

BURWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER GOES TO THE WEB

To cut costs and better utilize our technology resources, the District has now placed the District Newsletter on the District Website.

If you would still like a hard copy of the newsletter or know someone that would, please let the school know and a hard copy will be sent to you. It is very important that we provide up to date information to all out patrons. Thank you for your understanding.



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE DEPT. SAYS THANK YOU!

THANKS!!! Several donations by community members were made to the Family and Consumer Science department of Burwell High School. Rhonda Maxson donated a sewing machine and some fabric. Holly Jensen and Sharon Ohmberger both donated sewing supplies, yarn, and fabric. Thank

you so much for responding to the request made last spring in the school newsletter. The FCS department will be making book covers this year. Donations of double knit fabric for the book cover project would be appreciated this fall. The material needs to be a stretchy, polyester double knit.

double knit fabric for the book cover project would be appreciated this fall. The material needs to be a stretchy, polyester double knit. And don't forget....the library will take donations of pens and pencils. Thanks for your help. If you have any questions, call Kathy Mann at 308-346-4150.

Burwell Students Score Above State Average on the Statewide Tests-Reading & Math

Results of the statewide tests (NeSA Reading & NeSA Math) were released on August 29, 2011. Students in grades third through the eighth grade and eleventh grade were given both the reading and math statewide tests. The statewide average on the reading test was 71.78 percent of Nebraska students meeting or exceeding the statewide standards on the test. The Burwell students in grades three through eighth and grade eleven took the NESA-Reading Test last April and 87.43 percent of our students met or exceeded the state standards.

The statewide average on the math test was 62.82% of Nebraska students meeting or exceeding the statewide standards on the test. This is the first time the NeSA Math test has been given, therefore, the scores will serve as baseline data. The Burwell students in grades third through eighth and grade eleven took the NeSA -Math Test and 81.43% of our students met or exceeded the state standards.

In February, students in grades four, eight and eleventh were also assessed on their writing skills. Students were given a writing prompt and were required to write an essay on a certain topic. The writing was then sent away to be scored. 92.5% of our students in grades four and eight met the writing standards. Students in grade eleven were part of a pilot project which meant their writing was not scored. The statewide average on the writing assessment was 89%.

On August 29, a report was sent home with the students which explained the results of the statewide tests. If parents have questions, they are encouraged to contact the school.

Reading, Math and Writing are really the cornerstones of the educational process. All other learning is connected or tied back to these three academic disciplines. It is our goal that all students can academically improve and reach their fullest potential. Interventions and programs have been implemented to help all our students be more successful. If you have questions about any of these programs please contact the school. Below is a list of some these interventions:

Accelerated Reader-all elementary grades
Stepping Stones Program-Kindergarten
Sound Partners-Grades 1-2
Corrective Reading-Grades 3-6
REWARDS-Grades 4-6
FAME-junior high grades
ALEKS Math-Grades 7-9

Burwell Public Schools-Spring 2011 NeSA-Reading Results Students Proficient or Higher: 87.43% (State Average 71.78%)

Grade	<i>Below Standard</i>	<i>Met Standards</i>	<i>Exceeds Standards</i>
3	0%	54%	46%
4	8%	62%	31%
5	24%	43%	33%
6	8%	56%	36%
7	21%	36%	43%
8	7%	67%	26%
11	21%	63%	16%
AVE	12.71%	54.43%	33%

Mass Communication Technology System

During the start of this school year we are going to implement a mass communication technology system that will enable the school to more directly communicate with parents and students. Each family can sign up to three phone numbers (land line or cell phones), two email addresses and one pager number. The school can utilize technology and send out messages to families when information is needed. An example would be when school is called off for inclement weather. Other uses: postponements, schedule changes, key dates and times, transportation times. The system will have multiple uses and will enable us to better communicate with you as we work through the school year. If you have questions please do not hesitate contacting the school. However, to work effectively we need up to date information, therefore, providing the information below is extremely important.

There is no specific cost to participate in the mass communication technology system (the district pays \$2 per family). The goal of the system is to provide better communication between the school and home using a mass communication technology system. The system will be used to make announcements and to provide timely information as it pertains to school. Please provide the information below so we can move forward with the project.

