

FEBRUARY/MARCH  
NEWSLETTER

## **National Honor Society**

Rodeo Chapter of National Honor Society will hold its 2016 Induction Ceremony on March 17, 2016 at 2:45 pm. Students in grades 10,11 and 12 who have a 3.5 GPA or better are encouraged to fill out an information sheet in order to be considered for induction into the group. Students selection will be based on Scholarship, Character, Leadership and Service. Information sheets can be obtained from Mrs. Konicek and are due back to her no later than 4:00 p.m on March 2, 2016. Late submissions will not be considered under any circumstances. Please contact Mrs. Konicek, NHS advisor, at [melissa.konicek@burwellpublicschools](mailto:melissa.konicek@burwellpublicschools) or at [308-346-4150](tel:308-346-4150) if you have any questions.

## **Burwell Jr-Sr Prom**

Burwell Jr-Sr Prom will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2016. Pictures will begin promptly at 5:45 with Junior and Senior class pictures. The Grand March will begin at 7:00 and will be open to the public. Dinner and the dance will follow.

## **Class of 2017 Washington D.C. Trip**

Members of the BHS Class of 2017 are nearing their trip to Washington D.C. Fourteen members of the class, along with eight parents, and two sponsors will fly out on Tuesday, May 24th from Omaha. While in D.C. the students will tour the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, two Smithsonian Museums, Mount Vernon, and several of the monuments and memorials around the city. The students have been organizing and putting on several fundraisers throughout the year to help make the trip possible: 50/50 raffles, half-court shots, soup supper, and dodgeball tournament. The last BIG fundraiser will be another soup supper and dodgeball tournament on **Friday, February 26th**. We will accept the first 24 teams to sign-up in the tournament. Please consider helping these deserving group of students make their trip to Washington D.C. a reality.

## February & March 2016 Newsletter

### Counselor's Corner *by Miss Tetschner*

HAPPY 2016!!! The start of a new year also brings about many changes: high school students change classes and junior high students are introduced to a few new classes. It is also that time of year to start thinking and planning for next school year – already!

I will start to meet with students in grades 8-11 to discuss academic performance, high school transcripts, ACT and other academic testing. This meeting is to stress the importance of academic performance and how it is reflected on the student's transcripts for colleges and scholarship committees to consider.

We also discuss the student's future career interests and how to academically prepare for such adventures. In the process of considering possible career options and student's post-secondary options, students then select possible classes they would like to take for next school year.

As scheduling is always a challenge, Mr. Owen and myself will make the best effort possible to offer several academic options for all our students based on the information the students provide at our pre-registration meeting.

Colleges are becoming more and more selective and entrance requirements are increasing. Students need to be academically solid in their choice of classes as well as their academic performance in those classes.

I advise students to take as much math and science as possible. First, it helps prepare them for the ACT test. Second, many colleges require an entrance exam especially for math. Lastly, it is the most frequent request of alumni who report they "wish they had taken more math and science classes in high school".

**JUNIORS:** I'm in the process of finding a day to go on a college visit funded by a grant through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As soon as I have that lined up I will let you know.

Now is the time to start attending college "Junior Days." These are college visits especially for high school juniors. If you have a college of interest, I highly recommend going to visit, researching their admission and scholarship requirements, and in some cases apply. It is easy to explore colleges on line and gather information – Just do it!! Also take advantage of days we don't have school to schedule a college visit. Don't wait until your senior year to start the pursuit of a college career. It is important that you take time to look at your options because if you wait your options might not be available (especially at a two year school).

Juniors interested in programs that require a waiting list should apply NOW and get your name on the list. Many programs at Milford and Northeast, for example, have at least a year wait for some popular programs. It is important that you get your name on the list if you are interested in attending. Also don't feel obligated to go there if your name is on the list. It is just to help secure

a spot and remember you can always change your mind. To find out if there is waiting lists simply call and ask.

