

September 2010

TO: DCS High School Students and Parents
FROM: Gordon McDonald and Peggy Jenkins

We are sending this information to all high school students and parents regardless of grade. We trust this information will be of immediate benefit.

Please note these important dates:

1. **ACT/SAT TEST**

Colleges require one of these tests before an application will be processed. These college entrance exams now have an additional writing component. The basic ACT evaluates reading, science reasoning, math, and English skills. The basic SAT-I evaluates only English and math skills. Eastern schools typically require the SAT while those in the Mid-west most often require the ACT. Check with the college admissions to be sure which test is required and if they want the writing component. We highly recommend the ACT. DCS students consistently score higher on the ACT. Registration applications and test study guides are available in our office. The ACT costs \$32 for the basic ACT (no writing) and \$47 with the writing. The SAT-I costs \$45. The tests can be taken more than once and colleges recognize the highest scores. These are used not only for admissions but also scholarships. The tests should be taken either during the junior year or early in the senior year. Delaware Christian is now a test site, so take advantage of our familiar environment! You must register on-line or by paper application. DCS cannot process any applications!

ACT		SAT	
Registration	Test Date	Registration	Test Date
9/17/10	10/23/10*	09/10/10	10/09/10*
11/05/10	12/11/10*	10/08/10	11/06/10*
01/07/11	02/12/11*	11/05/10	12/04/10*
03/04/11	04/9/11*	12/23/10	01/22/11*
05/06/11	06/11/10*	02/11/11	03/12/11*
		04/08/11	05/07/11*
		05/06/11	06/04/11*

*Denotes tests being given at Delaware Christian School.

2. **FREE! ACT/SAT/CLEP practice tests through Delaware Co. Library.**

Go to www.delaware.lib.oh.us; click "research links"; scroll to bottom under "testing and exams". Click "Learning Express Library". This is a comprehensive, interactive platform of practice tests and tutorials. You'll create your own account to track progress; all at no cost!

3. **PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (PSAT)**

This is an optional test for juniors given at DCS on **OCTOBER 13**. The cost is \$15. PSAT is a preliminary SAT indicating a student's preparedness for taking the college entrance exam. **It is also the qualifier for the National Merit Scholarship Program** Students must place in the 98th/99th percentile to become a national merit scholarship semi-finalist. It is also the basis for determining recipients of the \$1,500 per year PPG Scholarship given in Delaware County. Top academic sophomores may take this test to prepare them for the PSAT as a junior. A study booklet will be given to students taking the test. Previous test booklets are also available for review.

4. **OSU, CEDARVILLE, AND OTHER SELECTIVE ADMISSION INSTITUTIONS**

Applications should be submitted prior to Christmas vacation. In recent years, applications received after December 24, were not accepted at the OSU main campus. Admittance to Marion and Delaware campus OSU does not require early application. Applications are available in the school library or on-line.

6. **COLLEGE VISITS**

College visits are encouraged for juniors and seniors. Please make arrangements through the college and then obtain a pre-excused absence from the school office. Students who are pre-excused and bring a note of participation will not be counted absent at DCS for the visit day.

7. **COLLEGE FAIRS IN OUR AREA**

1. Columbus National Christian College Fair 6:30-8:30 PM – September 14th

Worthington Grace Brethren Church – R. Fred Hogue Center
8225 Worthington-Galena Road , Westerville, Ohio 43081

The Coordinator for this event is Cedarville University, Ms. Chrissy Faulkner. She may be reached at 937-766-4444 or faulknr@cedarville.edu.

2. Marion Area College Night 6:30-8:00 PM October 11, Alber Center, OSU/MTC Campus

8. SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship information will be given to qualifying senior students. Source books are also available on loan. Contrary to popular belief, there are not a lot of scholarship funds just waiting for someone to apply. Scholarship applications generally require extensive written applications. We encourage you **NOT** to pay for a scholarship search service without researching the company first. Many of these services duplicate free services provided by the government or college. In most cases, the best scholarship source is the college or university that you want to attend.

9. ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB)

We annually participate in this detailed career and aptitude inventory. Seniors may still take the test and juniors are encouraged to do so because of the practical value of the career interest inventory. Participation is **FREE** and **OPTIONAL**. Names of those who take the test are used by military recruiters. This test is scheduled to be given at DCS on March 8, 2011.

10. RECRUITMENT FOR ARMED SERVICES

According to federal law, schools must release to military recruiters the names, addresses, and phone numbers of juniors and seniors. Parents may request names not be given. Please notify DCS immediately if you do not want your student’s name given to recruiters.

11. DRAFT REGISTRATION

Eighteen year old men are required to register for the draft. This is not only required by law, but essential to participate in government loans and scholarship programs. Registration cards are available at our school or any post office or you may register on line at www.sss.gov.

12. ARMED FORCES MILITARY ACADEMIES and R.O.T.C.– Army (West Point), Navy (Annapolis), Air Force, Coast Guard

Some of the most outstanding educational and leadership opportunities available are through the military, either the academies or universities that offer the Reserve Officer Training Program. Students with a desire to serve in the military and earn full college scholarships should seriously consider these options. A game plan that combines grades, athletics, leadership, and community service needs to be developed early in high school and followed diligently. Admission requires interviews by local military liaison officers and then recommendation by our U.S. Congressman, Pat Tiberi.

13. COLLEGE NIGHT AT DCS Tue., Nov. 9 7-8:30 PM

Mt. Vernon Nazarene Director of Financial Services will present a seminar for all high school parents and students covering topics including college selection, finances, handling credit and personal finances such as credit card use and identity theft. Information will be applicable to any institution.

14. COLLEGE VISITS AT DCS - More will be added through the year. Students of all high school grades should talk to these representatives to begin their college planning process. Parents are certainly welcome to schedule a meeting if your time allows.

Sept. 13	8-9:00	Regent Univ.	Sept. 30	8:40-10:00	Hillsdale College
Sept. 15	11:30	Grove City College	Oct. 4	11:30	OSU Marion
Sept. 20	11:30	Marion Tech. College	Oct 4	11:30	Otterbein
Sept. 24	11:30	Ohio Wesleyan	Dec. 6	11:30	Pensacola Ch.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

SENIOR PICTURES – Due January 1 (Two different photos needed)

(1) Vertical, wallet size, traditional **head and shoulder shot** for the wall composite. Exceptions will not be accepted so please inform your photographer.

(2) Yearbook Senior Pages - this is your chance for more individuality; be creative, but use wallet size. Talk to the yearbook advisor, Mrs. Quist, if you have questions.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR GRADES 7-12 – November 11-12

Our annual spiritual retreat will be held at Heartland Conference Center east of Ashley in Morrow Co. Fun, fellowship and spiritual growth will be the emphasis as our students and faculty work together to grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our speaker will be campus debater and evangelist Tom Short who was a chapel speaker here last year. This retreat will begin at 8:30 am on November 11. Students will be staying overnight and will conclude on Friday, November 12 at 3:30 p.m. All meals and lodging will be provided at a cost of \$75 per student. This will be added to the family account in November.

CLEP TESTS (College Level Examination of Proficiency)

Most colleges participate in the CLEP program. DCS graduates do extremely well in this test program which covers most academic disciplines. For about \$100 a student can earn 3-5 credits worth up from \$500 to \$4000 depending on the institution. Not a bad scholarship!!! Information is available in handout form from DCS. Since we have only one AP class we recommend this route.