Name_____

Address_____

Phone Numbers (list up to three numbers-land line or cell phone).

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Email Addresses (list up to two email addresses)

Pager (list one pager)

NOTE: Information can be changed during the school year by simply contacting any of the schools.

NOTES FROM THE COUNSELOR

UPCOMING TEST DATES:

October 12: P-SAT (interested juniors, given at our school). This is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship. Students must pay a fee of \$14.00 to register for this test. This scholarship is highly competitive, with only the top ½ of one percent of students in each state being named as National Merit Semi-Finalists. If a student is considering attending a school on the East or West Coast where the SAT is more commonly used for college admissions, he/she should take the P-SAT.

November 16: PLAN (given at our school). I encourage all sophomores to take this sophomore version of the ACT. Students must register with Mrs. Senn by September 30

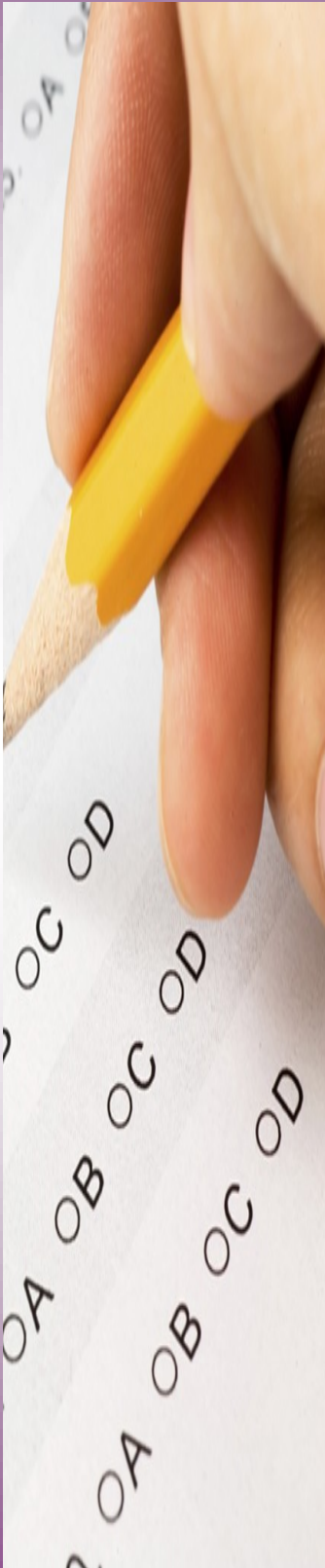
ACT Test Dates: Students who will be attending a four-year college MUST take the ACT or the SAT. Others who must take it are students who will be attending NCTA at Curtis or students who will be entering such programs as LPN, dental hygiene or an associate's degree in nursing. I encourage students to take the test twice, once in their junior year and once in their senior year. The fee is \$34 or \$55 if students register late.

ACT includes an optional 30-minute Writing test. So far, NO schools in Nebraska require the writing portion, but a few do "recommend" it, including Mid-Plains Community, Union, and York Colleges. You may check a school's position on the writing test online at www.actstudent.org or call the school directly. An additional fee of \$15.50 is required if you register to take the writing test.

When students report to the testing center to take the ACT, they must have a current photo ID, as well as their admission ticket. The testing staff is obligated to enforce ACT's policy, so students will not be admitted if they do not have appropriate identification. Most students should have a current driver's license or photo school ID, but if they don't, see Mrs. Senn for other alternatives.

Students are also to bring their own calculators. A list of acceptable calculators is included in the ACT Registration packet or on the ACT website. For optimum test performance, students should use a calculator with which they are familiar.

Test date	Register by	Late Registration	Location
October 22 (National FFA Convention)	September 16	September 30	Ord, Broken Bow
December 10	November 4	November 18	Ord, Grand Island, Broken Bow
February 11 (Burwell Speech Invite, District Wrestling)	January 13	January 21	Grand Island, Kearney
April 14 March 9 March 23 (Varsity Golf)			Ord, Broken Bow, Lincoln
June 9 (Possibly Girls and Boys State)	May 4	May 18	Albion, O'Neill, Grand Island