Take the ACT in April and/or June. Students are advised to complete the ACT Academy and Mr. Bird should have this information out soon. It is to your advantage to take the ACT test this spring, so you know where you are at and plan for where you want to be by December your senior year. Register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and enter BHS school code 280-375. Also if you qualify for free/reduced lunch or other programs you may take the ACT test for free and just stop by my office for that information.

Students only interested in attending a two year college should plan on taking the COMPASS test this spring as well. This test can be taken at the Central Community site in Ord and I will be organizing a time for anyone interested to take the test. The COMPASS is used by two year colleges for academic placement in to classes, as well as scholarship dollars, and admission to certain programs of study.

### **Junior To Do List:**

Plan to take the ACT test or COMPASS test

Start looking at colleges and go on college visits

Start looking for a summer job or volunteer work

Are you on Miss T's email list? If not email her so you can get the latest and up-to-date information [julie.tetschner@burwellpublicschools.com](mailto:julie.tetschner@burwellpublicschools.com).

**SENIORS:** Scholarships are hot, hot, hot!!! This is the time of year when most scholarships are posted and deadlines are due. This is also the time of year that many local scholarships are posted. Check your email daily as I have been emailing you scholarship information as soon as it comes across my desk. However, not all scholarships come across my desk, so sign up with [www.ScholarshipQuest.org](http://www.ScholarshipQuest.org) and check with organizations or businesses that either you or your parents are associated with. There are several scholarships out there but you must apply. The people that receive scholarships are the ones that do the work (many are online), write the essay, get letters of recommendation, and put a little time and effort in to completing the needed information. You can't be awarded anything if you don't try.

It is also FAFSA time!!! Remember the FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID is FREE. Never pay to have your FAFSA completed. Steps to take to complete your FAFSA: 1. Apply for a FSA ID for you and a parent to file the FAFSA on-line [www.fsaaid.ed.gov](http://www.fsaaid.ed.gov) (this is your electronic signature). 2. Complete student and parent 2015 tax returns. 3. Gather all needed information to complete the FAFSA. I emailed you a check list, but you can also go to EducationQuest.org and look under the FAFSA tools for the list and tutorials. 4. Complete the FAFSA [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) .

If you need any assistance with completing the FAFSA or have questions, please contact the EducationQuest Foundation. This is a free education service and they are well informed and trained on the FAFSA. You can call the Kearney office at 1-800-666-3721 or go to their website at [www.EducationQuest.org](http://www.EducationQuest.org).

By completing the FAFSA (remember to do it as soon as possible as some funding runs out and is on a first come first serve basis) and the financial aid process you will be notified of scholarships, grants, work-study, and loans. This will all help you in the decisions you will need to make on how to pay for a college education. After you complete the FAFSA you will soon receive a SAR (Student Aid Report); please bring me a copy so I can record any scholarship and grant money you may be awarded for my records.

Seniors, when you are awarded scholarships please bring me a copy of your award letter so I can keep a record as well as start planning and preparing for your graduation ceremony.

**Senior To Do List:**

- Continue to apply for scholarships
- Complete the FAFSA
- Start narrowing your college choices
- Start looking for a summer job

**Important Dates:**

- February 6 – ACT Test
- February 9 – Parent/Teachers Conference
- March 4 – Deadline to register for the April 9<sup>th</sup> ACT Test [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

**Drivers Education Classes Offered at Sargent High School**

Drivers Education Classes will be offered by the Nebraska Safety Center from the University of Nebraska at Kearney for Sargent, Burwell, and Loup County students. The classroom work will be held in Sargent from July 11<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. Class time will run from 8:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. The range and simulation will be held in Kearney at the Nebraska Safety Center on June 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 6:30. Parents will be responsible to get their students to Kearney for the range and simulation. On-street driving will be scheduled at an arranged time between the students and the instructors. The fee of the course is \$315.00 and is to be paid directly to the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Classes are limited to a maximum of 24 students. Registration forms will be available at the High School Office.