



SENIOR NEWSLETTER



Bellevue Public Schools

Bellevue East High School

August 30, 2011

www.BellevuePublicSchools.org/East

Issue #2

LET'S GET STARTED ON SCHOLARSHIPS!

Be sure to scan the scholarship section of the newsletter every week. Many of the applications will be available in the rack right next to Mr. Sheridan's office. Remember, students who want to earn scholarships must pursue them.

ROTC SCHOLARSHIPS/ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS: If you are interested in applying for ROTC scholarships or the military academies, you should see your counselor or Mr. Sheridan soon to discuss application procedures. These applications have early deadlines and require much more paperwork than is typical.

WENDY'S HIGH SCHOOL HEISMAN PROGRAM: This is not really a scholarship program, but you could win recognition, a trip to New York City, and up to \$10,000 for our school. In addition, applicants may receive Wendy's gift cards in various values at each stage of the competition, starting with \$5 to \$50 cards for random early applicants. They are looking for both male and female honorees who excel in academics ("B" Average) and are involved in athletics (one or more sports) and community service. So, if you work hard, are dedicated, and feel you are a role model for our other students, nominate yourself for this award at www.wendysheisman.com right away. Please ask your counselor for their e-mail address first so you can name them as your "Reviewer." **Deadline: October 2nd**

PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS: Scholarships of \$1000 to \$5000 are available. Any student who has participated in a significant community service or group leadership activity which took place, at least in part, within the past 12 months can apply. Apply online at www.prudential.com/spirit or call 877-525-8491 to ask for a paper application. Turn your completed application in to the Counseling Office for judging by our Principal. He can only select and submit two applications. **Deadline: November 1st**

COCA-COLA SCHOLARS: You could win a \$5,000 or \$2,500 renewable scholarship if you are an academic achiever and involved in extracurricular activities. If you have at least a 4.0/5.0 GPA, apply online at www.Coca-ColaScholars.org for this one. Semifinalists will be notified in December so they can complete additional application requirements. **Deadline: October 31st**

BE CAUTIOUS OF POSSIBLE SCAMS!!!

The junk mail is starting to flow in. Many of you probably already received your "appointment" to meet with college planning people of one sort or another at some "Seminar." Our advice is that **you should be suspicious if you didn't ask for the appointment.** Although the service may appear free, it will probably only be the intro session that is free and it will include a sales pitch to get you to pay big bucks for services that you can get elsewhere at NO COST. Don't get suckered into paying for these kinds of services...they can't guarantee you success, but they will take credit for scholarships and financial aid that students would have qualified for without their "help." If you are not sure what to do, ask me or talk to your counselor first.

UPCOMING COLLEGE AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOL VISITS

Wednesday	Sept 7 th	Period 2	Xenon International, Omaha NE
Monday	Sept 12 th	Period 2	University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln NE
Tuesday	Sept 13 th	Period 3	Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville MO
Thursday	Sept 22 nd	Period 1	Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph MO
Thursday	Sept 29 th	Period 2	Drake University, Des Moines IA
Thursday	Sept 29 th	Period 4	UNL Food Science and Tech, Lincoln NE

SENIOR CHECKS

Over the next four to six weeks you may be receiving a pass from your counselor, indicating an appointment for a "senior check." The purpose of this is to review your status towards graduation and to answer any questions you may have about your plans for life after high school.

ACT and SAT REVIEW COURSES

There will be prep sessions offered here at Bellevue East either to help you prepare for the ACT prior to the October and April tests. The exact details on that are still being worked out, but the dates for October are the 11th, 13th, and a practice test on the 15th. However, if you are looking for a formal orientation class, consider the following options:

The Assistance League of Omaha sponsors Review Courses to prepare for the ACT or SAT. Talk to your counselor if you are not sure if you could benefit from a prep class. Registration sheets will be available in counseling. See www.omaha.assistanceleague.org for more info and printable forms.

ACT Review Course: \$30 for two sessions (or \$40 including a Writing Review) at Westside High School.

Session #1 is on October 11th from 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Session #2 is on October 13th from 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Writing Review is only on Oct 12th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

SAT Review Course: \$15 for one session at Westside High School.

Actually, this is a PSAT Review Course, but it works for SAT prep as well.

It is offered only on October 6th from 6:30 - 9:30 pm.

Creighton University ACT Prep Course: If you want to spend a little more and get a more in-depth training program for ACT, consider this \$430 course at the Hixson Lied Science Building, room 361. You can pick four sessions covering each portion of the ACT from Saturdays and/or Sundays between September 24th and October 16th. Attend all eight days, if you like. Each session runs from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. They also have an orientation session for all enrolled students to be held on Sunday, September 18th from 3:00 – 4:30 pm. To get more information and to register for this course, go to www.Creighton.edu/ACT or call them at 402-280-2424.

A few Internet resources for free ACT Prep: Do you want to improve your ACT test scores or study for the upcoming ACT or SAT test? Here are some free web sites to use that may help you improve your results.

1. A favorite of mine is www.Number2.com where you can register yourself and another person as your mentor and then practice, practice, practice!
2. Another great test prep site is www.march2success.com. Create a portfolio and log in. You can then go into SAT or ACT prep for practice tests, workshops, and quizzes.
3. For SAT prep, I was told about <http://ineedapencil.com> last year and it looks like it would be a useful exercise at no cost to you. This may not be helpful if you intend to take the ACT test .

TESTING REMINDERS:

The best way to register for the October 22nd **ACT** is to apply online at www.actstudent.org. Paper packets for ACT registration are also available in the counseling office for those who can't use the Internet. They must be completed and POSTMARKED by September 16th. Try to make the deadline either online or by mail to avoid late registration fees charged between September 17th and September 30th for this session. Fee waivers are available for students who have documented financial need. If you are a ward of the state, in a foster home, receiving free or reduced meals, on public assistance, homeless, or a TRIO or Upward Bound student, see your counselor for a waiver form.

The **SAT** will be given only ONCE at Bellevue East on November 5th. Again, it is best to register online at sat.collegeboard.com and you can register for other test centers if you need a different date. A few paper registration packets are also available in the counseling office and must be completed and POSTMARKED by Friday, October 7th. Late registration either online or by mail between October 8th and October 21st will cost you extra! SAT II subject tests can also be taken on our test date, if you need them.

COLLEGE FAIRS

Lutheran College Fair: Here is an opportunity for you to visit with representatives of many of the Lutheran colleges that you might find interesting. Visit their event on September 12th from 6:45 to 9:00 pm at Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School at 15656 Fort St. in Omaha. Some schools may give out application fee waivers just for attending this fair. For details and a list of the 14 schools that plan to be there, see www.lutherancolleges.org.

Christian College Fair: For those of you interested in other Christian Colleges, there will be a college fair for those schools at Lincoln Christian High School on Tuesday, September 27th from 6 to 8 pm. About 20 schools which are located in various Midwest states will be represented at this event (again, I have a list you can look at.) If you have questions, call Aaron Roberts at 402-643-7394 .