Cathy Kakavas <cathy.kakavas@bvsd.org>  
Fri, Mar 3, 2023 at 3:32 PM

To: cathy.kakavas@bvsd.org

Subject: 2023 State Testing Information

Dear Centaurus High School Families,

As you may know, our students will take the PSAT/SAT and State of Colorado's Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) Science assessment in April. I would like to take a moment to encourage everyone to have their children take the test and to thank you for your support last year. With your support, your student can help show how well our school and the school district, as a whole, is performing.

By participating in the state assessments:
Our educators will have access to valuable data about the performance of our students and apples-to-apples comparisons to students across the state
Data collected helps Boulder Valley School District determine if curriculum and instruction practices are working, helping to direct resources and professional development.
Testing helps to shed light on gaps in understanding, which we know can result from the massive disruption brought about by the pandemic and, more recently, the Marshall fire. The scores determine the designation the state gives our school. Currently we are considered a Performance school and we’d like to keep that designation moving forward, in part because receiving a lower designation may impact our school’s reputation and lead to additional review of our plans.

The better we do on our tests, the better our grades on sites like CDE’s School View, Niche, School Grades, etc. These grades are, in part, what prospective parents/guardians use to compare us with other schools in the area -- and a pride point for our school community.

Consistent with last year’s administration, our entire focus will be on supporting students as they take the test. As a result, families are asked (though not required) to arrange an excused absence from school on testing days and appropriate alternative activities of their own if their child will not be participating. Below is a specific list of the tests and which grades will be taking the tests.

Link to Testing Schedule

Again, I would like to encourage all of our students to participate in testing this year. If you have questions, I welcome the opportunity to chat with you about this important effort no later than March 5, which is the district deadline for submitting written requests to opt a student out of testing. Click here for additional information about testing, including a general schedule of these assessments in the Boulder Valley School District, including the grades affected.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ryan
Principal

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**Important Dates**

- March 14- Coffee with the Principal
- March 27-31- Spring Break - no school
- April 12- Grade 11 Testing- No School Grades 9,10 & 12
- April 13- Grade 10 & 11 Testing- No School Grades 9 & 12
What you need to know

Staff Appreciation Thank You

Thank You CHS Families!
The CHS Staff and the Staff Appreciation volunteers would like to thank all the families who contributed their time and/or donations to the recent taco grab and go dinner for the staff on Parent-Teacher conference night, as well as morning coffee and bagels after conferences the week before.

Our last appreciation event is Staff and Teacher Appreciation Week in May. We would love your help planning how to show our appreciation! Please contact Susan Ogilvie at ogilvies2016@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

2023 Regional Science Fair

Centaurus had a strong showing at the 2023 Regional Science Fair last weekend. We had 6 projects presented, and 3 of them won 1st Place for their respective categories. Here is a slideshow with their projects and results.

- Zack Wojtalik - 1st Place - Engineering
- Liam Sweeney - 1st Place - Computer Science & Mathematics
- Keegan Gomez - 1st Place - Energy & Transportation

All 3 of those students qualified to compete at the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair (CSEF) at CSU in April, and with his 4th overall placement (out of ~90 projects) Liam Sweeney is also the 1st alternate to have a spot at the International Science & Engineering Fair in Dallas, TX in May!!!

Theatre Production

Centaurus Theatre Company is putting on "City Of Angels" March 8th-11th. Shows starting at 7:00 each day, and one starting at 2:00 on the 11th. Buy tickets at bit.ly/ChsTheatreTix, or at the door!

How to report discrimination
Our school community is committed to providing a safe educational environment where all members of our community are treated with respect. As we continue to work on creating more inclusive spaces of belonging, we want to make sure our students and families know about and have access to the BVSD discrimination reporting form. The form can also be accessed under the "Help for Students" tab located at the top banner on every BVSD webpage. Completed forms are submitted directly to the District's Equity Compliance Officer who then connects with the reporting party and works to make sure appropriate next steps are taken. If you have any questions about the form or making a report, please contact Elizabeth Francis, Equity Counsel/Title IX Coordinator, Boulder Valley School District at 720.561.8091 or elizabeth.francis@bvsd.org.