SCHOLARSHIPS, COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September

- 14: ASVAB for juniors and interested seniors
- 16: Registration deadline for Oct. 22 ACT
- 18: Grand Island Area College Fair at Heartland Events Center
- 21: Juniors must register with Mrs. Senn to take the P-SAT (\$14.00)
- 21: Explore Northeast (Community College) Open House
- 25: Norfolk Area College Fair at Northeast Community College
- 26: Educational Planning Program at O'Neill High School, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- 26: Concordia University rep here
- 26: UNL Red Letter Day
- 27: Doane College rep here
- 27: Educational Planning Program at Ord High School, 10 – 11:30
- 29: Register for Northeast Community College COPS (criminal justice careers) for \$15; \$20 after this date
- 30: Late registration for ACT
- 30: Registration deadline for UNK Multicultural Day
- 30: UNL rep here
- 30: Fridays @ Wayne State College Open House

October

- 3: Wendy's Heisman due at wendysheisman.com by 5 p.m. (seniors with B average)
- 3: UNL Red Letter Day for Engineering
- 2: Bryan LGH College of Health Sciences Exploration Day
- 5: Chadron State College Health Professions Day
- 6: Northeast Community College COPS 2011 (criminal justice)
- 7: UNL Red Letter Day for Education & Human Services
- 8: UNK Jr.-Sr. Loper Preview Day featuring student life and football game with Chadron State
- 10: UNL Pre-Health Red Letter Day
- 12: P-SAT for juniors

MORE SCHOLARSHIPS AND COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS TO REMEMBER.....

- 12: UNL Red Letter Day for Architecture; Journalism and Mass Communication
- 14: Fridays at Wayne State College
- 21: Fridays at Wayne State College
- 22: ACT Assessment
- 23: Lincoln Area College Fair at Southeast Community College – Lincoln
- 24: UNL business Administration Red Letter Day
- 25: Northeast Community College rep here.
- 26: UNK Multicultural Day for juniors and seniors
- 30: Horatio Alger Scholarship for seniors, who plan to attend a 4-year college and have critical financial need (less than \$50,000 adjusted gross family income preferred). Apply at www.horatioalger.org/scholarship
- 31: Coca Cola Scholarship available online at www.coca-colascholars.org (for seniors with a 3.0+ GPA)

November

- 1: Wayne State College rep here
- 4: Registration deadline for December 10 ACT
- 4: UNL Red Letter Day
- 5: Wayne State College Just for Juniors

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Ord High School will be hosting their Educational Planning Program on Tuesday, September 27, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Students and parents may visit with college representatives from two-year and four-year schools, as well as vocational schools from all over the state of Nebraska. A few schools from outside of Nebraska will also be in attendance, as will military recruiters from most, if not all, branches of the service. Interested seniors will ride the school bus to this event, if they turn in a signed school activity slip. Juniors, seniors and their parents would greatly benefit by attending this event. Several other college fairs will also be held in the area, as noted in the calendar above.

JOB SHADOWING AND COLLEGE VISITS

Juniors and seniors are entitled to a total of one day of job shadowing and three days of college visits without being counted absent, as long as the paperwork is taken care of IN ADVANCE. A parent must accompany his/her child AND call the school or send a note stating they will be going with their child.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Last year many Burwell students were aided in their pursuit of college funding by the excellent support of the community through many generous scholarships. We sincerely appreciate those organizations that have supported Burwell students in the past, and encourage this year's seniors to be aware of these scholarship opportunities. Below is a listing of local scholarships that were awarded last year.

Roland L. Gross Memorial	GLW Ass'n. of Family & Community Education
PEO Chapter CJ	FFA Boosters
Ord Elk's Scholarship	Burwell High School Music Boosters
Grace V. Wagner Permanent Memorial	Petersen Lumber Post-Prom
Devin Ellis Hoppes	Weller Foundation
Mr. J's	Horn Wrestling
Garfield County Education Association	Burwell-Ericson-Ord Knights of Columbus
Burwell Alumni Association	Frances Clark Mem'l American Legion Auxiliary
Burwell Community Fund	Loup Valley Jaycee Scholarship
Art & Clara Butts Scholarship Foundation	Westcott
Blazing Star Masonic Lodge	JHL Lathrop Foundation
Sprint BHS Character Ambassador	J & J Sanitation
St. John's Lutheran Church	