



GLEN BURNIE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXIII, Issue 4	January 2011
Vickie L. Plitt	Principal
David Kauffman	Assistant Principal
Gail Lee	Assistant Principal
Scott Manbeck	Assistant Principal
Jason Niedzielski	Assistant Principal
Bonita Sims	Assistant Principal
Elena Thomas	Assistant Principal

Glen Burnie High School, educating generations of the community's children, sets the standard for excellence by providing a rigorous academic program for our diverse 21st Century learners. Through collaboration among students, teachers, parents, and community, we ensure a safe, nurturing, and respectful learning environment, which promotes persistence, responsibility and integrity-skills and attitudes that are part of our tradition and are essential in our global society.

Dear Parents and Glen Burnie High School Community Members,

Welcome back from the winter break! Warmest wishes to all for good health, happiness, and a brighter 2011.

To date, the school calendar remains unchanged. Semester one ends January 21, 2011, and all testing will proceed as scheduled. It is imperative that students focus on academics and push themselves to successfully complete course requirements. Parents should ensure that children are properly prepared for school each day and working to their potential.

A reminder that testing dates are as follows:

High School Assessment (HSA) testing continues the week of January 10-13. Students will be taking tests in biology, algebra, government, and English *if they are completing the courses in semester one or if they have not yet passed the tests to meet this state mandated graduation requirement.* All other students will keep to a regular class schedule.

Semester examinations are required for all courses, grades 9-12 and at the vocational technical centers. Consequently, semester exams are part of the academic standards for pre-technical, vocational, and college preparatory courses and are part of the reasonable standards in all other courses.

Two-hour examination grades shall count as 20% of the semester grade, with each of the marking period grades counting as 40% of the semester grade. However, students must receive passing grades in at least two of the three grades used to determine a semester grade in order to receive a passing grade for the semester. The grades used to determine a semester grade are the two grading period grades and the final examination grade in the semester.

If students do not meet the requirements for courses, principals have the authority to withhold credit for those courses. Final examinations are requirements for courses. **FAILURE TO TAKE THE SEMESTER EXAM WILL RESULT IN THE DENIAL OF CREDIT IN THE COURSE.**

Test takers are reminded to get a good night's sleep, to eat breakfast for optimal performance, and to report to school on time. **All students must be in class by 7:17 AM on each exam day.**

Second semester is set to begin on January 26, 2011, and student schedules for semester two classes will be distributed on that day. Semester one course failures will be pre-addressed by counselors based on individual credit review as grading is finalized. Coursework selection is carefully plotted, keeping in line with your child's academic focus. Schedule changes will only be considered for valid academic reasons as defined by Board of Education Policy 9-39.

To cite French poet, journalist, and novelist Anatole France, "An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't." An especially appropriate observation at this time of year.

Vickie L. Plitt
Principal

Go Gophers! 84 Years Of Pride and Excellence!

INDEX:	Page	3	GBHS Calendar
		4	January Semester Exam Schedule
		5	Senior Info, Freshman Parents, National Honor Society, Yearbooks, Dance, Early Dismissal Policy, Kudos, Program Pathways
		6	Glen Burnie High School of Business
		7	Tips on how to help your child be successful
		8, 9	Top 10 Things Parents Need to Know About the HSAs

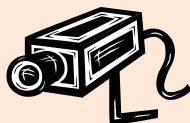
PERSONAL PROPERTY

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County is not responsible for damage to any motor vehicle parked on Board of Education property at any time. The Board does not carry insurance to cover vandalism, malicious mischief or other acts which might result in damage or loss to personal property.

The same provision applies to any personal property which might be brought into the school or work location or left overnight which subsequently may be stolen, destroyed, or vandalized.

We are not able to compensate anyone for damage or loss of personal property.

VIDEO CAMERA SYSTEM



Glen Burnie High School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at (410) 222-5083.

