

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 20 NGC Parent Day/ Math Workshop 9-11
- Oct. 20 Report Cards Issued
- Nov. 3 3 Week Progress Report
- Nov. 9-11 Ga Student Health Survey
- Nov. 10 Senior Meeting (Invitations)
- Nov. 12 Move On When Ready/ Dual Enrollment Night @ 6 PM
- Nov. 16 Financial Aid Night @ 6 PM in Auditorium

Flu Shots

Flu shots will be given on campus on Nov 18th. If you would like for your to receive a flu shot, have your student pick up a form from the Counselors Office. The form need to be signed and returned along with a copy of an insurance card, if they have one, by Nov 6th.

JCHS Parent Volunteers!

JCHS trained its first set of parent volunteers last month. Volunteers are very important to our school and make a big difference. Our parent volunteers have signed up to serve in various capacities around the school such as assisting with hall duty, starting a mentoring program, helping with classroom projects or assisting with tutoring and remediation. We are excited about parent volunteers at the high school level. If you would to become a high school parent volunteer, please contact the school's parent coordinator. Please note that in order to maximize student and employee safety, it is school board policy to screen applicants via a criminal background check. Applicants must also complete a Child Abuse Mandated Reporting Protocol training prior to beginning any volunteer work.



ADMINISTRATORS

Mrs. Mary Frances Stewart.....Principal
 Dr. Jeremy Dockery.....Assistant Principal
 Dr. Deondray Farlar...Assistant Principal, NGC
 Dr. Dean Hintz.....Assistant Principal
 Mrs. Laura Rackley.....CTAE Director
 Mr. Neal Spence.....Assistant Principal, NGC
 Dr.. Tiffany Walker....Assistant Principal
 Ms. Bonnie Peters-Martin.....JCAA
 Director/Dropout Prevention Coordinator

COUNSELORS

Mrs. Amy Johnson.....9th Grade
 Mrs. Kahadija Baker10th Grade
 Mrs. Kimberly Pittman11th Grade
 Mrs. Jill Huckeba12th Grade

MEDIA SEICIALISTS

Mrs. Aggie Johnson.....Ninth Grade Campus
 Mrs. Beth Wills.....Main Campus

Student Support Services

Mrs. Renee Kitchens.....RTI/504/Title I Parent
 Involvement Coordinator
 Mrs. Dana Pettigrew.....Instructional Coach/
 Testing Coordinator
 Mrs. Stacey Williams.....Graduation Coach

Infinite Campus Parent Portal Access

username: LUNCH#
**Password: first initial
 of first and last name
 and 6 digit birthdate**

Main Campus
 339 Railroad Street
 Gray, Ga 31032
 (478) 986-5444
 (478) 986-1589—fax

Ninth Grade Campus
 110 Maggie Califf Street
 Gray, GA 31032
 (478) 986-3046
 (478) 986-1504—fax



Parent Connect

Jones County High School

OUR VISION

Jones County High School will empower students to reach their highest potential and become contributing members of society."

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

It is amazing that the first nine weeks is already coming to a close. It has been a great first quarter, full of successes and learning. As we look ahead to the second nine weeks, there are several parent engagement opportunities that I want to highlight:

- *9th Grade Parent Day / Math Workshop on Oct. 20th @ 9 AM*
- *School Council on Nov. 9th @ 6 PM*
- *Move On When Ready, Dual Enrollment Night on Nov. 12th @ 6 PM*
- *Financial Aid Night on Nov. 16th @ 6 PM in the Auditorium*

These are just a few of many opportunities to support your student. One of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and parents who work together for the best interest of children. We are excited about newly trained parent volunteers who will be assisting this year.

Success is not a matter of luck, but planning and organization. Parents, you can support your student during high school by checking to make sure that assignments are completed, staying in contact with teachers via email or telephone, and by ensuring that your child makes school a priority by attending school every day and arriving on time. The consistent support and encouragement of parents result in greater success for all students. We appreciate the continued support and thank you and your students for making the start of the 2015-2016 school-year a success.

Sincerely,

Mary Frances Stewart

Principal

October 16, 2015

Volume 6, Issue 2

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Principal's Message | 1 |
| The New SAT | 2 |
| What to Do if Your Child is Failing? | 3 |
| Upcoming Calendar | 4 |
| Flu Shots | 4 |
| Volunteers @ JCHS | 4 |

What's new about the New SAT? As of March 2016, the SAT is going to have a brand new format and scoring system. How will these changes affect your high school teen? Here is what parents need to know:

Old SAT vs. New SAT -

What Are the Main Differences? There are many differences between the current SAT and the new one including:

- * Less sections: two sections instead of three, with an Essay section that is optional.
- * **Scoring:** There is now no penalty for guessing and students will get points for correct answers but not be penalized for wrong answers. Both sections will still be scored 200-800 and now the maximum score will be a combined 1600.
- * **Shorter test time:** total test time of 3 hours instead of 3 hours and 45 minutes (plus 50 minutes if a student chooses to complete the option essay writing component.)
- * More reading: less arcane vocabulary and more in depth, evidence-based reading passages in the reading section.
- * Increased emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving, and data analysis.
- * More algebra in math section.

Why Were the Changes Made?

