



## February 2020 Newsletter

# GEAR UP to GO ON



Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

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Greetings from HHS!

This semester we as a staff have committed to doing everything we can to help our students do great things on the spring assessments. Those assessments include the ACT, SAT, and ISAT. As a staff we review the results of each of these assessments on a yearly basis. The information gathered from these assessments helps guide our instruction and set our lessons to best meet the needs of our students. This semester specifically we are utilizing the ISAT interim block assessments as well as ACT test prep in our advisory periods as well as in our classrooms as a study tool and instructional tool to help students fill in the blanks or to help them build on prior knowledge in hopes to knock these assessments out of the part this coming semester. As we continue to work with PBIS in our school, we continue to focus on Respect, Responsibility, Safety, Positive Attitudes, and Grit. This month we will be focusing on Safety, both on a personal level as well as school wide. Our hope, as it has been each month, is to continue to build up our school culture

as we work with students in character building and becoming well rounded productive citizens. The academic skills along with the life skills we address on a daily basis are what we feel will help our students in reaching their dreams. Thank you for your continued support of Homedale High School!

Sincerely,

*Mr. Matt Holtry*

## HIGHER ED DAYS for HHS JUNIORS is Tuesday February 4th

Juniors will participate in Higher Ed Days with a college fair hosted at HHS 10:30-11:30 a.m. College representatives from all public and private Idaho colleges and universities will be represented. The fair will be in the gym. **Parents are welcome to attend.**



### Next ACT Test Day at HHS Saturday is February 8<sup>th</sup>!

Two ACT test dates are available for HHS juniors taking the ACT 2nd semester. It is important that students register for a test day that will not interfere with other commitments such as sports, FFA, band, drama or work schedules. After a student registers for a test and the date must be changed, a fee is charged for the change. The ACT test is on Saturdays on the following dates: **February 8<sup>th</sup>, and April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Juniors were registered for the test date of their choice during US

History class on Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup>. The February 8<sup>th</sup> test registration deadline was January 10<sup>th</sup>. The registration deadline for the April 4<sup>th</sup> test is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Students have two opportunities to take the ACT using a fee waiver. One waiver is used spring of a student's junior year, the other waiver is used the fall of the student's senior year



### ACT Test Day Protocols:

On ACT test day, the HHS library entrance is open for students at 7:30 a.m. Students should arrive no later than 7:45 a.m. for check in. Students are to bring two #2 pencils, an approved calculator, a photo ID. Students are encouraged to prepare for the ACT by visiting <http://march2success.com>. Idaho students have free access to the online ACT test prep course and may access that by logging into the ACT account they set up when they registered for the ACT. A new test prep site is for ACT and SAT is called Prep Factory and students may access it by visiting <https://www.prepfactory.com/u/z594A>

**PSAT Results:** The test results from the October 10th PSAT test were reviewed with the sophomores during their Biology classes on Thursday January 23rd. The sophomores were encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT the fall of their junior year. The state will pay for all Idaho juniors to take the SAT the spring of their junior year.

If parents would like a copy of their students PSAT/NMSQT results, e-mail requests to Mrs. Flaming at [dflaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:dflaming@homedaleschools.org)



**SAT (College Board) and Khan Academy have partnered to create one of the best test prep opportunities offered!** All HHS sophomores and juniors have a “personalized” test prep program through Khan Academy! Your students PSAT/NMSQT scores were linked with Khan Academy’s SAT test prep program. What this does it eliminates the need for your student to work on areas they are already strong in and helps your student focus on what they need to work on. If your student did not take the PSAT, no problem. There is a math and English diagnostic test for them to take. This is a great opportunity for HHS students to prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT. The average improvement in test scores for those students who spent time preparing for the SAT through Khan Academy was 115 points! Please encourage your student to spend time each week preparing. It is never too early to start! How do students access the test prep site? They type SATpractice.org in the address bar of their phone, Chromebook or computer browser and log in through their Google account and they are ready to go! [SAT /Khan Academy Test Prep Log In Page](#)

**SAT test for juniors:** The statewide SAT for juniors is **Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>** and will be proctored during the school day at HHS. Do you want to know more about college entrance exams, dates, deadlines for Homedale High School students? Visit the links below.

[HHS College Bound Test Information](#)

[HHS College Bound Test Prep Information](#)





**ASVAB:** Thursday January 16th, HHS hosted the ASVAB test. The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is one of the most widely used, multiple-aptitude tests in the world, developed and maintained by the Department of Defense. More than half of all high schools nationwide administer the ASVAB test to students in grades 10, 11 and 12 (sophomores cannot use their scores for enlistment eligibility). ASVAB Test Score Interpret and Career Exploration session was January 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the ASVAB visit [HHS ASVAB Test Information](#)

### **Scholarships for Senior's (Class of 2020):**

Seeking scholarships is a wise way for students to contribute to the financing of their post-secondary education, for college or a tech school. At Homedale High School we provide help and support for students interested in scholarships. [HHS Scholarship Information](#)

### **Idaho Opportunity Scholarship:**

Recognizing the need for a well-educated workforce, former governor Butch Otter and the Idaho Legislature established the Opportunity Scholarship, to remove barriers to higher education and prepare college/university graduates to enter the workforce. The Opportunity Scholarship awards eligible applicants up to \$3,500 per year and is renewable for up to four years.

The scholarship funds are available per school year; recipients must re-apply each year and are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of four years.



