomores- PLAN
- Juniors- PSAT

Why EXPLORE? Taking the EXPLORE is a great way to get a head start on the ACT college entrance test and to make sure students are academically prepared for high school. This test assesses academic preparation in English, mathematics, reading, and science and indicates whether a student is able to leave high school academically prepared for college and the world of work. Scores are reported "below", "at" or "above" college readiness. Teachers and students can use this information to focus on areas of need over the duration of high school. EXPLORE also helps 9th graders build high school course plans that will prepare them for college and work and introduces them to career options that are relevant to them.

Why PLAN? The PLAN is an awesome way to prepare for the ACT college entrance test because it covers the same subjects gives students an estimated ACT score. This test assesses academic preparation in English, mathematics, reading, and science and indicates whether a student is able to leave high school academically prepared for college and the world of work. Scores are reported "below", "at" or "above" college readiness. Suggestions for improving skills are also provided. The PLAN Assessment also includes an interest inventory and a needs assessment to help students find careers that match their interests.

- By using EXPLORE (grade 9), PLAN (grade 10) and the ACT (grades 11 and 12) with the same group of students, Buckeye Local Schools will be able to measure and report students' academic achievement over time.

Why the PSAT/NMSQT? The PSAT/NMSQT measures the critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills students need to succeed in college and beyond. The PSAT/NMSQT also prepares students for the SAT. Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT score on average 120 points higher than those who do not. The PSAT/NMSQT provides entry into the National Merit Scholarship Competition, the National Achievement Scholarship Program for black American high school students, the National Hispanic Recognition Program as well as other scholarship programs. The PSAT/NMSQT also identifies through "AP Potential" students likely to succeed in Advanced Placement courses. Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT receive access to My College Quick Start, a personalized, online college and career planning program which helps students search for colleges, and explore majors and careers. Students also receive a personalized SAT study plan.

Why do students need to be prepared for the ACT or SAT? These are important college entrance tests that are used to make admissions and scholarship decisions. Students who take practice assessments are more likely to score higher on the actual college entrance test.



2011-2012

Important Guidance Dates

September

7th- Senior Class Information Packets distributed in Government classes
7th- Oct.- Senior Interviews & Credit Checks
10th- ACT Test Date
30th- Interims sent home
Mid-month- High School Essentials in Freshmen Language Arts
End of month- Junior Class College & Career units in Language Arts classes (ACT/SAT info)

October

1st- SAT Test Date
5th- 3:15-6:45, Parent Teacher Conference Night
5th- 5:00pm College Information Meeting in Library
12th- School-Wide Testing Day
9th- EXPLORE Assessment, 10th- PLAN Test, 11th PSAT Test, 12th- College Visit, Career Shadow, or Career Fair
13th- 3:15-6:45, Parent Teacher Conference Night
13th- 5:00pm College Information Meeting in Library
22nd- ACT Test Date
24th - 28th - Fall OGT week for 11th & 12th graders
31st- Cap & Gown Sales in Cafeteria at 7:40am
(can't make it in at this time or have questions call Jostens at 330-722-0131)
31st-4th- Make-up Fall OGT week for 11th & 12th graders

November

1st- 2nd- Career Center Road Show Visit for 10th graders
4th- Report cards sent home
5th- SAT Test Date
16th- Deadline for Guarantee that Transcript Request & College Applications will be processed before Thanksgiving Break
Mid-month- 10th grade college units in Language Arts classes

December

3rd- SAT Test Date
8th- Financial Aid Night, 6:30pm in HS Auditorium
9th- Interims sent home
14th- Deadline for Guarantee that Transcript Requests and College Applications will be processed before Winter Break
14th- Official Name Request for Diploma due to Mrs. Wargo
10th- ACT Test Date

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>January</u></p> <p>10th-12th - Semester Exams 20th - Report cards sent home 23rd - Last day to change 2nd semester classes 24th - 10th grade Medina County Career Center Visitation 28th - SAT Test Date Jan-March- 3rd Quarter Career Units in partnership with Language Arts Department (grades 9 & 10)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February</u></p> <p>1st - 3:15-6:45, Parent Teacher Conference Night 1st - 6:00pm, AP Information Meeting in HS Auditorium 1st - 6:30pm, Post Secondary Information Meeting in HS Auditorium (mandatory for participation in program) 9th - 3:15-6:45, Parent Teacher Conference Night 9th - 6:00pm, 8th-11th grade Class Registration Information Session in HS Auditorium 9th - 6:45pm, Credit Flexibility Information Session in HS Auditorium 11th - ACT Test Date 24th - Interims sent home</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>March</u></p> <p>10th - SAT Test Date 12th -16th - 10th grade OGT Test Week 19th -23rd - 10th grade Make-up OGT Test Week 30th - Report Cards sent home</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April</u></p> <p>14th - ACT Test Date</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>May</u></p> <p>4th - Interims sent home 5th - SAT Test Date 7th -18th - AP Testing Weeks 15th - 1:00pm, Senior Awards in High School Auditorium 15th - ALL SCHOOL FEES MUST BE PAID for Seniors 15th - Last day for Graduating Seniors 18th - Mandatory Graduation Practice, Senior Picnic, Cap & Gown Pick-up 20th - Graduation Ceremony 25th -30th - Semester Exams 30th - Last day of school</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June</u></p> <p>2nd - SAT Test Date 8th - Report cards sent home 11th - ACT test date</p>

Guidance Staff Contact Information

Mrs. Linda Depew
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Mrs. Michelle Toth
Counselor A-K
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College Information Meetings

The Guidance Department would like to provide all Junior and Senior parents/guardians with important information and dates for the 2011-2012 school year. We would like to invite you and your family to the Guidance Question and Answer Sessions during Parent Teacher Conferences. Information regarding guidance office procedures and resources as well as timelines for ACT/SAT testing, college visits and college and scholarship applications will be topics of these sessions as students and parents/guardians plan beyond high school to prepare for the future. At this time the counselors have given presentations on these materials to all Junior and Senior classes.

Q & A Session Times

Wednesday, October 5, 2011: 5:00pm in HS Library

Thursday, October 13, 2011: 5:00pm in HS Library

Thank you!

Buckeye High School Guidance Department

MEDINA COUNTY COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR

Date: October 12, 2011

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Site: Community Center
(Medina Fairgrounds)

Students and parents from Medina County school districts are invited to attend.

The Medina County College/Trade/Technic and Career Fairs is registered with the Ohio Association for College Admission Counseling (OACAC).



SAVE THE DATE

Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center

For more information, contact Brenda Zacharias:

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