

IOWA-GRANT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOME OF THE PANTHERS

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February 16, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Juniors:

On February 28th and March 1st the entire junior class will be taking state testing in our building. All 11th grade students are required to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys (job skills readiness assessment) tests. This is different from years past where taking the ACT was optional. We will administer the ACT on February 28th and WorkKeys will be given on March 1st. Total time required for administration of both tests will be approximately 9 hours. This ACT is the same one that colleges use as a part of their admission system and the test is provided to all juniors at no cost. Juniors may retake the ACT on their own at a different testing site if they are not satisfied with their scores. If the student does decide to retake the ACT it would be at his/her own expense.

There are many rigorous rules for administration of the test including what types of calculators may or may not be used and what can be included in the room when testing. One item that is very clear is that students are not allowed any access to any communication device. Therefore, we will be having students turn in their cell phones and/or computer devices as the students enter the classrooms for testing. If there is an emergency and you need to contact your son/daughter, please contact the high school office. All school bells will be turned off and no PA announcements will be made.

It is very important that our students are prepared for these two days. Please help us ensure that they have a good night's sleep and have had a balanced meal the evening before and morning of the test. In addition, the district will provide a light breakfast for students on each test day. Please emphasize the importance of taking these tests to your son/daughter. We do not want to put too much pressure on our juniors, but they should understand that it is in their and our best interest for them to do their personal best.

ACT WorkKeys:

"The ACT WorkKeys system is a paper and pencil assessment used to help students understand how they can improve their career readiness skills and to help employers determine whether individuals are qualified for positions. The ACT WorkKeys tests included in the state administration are:

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Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information. Students can earn National Career Readiness Certificates which are recognized by businesses and industries nationwide. Through obtaining a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), students have a clear way to demonstrate their abilities to future employers.”

ACT Plus Writing:

The ACT Plus Writing is a paper and pencil test. The ACT Plus Writing helps students understand what they need to learn next so they can build rigorous high school course plans and identify career areas that align with their interests. All Wisconsin high schools will be certified as ACT® state testing sites. Scores from the administration of The ACT Plus Writing (if taken abiding with ACT Standard Time or ACT-approved accommodations) can be used by students for a variety of purposes including college admission, scholarships, course placement, and NCAA eligibility. The ACT tests include: Reading, Math, English, Science, and Writing.”

Testing Schedule:

Because we want to provide the best possible testing environment, we will be running these two days of testing a little differently than our usual schedule. Juniors will be the only students in the high school building. On February 28th the juniors will have a small breakfast in the morning and then report to designated rooms to take the ACT with Writing. After this exam is complete, the juniors will be able to eat lunch and then will be able to leave for the day. The ACT with Writing will take approximately 4 to 4½ hours to complete. On March 1st the juniors will again have a small breakfast in the morning and then report to designated rooms to take the WorkKeys exam. After this exam is complete the juniors will be able to eat lunch and then will be able to leave for the day. The WorkKeys exam will take approximately 4 to 4½ hours to complete.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

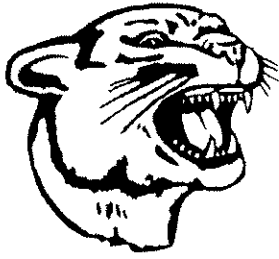
Sincerely,

IOWA-GRANT HIGH SCHOOL:



Chris Gotto
Principal

CG:dlb



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February 16, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Freshmen, Sophomores, Seniors:

On February 28th and March 1st the entire junior class will be taking state testing in our building. This year all 11th grade students will be required to take the ACT and WorkKeys (job skills readiness assessment) tests. This is different from years past where taking the ACT was optional. We will administer the ACT on February 28th and WorkKeys will be given on March 1st. Total time required for administration of both tests will be approximately 9 hours plus time for breakfast and lunch. This ACT test is the same one that colleges and technical colleges use for their admission process. It is an important test for them this year as it will be for the rest of our students when they are juniors.

Because we want to provide the best possible testing environment, we will be running a different schedule on these two days of testing.

Schedule Changes:

Sophomores: On February 28th, the sophomores will be taking a field trip to EPIC and Madison College. Students will leave soon after the 1st hour bell sounds and return towards the end of the day prior to 3:30 PM. The sophomores will be accompanied by staff on this trip. **On March 1st, the sophomores will not need to attend school.** This is a good day to plan any doctor's appointments or take care of any other activities that students sometimes lose class time for.

Freshmen: On March 1st the freshmen will be traveling to Southwest Technical College to attend a College/Career Exploration day. Students will leave soon after the 1st hour bell sounds and return towards the end of the day prior to 3:30 PM. The freshmen will be accompanied by staff on this trip. **On February 28th, the freshmen will not need to attend school.** This is a good day to plan any doctor's appointments or take care of any other activities that students sometimes lose class time for.

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Parents of Freshmen, Sophomores, Seniors

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Seniors: The seniors will not need to report to school on February 28th and March 1st. Please take advantage of these days to visit colleges, work on scholarship applications or to take care of any appointments that might be coming up.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

IOWA-GRANT HIGH SCHOOL:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Gotto', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Gotto
Principal

CG:dlb