According to the College Board website, the changes were made due to feedback they received from admissions officers, school counselors, teachers and students. College Board says the goal of the redesigned test is "to support college readiness and success for more students and to make sure that those who are prepared take full advantage of the opportunities they've earned through their hard work." College Board feels that the re-designed test will "... reward productive use of classroom time and a focus on rigorous course work." One of the main changes to the test is eliminating the mandatory writing section and adding in an optional essay-writing component.

How Does the New SAT Compare to the ACT?

Some of the changes made to the SAT make it work like the ACT. Both the new SAT and the ACT have optional writing sections. The ACT does not take off points for wrong answers and neither does the new SAT.

How Will it Work For The Next Few Months?

Until March 2016, the current SAT will be available for students to take. From March 2016 on, only the new SAT will be administered. For students entering college in the Fall of 2017, colleges that require standardized testing will accept both the old and new SAT as well as the ACT.

If My Teen Has Been Studying for the Current SAT, What Should He Do?

Students that have been studying for the current SAT should take that test prior to the March 2016 change. The redesigned SAT is significantly different than the current SAT.

Which is Preferable to Colleges - the Old SAT, the New SAT or the ACT?

Every college and university accepts scores from both the SAT or ACT. The redesign of the SAT will not change this. The preferable standardized test, from a student's perspective, is the one that best showcases a student's academic strengths.

How Students Can Find Out Which Standardized Test is Best for Them

Students should take practice tests of both the ACT and the SAT to determine which test is right for them. The formats differ and most students find they are more comfortable with one over the other. The new SAT is very different from the old SAT in terms of the content and types of questions. So even if a student previously decided the SAT was the better test for them, they should reevaluate the new SAT test against the ACT to confirm this is still true.

~Taken from <https://www.teenlife.com/blogs/what-parents-teens-need-know-about-new-sat>



Excerpts from the Experts

What to Do If Your Teen has Failing Grades in High School?

Is your child failing in school? When high school students fall behind in their classes, catching up can be quite difficult. Here is some advice from some of the experts:

According to Amy Morin, Teen Expert:

Identify the Problem with Your Teen

If your teen has a failing grade or is in danger of not passing, sit down and discuss the problem. Ask your teen for help uncovering the reasons he's not passing. Sometimes students who start out strong get sidetracked while other students just aren't motivated to stay on track. Ask questions like, are the classes too hard? Is your child not doing the homework? Are low test scores the problem? Some students struggle with test anxiety or aren't sure how to study for tests. Has your child had a lot of absences? **Does he forget to write down his assignments?** Some teens try to remember all of their assignments without an assignment book. **Does he need extra help?** Many teens are afraid to ask for help because they are embarrassed or they just don't understand, even when the teacher tries to explain the concepts again.

According to James Lehman, MSW, a renowned child behavioral therapist who worked with struggling teens and children for three decades:

Ask "What" Questions, Not "Why" Questions When You Talk with Your Child

I think it's a good idea to sit down and have a talk with your child when you realize he's struggling at school. You can say, "I notice that things are going downhill and I'm wondering what's going on." Ask "what" questions, not "why" questions. "Why" questions invite your child to make excuses—to blame someone or something for his problems. "What" questions ask your child to report the facts. So it's not, "Why are you doing poorly at school?" it's, "What's going on?"

Talk to the Teachers

Although your teen may not want you to talk to the teachers, it's important to speak with them to help determine the problem. Your teen may not be aware that he's not paying attention in class or that he's missing a lot of work. Schedule a parent-teacher conference by calling your child's counselor. Ask for teachers' opinions about what your child needs to do differently to pass the class.

What Can I do as a Parent?

As a parent, you can make sure you are monitoring your child's progress through the online parent portal. If you do not have a log in, talk with the student information system data clerk at your child's school. If your child is failing, make sure your child is taking advantage of the redo policy. According to the redo policy, students may redo a maximum of 3 daily assignments and/or one test assignment per nine weeks. Of course there are some stipulations that must be followed. Once the grading period has ended its best to focus on how you can help your child be more successful during the current grading period.

A final word: Kids are resilient. If you help your child and he's able to get back on track and do the work, in all likelihood he'll bounce back at school. I believe kids have strengths that aren't easily observable unless you know how to look for them. As a parent, you need to find that resiliency, find that strength in your child, and work with it.

For further information, read :

Sinking Fast at School: How to Help Your Child Stay Afloat By James Lehman, MSW

<http://www.empoweringparents.com/Child-and-Teens-Failing-School-How-to-Help-Your-Kid-Stay-Afloat.php#ixzz3oS9NHspS>

What to Do If Your Teen has Failing Grades in High School: Strategies to Get Teens Back on Track

<http://parentingteens.about.com/od/education/fl/What-to-Do-If-Your-Teen-has-Failing-Grades-in-High-School.htm>



NEW USATESTPREP MOBILE APP

USA Test Prep is a paid resource that includes online and print resources as well as games to help students review for exams like EOC's, the ACT, and SAT.

USA Test Prep also has a new mobile feature that allows students to turn their devices into remote clickers. They love it! Check it out when you get an opportunity.

<http://www.usatestprep.com/blog/2012/01/09/weve-gone-mobile/>