**To qualify for the scholarship, a student must meet *all* of the following criteria:**

- Have an unweighted, cumulative GPA of 2.7 or above
- Be an Idaho resident
- Be a graduate from an **Idaho high school** or its equivalent (GED/HSE from Idaho)
- **Complete the State Board of Education scholarship application by March 1**
- **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1**
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress for financial aid purposes.

**Seniors, click the link below to apply for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship:**

[\*\*Idaho Opportunity Scholarship Application\*\*](#)

### **Idaho Governor's Cup Scholarship**

2020-21 application reopened 11/1/2019. Career/Technical Deadline 2020-21 application opened 11/1/2011.

- Merit-based award
- Requires community service
- For graduating seniors of an Idaho high school

Depending on funding, the Idaho Governor's Cup Scholarship provides approximately 25 awards to Idaho high school seniors planning to attend an Idaho college or university. Funds are awarded to students pursuing



academic or career technical education. This is a \$3,000 award, renewable up to four years for academic programs and up to three years for career technical programs.

**Eligibility for the Governor's Cup Scholarship:**

**To qualify for the scholarship, a student must meet *all* of the following criteria:**

- Be a resident of Idaho
- Be a graduating senior of an Idaho high school
- Enroll as a full-time student in an academic or technical program at an Idaho college or university, taking the ACT or SAT if enrolling in an academic program
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or above
- Attend the first semester of college following graduation
- Write a 500-word personal essay about your goals and interests

Documentation of volunteer work, leadership, and public service is required

**Seniors, click the link below to apply for the Idaho Governors Cup Scholarship:**

**[Idaho Governors Cup Scholarship](#)**

**College Application Fee Waivers:** Please visit the guidance counselor office for forms and help sending in fee waiver forms to college admission departments. **Attention Senior's:** The priority college application deadline for most schools is **February 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please get college applications completed as soon as possible!



**College Application Month was in October BUT IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO APPLY TO COLLEGES!** College Application Week at Homedale High School and throughout the state of Idaho was in October. Mrs. Flaming and TriO representative Ms. Ivonne Martinez visited the Senior Leadership and Economics classes to help seniors apply to colleges. Now the goal is to help all HHS College Bound Seniors have at least one college application completed and submitted before the end of the semester. The state of Idaho has made applying to Idaho schools an easy process with seniors able to apply to all of the Idaho colleges through one application. Seniors can select the Idaho schools they are interested in or apply to or apply to all ten! Seniors will need their State

EDUID number to apply through this site which can be requested from Mrs. Flaming at [dflaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:dflaming@homedaleschools.org).

**College Admission Information, Dates & Deadlines**

**[College of Southern Idaho](#)**  
**[Northwest Nazarene College](#)**  
**[Idaho State University](#)**

**[College of Western Idaho](#)**  
**[College of Idaho](#)**  
**[College of Eastern Idaho](#)**

**Interested in an Out of State College?**

Check to see if the out of state school of interest offers Idaho students in-state tuition by visiting the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education website at <http://wiche.edu/wue>.

### **Transcript Request Instructions for Senior's:**

After applying, seniors must request that their transcripts and test score be sent to the colleges they have applied to. Seniors accomplish this by logging into Google Classroom, opening the Gear Up to Go On classroom and finding the Google document named **7<sup>th</sup> Semester Transcripts** shared with them from Mrs. Flaming. They will enter their name, the date, and the schools they want the transcripts sent to. Mrs. Flaming will send out transcripts within a day or two of the request. For more college application help and support information, visit Mrs. Flaming's webpage at [HHS College Application Week Webpage](#)

### **FAFSA Support at Homedale High School:**

FAFSA support for college bound seniors & parents' is available by appointment with Mrs. Flaming. Seniors and parents may drop in anytime on Thursdays between **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** to meet with Ivonne Martinez from TriO as well to receive one on one help with the FSA ID and with the FAFSA application process. The FAFSA is based on the 2018 tax returns.

**The FSA ID:** One parent and the student will need to set up a FSA ID. The FSA ID confirms your identity and is used to sign into the FAFSA application and to provide electronic signatures for the FAFSA when it is submitted. Some important things for you and your student to know or have available to set up the FSA ID is the following: both of you will need your own e-mail account, your social security numbers and the accurate spelling of your names matching what is printed on your social security card. It is important to write down the email used and password and the answers to your security questions.

[FSA ID Log In](#)

Visit Mrs. Flaming's FAFSA webpage with information about the FAFSA application process and the FSA ID.  
[HHS FAFSA Information](#)

### **College Information Night for Bound Students & Parents is Monday February 24th during parent/teacher conferences from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

This event is for college bound students and parents interested in college information...It is a drop in style event held during parent/teacher conferences **Monday February 24th from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.** in the high school library. Parents of college bound seniors needing assistance with FAFSA applications and scholarships are welcome to drop in during this time as well. The computer lab will be open and college representatives will be available to provide one on one help. Parents and students, plan on stopping by! For more information, email [dflaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:dflaming@homedaleschools.org).



If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Gear Up to Go On & Academic College & Career Counseling services at Homedale High School, please visit Mrs. Debbie Flaming's website at [HHS College & Career Website](#) or e-mail [dflaming@homedaleschools.org](mailto:dflaming@homedaleschools.org) or call Homedale High School (208) 337-4613 Ext 224.