GBHS CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 10-13 High School Assessment Administration
- 13 Evening of Dance – 7 PM - Auditorium
- 14 Semester Exams for CAT-North
- 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemoration –
All Schools and Central Offices closed
- 18 High School Semester Exams – Periods 1-B and 2-B – 2-Hour early dismissal
- 19 High School Semester Exams – Periods 1-A and 2-A – 2-Hour early dismissal
- 20 High School Semester Exams – Periods 3-B and 4-B – 2-Hour early dismissal
- 21 High School Semester Exams – Periods 3-A and 4-A – 2-Hour early dismissal
- 21 End of 2nd marking period
- 24-25 Schools closed for students
- 26 Beginning of 3rd marking period
- 28 One Act Festival

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

- 8 Report Cards
- 21 President's Day – All Schools and Central Offices Closed

MARCH

Women's History Month

National Nutrition Month

- 1 Spring Sports Begin
- 4 Interims
- 7-11 National School Breakfast Week
- 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 31 End of 3rd Marking Period – 2-Hour early dismissal

APRIL

Autism Awareness Month

- 1 Beginning of 4th marking period
- 4-8 HSA – Senior Administration
- 10-16 National Volunteer Week
- 11-15 National Youth Week
- 15 Report Cards
- 18-25 Easter/Spring Break** – All schools closed
- 27 Administrative Professionals Day

Senior Prom will be held May 6th, 7:30 PM at the BWI Marriott

**Graduation will be Friday, June 3rd,
Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro
7:30 PM**



GLEN BURNIE HIGH SCHOOL
JANUARY, 2011 SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE

Required examinations will be given in all classes as noted

Friday	Jan. 14	Semester Exams – CAT-North
Monday	Jan. 17	Schools and Central Offices Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
Tuesday	Jan. 18	Period 1-B and Period 2-B 2-Hour Early Dismissal
Wednesday	Jan. 19	Period 1-A and Period 2-A 2-Hour Early Dismissal
Thursday	Jan. 20	Period 3-B and Period 4-B 2-Hour Early Dismissal
Friday	Jan. 21	Period 3-A and Period 4-A 2-Hour Early Dismissal

All students will be in class by 7:17 AM on each exam day.

MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS

Make-up exams will be approved only for documented personal illness or other serious situation when **approved by an administrator**.

Upon presentation of a note or pass indicating an excused absence the student may make **arrangements with their teachers** to make-up exams.

EXAM BELL SCHEDULE

7:17 -	7:25	Announcements
7:25 -	9:30	Exam
9:30 -	9:50	Break
9:55 -	11:55	Exam
11:55 -	12:05	Announcements

SENIORS:

Seniors are selling GBHS lanyards for \$3 – great as a keychain! Also, GBHS car magnets are \$5. Support GBHS Class of 2011! Contact Ms. Jasper if you are interested.

ATTENTION FRESHMAN PARENTS

There will **NOT** be Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, January 6th. Our next Open House will be Thursday, February 3rd in the Media Center from 2:10 to 3:05.

NHS

National Honor Society students continue to help their school and community with at least two hours of community service each month. They have performed such services as helping teachers, collecting canned goods, working with the Green Crew, going caroling, and participating in area toy drives.

YEARBOOKS

Orders for yearbooks will be accepted until March 31st at www.yearbooksonsale.com.

DANCE

Don't forget.....the big winter "Evening of Dance" will take place on Thursday, January 13th, at 7 pm in the auditorium. Tickets are available now for \$7 by coming to the main entrance of GBHS and asking to see Dianne Rosso. You can also call Ms. Rosso at 410-761-8950 for more information. Remember, tickets are PRE-SALE only. No tickets will be sold at the door. Don't miss the biggest dance show around!



EARLY DISMISSAL



When your student must leave school early please follow these steps to help ensure that the dismissal will be handled in an efficient manner:

- Note should be brought to the Attendance Office **before the start of the school day**. The note should state the date and time of departure and the nature of the appointment.
- The note should contain the student's full name and grade.
- There must be a **phone number** where a

parent/guardian can be contacted for verification.

- **If your student has not brought a note to the Attendance Office in the morning please expect a 15-20 minute wait.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

KUDOS TO.....

The following students have received college acceptance letters:

Erin Harvey

Brevard College, Eckerd College

Kai Lindsey

Drexel University

Lauren Raynor

Chowan University, West Virginia Wesleyan Univ.

Christina Reiss

Salisbury University

Laquandra Williams

Howard University, Morgan State University, Coppin State University

Cassandra Yates

Wesley College, McDaniel College, Lynchburg College

CONGRATULATIONS TO XAVIER ALLEN who won GB's 2010 Poetry Out Loud competition! He will move on to compete in the county competition with a chance to go to states and win scholarship money!



