



Westerville North High School

950 County Line Road, Westerville, OH 43081-1000
Main Office: (614) 797-6200 Fax: (614) 797-6201

Kurt Yancey, Principal

Guidance Department

September 12, 2012

Parents/Guardians:

On **Wednesday, October 17** students will have the opportunity to take one of three tests depending upon their grade level. Each test is designed to help your student(s), teachers and administrators determine college and work readiness. Each test will produce data that will assist each student with post secondary planning and preparation. The cost, website and more information associated with each test is listed below.

Grade 9 – EXPLORE: Cost \$10.00

www.actstudent.org/EXPLORE

EXPLORE is the first in a series of three high school intake measures offered by ACT. This integrated series of ACT assessment programs is designed to enhance students' preparation for careers, vocational training, or higher education. EXPLORE gives educators the means to structure high school planning and career exploration for students and parents, as well as, serves as a baseline to monitor academic progress. Through EXPLORE students' strengths and weaknesses can be identified early in their educational development, when they have the greatest opportunity to establish a four-year program of studies that will help them achieve their career and educational goals. Students are tested in four areas; Reading, Math, English and Science and will receive an estimated ACT score.

Grade 10 – PLAN: Cost \$12.00

www.actstudent.org/PLAN

PLAN is the second in the series of three high school intake measures offered by ACT. Now is the time to start thinking about life after high school and taking the PLAN can stimulate a student's thinking about his/her future. With your school counselor's assistance, it can support meaningful high school course selection for junior and senior years, as well as, relate personal characteristics to educational and career options. Students will be tested in four areas, Reading, Math, English and Science. The PLAN is more difficult than the EXPLORE. Students will receive an estimated ACT Composite score which in turn can help the student focus on test preparation to improve ACT scores. In addition, students can select to be contacted by colleges to aid them in the college process, and therefore, reinforcing the need for strong academic preparation by students considering postsecondary education. The PLAN serves as a tool to students, parents and the school by providing important feedback for planning and allocating guidance resources, whether the student is college bound or heading directly into the workforce.

Grade 11/Grade 10 – PSAT: Cost \$16.00

www.collegeboard.org/PSAT

www.nationalmerit.org

Most juniors and some sophomores in high school take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, commonly referred to as the PSAT test. As the name suggests, this is a test designed to measure the same sorts of skills as, and prepare students for, the SAT test. Everyone who has a chance to take the PSAT should certainly take advantage of it. Not only does it give you valuable practice for the SAT, by revealing what areas you may need to work on, but if you do well, you could receive national recognition along with scholarship money from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT test is a challenging test, which is mostly multiple choice. There is no essay required, and you're allowed to bring a calculator. The test takes a little over two hours, and covers three areas: Critical Reading, Math and Writing Skills.

Dr. J. Daniel Good, Superintendent

Visit us at www.westerville.k12.oh.us

Vision: Our vision is to be the benchmark of educational excellence.

Mission: Our mission is to prepare students to contribute to the competitive and changing world in which we live.

Values: Respect, Inclusiveness, Community, Communication, Collaboration, Innovation, Nurturing, Trust, Accountability



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EXPLORE/PLAN/PSAT

Each test will begin at 7:30am on **Wednesday, October 17, 2012** and will end approximately at 10:30am. Students will be released to class or lunch upon completion of the test. The student is responsible for making up any work he/she misses during the periods that he/she is testing.

Students can take the PLAN as a 10th grader as well as take the PSAT. However, as a 10th grader the student's score will not be entered into the National Merit Scholarship Competition but it can be good practice. If the student wants to take both tests, he/she would take the PSAT on October 17th and then come to school on Friday, October 19 to take the PLAN. Please mark both tests on the form below and the student will be contacted with specific details.

Students wanting to register to take a test(s) should complete the form below and return it to the Pupil Services office by September 24th. The tests have to be ordered in advance so there will be no refunds once a student registers.

EXPLORE-PLAN-PSAT REGISTRATION

Student's Name: _____

Grade Level: 9 10 11

I would like to take the following test(s): _____EXPLORE _____PLAN _____PSAT

Parent Signature: _____

Make checks payable to: **Westerville City Schools**

Due By: **Monday, September 24, 2012**

If you have questions, contact WNHS Pupil Services Office at 614.797.6214 or email Mrs. Julie Taylor at taylorju@wcsoh.org