



JUNIOR BULLETIN

Sept. 11, 2009

College Representative Visits

A list of schools with scheduled visits will be included in the Junior Bulletin and posted in the Career Ed. Center. To attend a visit, students must sign up in the Career Ed. Center 24 hours in advance. See Mrs. Morrow in Career Ed. if you have questions.

ACT Registration

Online registration is preferred by visiting these websites: www.actstudent.org (ACT) and www.collegeboard.com (SAT). Paper practice packets are available on the bookshelf outside the Graduate Services office in the Career Ed. Center. For more information, see Ms. Mead or Mrs. Drummy.

ACT Test Dates for 2009-2010

Test Date	Registration Deadline
Oct. 24, 2009	Sept. 18, 2009
Dec. 12, 2009	Nov. 6, 2009
Feb. 6, 2010	Jan. 5, 2010
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010

The cost for the ACT is \$32. ACT Plus Writing is \$47. (LATE fee - add \$21.)

SAT Test Dates for 2009-2010

Test Date	Registration Deadline
Oct. 10, 2009	Sept. 9, 2009
Nov. 7, 2009	Oct. 1, 2009
Dec. 5, 2009	Oct. 30, 2009
Jan. 23, 2010	Dec. 15, 2009
Mar. 13, 2010	Feb. 4, 2009
May 2, 2010	Mar. 25, 2010
Jun. 5, 2010	Apr. 29, 2010

The SAT costs \$45. (LATE fee - add \$23).

Schedule of College Representatives

Sept. 14 @ 9:45. . . Northwestern College (Minn)
 Sept. 14 @ 10:30 . . DeVry University (Kansas City)
 Sept. 15 @ 10:30. . Wayne (Neb) State College
 Sept. 16 @ 11:00 . . Dana College
 Sept. 17 @ 10:00 . . Iowa State U. (Ames)
 Sept. 18 @ 8:30 . . College of Saint Mary
 Sept. 22 @ 9:30 . . Missouri Western State (St. Joe)
 Sept. 22 @ 10:30 . . Hastings (Neb) College
 Sept. 24 @ 10:30 . . Simpson College
 Sept. 28 @ 10:30 . . Dordt College (Sioux City, Ia)
 Sept. 29 @ 10:00 . . Creighton University
 Sept. 29 @ 11:00 . . University of Nebraska (Kearney)

ACT Online Prep is also available to students for \$19.95 (one-year subscription). Visit www.actonlineprep.com and then click on the "ACT Online Prep" box.

ACT Prep Classes will be offered at PL South Oct. 6 & 7. These sessions will be led by teachers in each of the four testing areas: English; Reading; Math; and Science Reasoning. Sign up with Mrs. Morrow in the Career Ed. Center. Cost is \$30, which includes a copy of the only ACT-approved prep book and a folder of test-taking tips and college info. The class runs from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in the PL South Media Center. Students must attend both nights. See Ms. Mead if you have questions.

SAT Review - Visit the SAT Prep Center at www.collegeboard.com for step-by-step, interactive tutorials for verbal and math questions, test-taking strategies and actual SAT questions.

JUNIORS! PSAT/NATIONAL MERIT – DEADLINE!

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) provides practice for the SAT, a college admissions test. In addition, the PSAT may qualify top scorers for the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

The last day for students to sign up for the PSAT is Thursday, September 24 during conferences. This test is strongly recommended for all college-bound students. The test will be given on Wednesday, October 14, PLSouth's Assessment and Post-Secondary Planning Day. The cost of the PSAT is \$13, checks payable to Papillion – La Vista South. The PSAT is only offered once each year, and students must take it their junior year to potentially be eligible for National Merit.

An informational letter was sent home to all junior families the end of August. Contact Ms. Mead or Mrs. Holton in guidance at 829-4614 if you have any questions. Students may register for the PSAT September 1st thru 24th with Mrs. Morrow in Career Ed.

ASSESSMENT AND POST-SECONDARY PLANNING DAY

For your future planning, the Guidance Department of Papillion-La Vista South High School will be offering an academic and career assessment day to all freshman, sophomores, and juniors on Wednesday, October 15 from 8:20 a.m. to noon during the regular school day. The standardized tests that students will take produce results that provide students with valuable information they can use to prepare for future academic and career success. Students will find the exams to be a good practice test prior to the ACT and/or SAT.

11th Grade – Students have the option of taking the PSAT or the ASVAB. The PSAT is strongly encouraged for students who plan to attend college after high school. It is a pre-SAT, which will provide more standardized test practice and gives students access to an on-line career/college portfolio. It is also the exam students must take as a junior to potentially qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Students who do not register for the PSAT (cost \$13) by Sept. 24 will take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). This is a great skills assessment, which aids students in career choices. Students do not have to go into the military to benefit from the ASVAB. The PSAT is only offered once a year – if a student is contemplating between the two, they should take the PSAT.

Tips for Taking a Standardized Test:

- Students should get plenty of sleep the night before the exam – at least 8 hours.
- Even if they don't normally, students should eat a good breakfast the morning of the exam. They will be testing for 3 and a half hours with only one break.
- Impress upon your son or daughter the importance of pacing themselves during the exam – answer the questions they know first, then go back to the questions they skipped.
- Remind students they will need to bring their student ID, No. 2 pencils, a calculator (depending on the exam they are taking) and a book to read.
- Stress to your student the importance of doing their best on the exam. It's for their benefit to assist with their future planning!

Start Your Post-Secondary Plans Now!

- Meet with your college/career counselor at least once a year
- Continue to take challenging courses such as honors and/or AP
- Keep your grades up
- Join an academic club
- Talk with your parents and high school counselor about colleges that interest you
- Start to **research**, compare and visit colleges, and talk with college students
- Start or update an academic resume
- Consider putting together a portfolio that highlights your special skills and talents
- Volunteer for activities and clubs related to career interests
- Get a part-time job, **apprenticeship**, or internship; or job shadow in a profession that interests you

Metro College Fair @ UNO Sapp Fieldhouse on Sunday, October 25 from 1:00 – 4:00pm, free can check out www.educationquest.org for a list of colleges in attendance, 100s of colleges from all over the US, including 2-year schools and military

Exploring College Options

Are you interested in attending an Ivy League such as **DUKE * GEORGETOWN * HARVARD * PENN * STANFORD**? Representatives from all of these schools are hosting student and parent information sessions on **Tuesday, September 22 @ 7:30pm at the Omaha Marriott – Regency**. This is an excellent opportunity to gather information on what an Ivy League has to offer. It may be more affordable than you think!

Helpful Websites:

TEST REGISTRATION & COLLEGE/SCHOLARSHIP INFO

actstudent.org (ACT)
collegeboard.com (SAT)

COLLEGE & SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES

educationquest.org
collgeview.com
princetonreview.com
fastweb.com

CAREER PLANNING

nebraskacareerconnections.org
careerview.com
learnlink.org

MILITARY

myfuture.com
todaysmilitary.com