PROGRAM PATHWAYS OFFER GUIDELINES WHEN REGISTERING FOR NEXT-YEAR COURSES

As students prepare to register for next year's courses, check out Program Pathways at www.aacc.edu/programpathways. Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) and Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) have partnered to provide students with academic Program Pathways that present guidelines for course selection. High school students are offered the opportunity to earn AACC credit for successfully completing specific high school Program Pathways in areas including business, management and finance; engineering, mechanical and information technologies; health, environmental and life sciences; and human services. For further information, visit the Program Pathways web site at www.aacc.edu/programpathways or contact Mary Garner, mhgarner@aacc.edu -- 410-777-2891.

Glen Burnie High School of Business

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

Course Selections for next year is beginning now. Please ensure that you leave Glen Burnie High School with the skills necessary to be successful in our technological world.

Students should enroll in several of the following courses:

- ✓ **Computer Skills for Academic Success**
- ✓ **Software Applications**
- ✓ **Advanced Software Applications**
 - **PowerPoint/Word**
 - **Excel/Access**
- ✓ **Web Page Design**
- ✓ **Advanced Web Page Design**
- ✓ **Interactive Media Productions**
- ✓ **Administrative Services Management (Honors)**
- ✓ **Entrepreneurship**
- ✓ **E-Commerce and the Global Market**
- ✓ **Business Finance Using Software**
- ✓ **AP Computer Science**
- ✓ **Business Management (Honors)**
 - ✓ **Visual Basic**
- ✓ **Principles of Business A & B**
- ✓ **Computer Programming Java**
- ✓ **Career Research and Development**
- ✓ **C++ Gaming**
- ✓ **Data Design and Programming**
- ✓ **Managing your Personal Finances**
- ✓ **Marketing I**

We also have three Work Based Learning Programs. These provide students with the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to the “real world” by arranging internships and/or paid positions. The programs are: **Administrative Services Management (Honors), Computer Technology, and Career and Research Development.**

Students may earn up to **9 college credits** for completing courses in the Administrative Services Management and Computer Technology Programs.

Many of our Computer Technology students participate in an **internship program with the National Security Agency.** Students have the opportunity to take the **Microsoft Certification Tests (MCAS)** which qualifies them for college credit and Microsoft certifications. Students also have the opportunity to prepare themselves to take College Level Examinations through the CLEP program.

If you have any questions, please call Terrilyn Broderick at 410-761-8950 Extension 325 or email tbroderick@aacps.org

Attention Parents/Guardians

The following are tips on how to help your child be successful:

- Mandate that your child come to school every day (unless he/she has a fever or is vomiting).
- Ask your child questions about his/her school work. Ask to see his/her classwork and homework.
- Mandate your child to stay after school for teacher “Office Hours” from 2:05-3:00 pm every Wednesday.
- **(9th graders only)** Attend the monthly Freshman Academy conferences that are pre-scheduled for your convenience to help with your child’s success: 12/2/10, 2/3/11, 3/3/11, 4/7/11, 5/5/11 (2:10-3:05 in the Media Center)
- Algebra I, US Government, English 10, and Biology are High School Assessment (HSA) classes and high school graduation requirements. It is essential that your child pass each of these exams the first time they take the test. If your child is in danger of failing the course chances are they will not pass the HSA exam.
- Stay connected with the school by frequently reviewing Parent Connect to keep track of your child’s progress and attendance on a daily basis. If you do not have access to the web-based program, please come to the school and fill out a Parent Connect form.
- Review your child’s assignment book every day. If your child does not have one then get them a notebook which they could use solely for writing down assignments.
- Set up homework rules, such as when and where homework will be completed. Many parents insist that homework be finished immediately after school and before play/work time. If you are not home during the scheduled homework then check the homework when you get home.
- Set up a quiet place that is free from distractions for your child to do their homework. Avoid living rooms where the TV is on and/or other siblings are playing.
- Expect your child to complete homework each night and study for tests nights in advance and not just the evening before the test.





ABOUT the HSAs

1. Be informed

To graduate with a Maryland High School Diploma, students must meet all State course, service-learning, and testing (HSA) requirements as well as all local school system graduation requirements. Ask your child's school counselor about the specific high school graduation requirements and begin to develop an academic plan for your student.

2. Four Core Tests

The four HSA tests – algebra/data analysis, biology, English, and government – are based on the Core Learning Goals, which clearly outline course content and learning objectives for each content area. The content covered in HSA-related courses and on an HSA test is a basic level of knowledge that will be built on as a student continues his/her education.

4. Know the Plan

Each local school system has a plan of when HSA-related courses are typically offered to students. The school counselor can help plan a course of study for your child to graduate from high school as well as help prepare him/her for the future.

3. Know the Score

Passing scores for the four HSA content areas are:

Algebra/Data Analysis: 412

Biology: 400

English: 396

Government: 394

A student who earns a state-approved score on an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) test does not have to take the HSA in the related subject. The student will receive the passing score for the content area.

Scores are mailed to the local school system (LSS) 4 weeks after the test was taken. The LSS then sends the individual student scores to the schools. The schools are responsible for sending students' scores to the parent/guardian.

Contact your child's school if you do not receive his/her HSA scores in a timely manner.

5. Know the Options

There are a number of options to meeting the testing requirement for graduation which include:

1. Passing all four HSA tests (see #3);
2. Earning a combined score of **1602** on the four HSA tests (*The Combined-Score Option allows students to offset a lower score on one HSA test with higher score on another HSA test.*); OR
3. Using the Bridge Plan for Academic Validation (*Students who have failed an HSA twice and meet the eligibility criteria complete one or more projects in the HSA content area. The school counselor can provide more information about the Bridge Plan or go to the program website at HSAexam.org.*)

6. Take and Retake

The HSAs are given in October, January, May, and July/August. A special, seniors-only administration will be given in April.

Students can retake an HSA as many times as necessary to earn either a passing score or a score high enough to allow them to use the Combined-Score Option (see #5).

Students who do not pass one or more HSAs must be offered locally-administered or approved assistance (see #7).



Information about the HSAs and the Bridge Plan for Academic Validation can be found at HSAexam.org. For specific questions, call 1-877-472-HSAExam (3926) or 410-333-6442 (TTY) for the hearing impaired.

ABOUT the HSA S

Top 10 Things Parents Need to Know



Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
MarylandPublicSchools.org

Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr
President, State Board of Education

Martin O'Malley
Governor

September 2010

7.

Help at School

Students who do not pass one or more HSAs must be offered locally-administered or approved assistance.

Each school system has developed strategies for providing assistance, which could include sample test reviews, tutoring, or after-school or Saturday instruction. The school determines what assistance will be provided to students.

There are also a number of tools in the Resources section of HSAexam.org, including the Online HSA Course for Parents and sample HSA tests.

A student who is considering the Bridge Plan for a specific HSA test is required to participate in locally-administered or approved assistance and retake the test a second time. The student is responsible for taking advantage of the assistance to help prepare for retesting.

8.

Students with Accommodations

Students with disabilities are entitled to receive both instructional and testing accommodations as outlined in his/her IEP. If you have questions about your child's accommodations for an HSA or Mod-HSA test, or the Bridge Plan, contact your child's teacher or IEP team.

The Mod-HSA is an alternative test for students with an IEP who meet specific participation criteria. A student with an IEP who has taken and failed the HSA once may have the opportunity to take the Mod-HSA if approved by the school.

9.

Know Your Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) details the rights parents have access to their children's education records. Your child's school counselor can provide specific information about FERPA.

10.

Additional HSA Information

Information about the HSAs and the Bridge Plan for Academic Validation can be found on the Internet at HSAexam.org.

For specific answers to an HSA question, call
1-877-472-HSAExam (3926) or
410-333-6442 (TTY) for the hearing impaired.

This publication was developed and produced by the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services with funds from the IDEA Part B, Federal Grant Award # H027A090035 (CFDA 84.027A).

GLEN BURNIE HIGH SCHOOL
7550 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd.
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21060
<http://www.aacps.org/aacps/gbhs/index.html>

The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or familial status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs.

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

410-222-5000

OR

1-800-893-7080

OR

www.aacps.org