Winter Percussion Event

Come cheer on your Centaurus Warriors Indoor Percussion Ensemble at the Rocky Mountain Percussion Association’s second competition of the season, right here at Centaurus on Saturday, March 4th. Winter percussion is a loud and dynamic ensemble of drums, cymbals, and other percussion instruments in a choreographed performance. You have to see it to believe it!

Tickets are $8 for adults ½ day, $12 for adults full day, $5 for students and seniors all day - 8 and under are free. Performances begin at 10:00 AM and end with two next-level ensembles, Rise and Blue Knights Percussion at 7:10 PM. Centaurus takes the floor at 5:30.

More information at rmpa.org/competitions.

NHS Blood Drive

The NHS Blood Drive will be hosted on March 7th @ Centaurus HS and is open to anyone 16 years of age or older. All students 16 & 17 years old will need a signed Parent Consent Form in BLUE or BLACK ink, No Pencil as this is a Legal document. Please see the link below for the consent form.
CENTAURUS SAFE NIGHT AFTER PROM NEEDS YOU! All parents of all High School Students...

1. This Wednesday, 3/8: CHIPOTLE 4-8 pm
   [Flyer to share with Cashier] or, order online for PICKUP ONLY using code 8629MPV
   Location: 548 West South Boulder Rd, Lafayette
   33% will be contributed!
2. April 13th: Cosmos Pizza 4-8 pm
   Location: 548 West South Boulder Rd, Lafayette

Juniors and Seniors can learn more about the after-party, tickets, and waivers [here].
Parents of ALL grades, please evaluate [volunteer opportunities]. Long-term, dedicated volunteers who will no longer have CHS students are departing once April 2023 Prom concludes! To ensure ongoing success (Best of Boulder County), having more sub-committee volunteers learning the ropes would be valuable.

Athletics/Clubs

Congratulations to our Girls and Boys Basketball Teams for qualifying for the State Tournament!
The girls team made it to the sweet 16 before losing to Windsor and the boys lost in the round of 32 to Frederick.

Advisory Update

Next week:
9th- Strengths Explorer Assessment
10th- PSAT Prep
11th-Presentation

Counseling Corner

[Spanish-Counseling Corner]
[English-Counseling Corner]

Drop In Tutoring Schedule

FREE Tutoring with a Math Teacher. Don't wait. The time is now! Monday and Tuesdays after school from 4:00 - 5:00 and Tuesday mornings 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. You can even just come and do your homework so there is someone to help if you need it. See you in the library!
FREE Tutoring with an English Teacher
Every Tuesday from 4:00-5:00 pm (time change) in the library, the English Dept will be offering help for students struggling with writing
assignments or college essay applications.

Drop in tutoring session- [sign up here]

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Celebrating Centaurus Seniors

![Centaurus Graduation 2023](image)

Messages for Class of 2023

**Graduation 2023**
Graduation will be May 20, 2023 - 4pm @ CU Events Center- More information [here]

**Prom**
Prom- April 28th, 2023 from 7pm-11pm- details to come as the date gets closer!

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Getting to know your Centaurus Team- Catherine Barnes
Hi, I am Catherine Barnes. I started in October as the Engineering Coordinator at CHS. I taught at Boulder Country Day, Design and STEM to Middle School Students, worked at Mackintosh Academy as the Field Trip Coordinator, taught at Douglass Elementary and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. I feel like I landed here at CHS. I plan field trips, organize guest speakers, run the Women in Science and Engineering Club, the Technical Student Association club, keep the engineering team up to date on budgets and keep the 3D printers and laser cutters up and running. I have a Master's in Educational Psychology UCD, a Masters of Business Administration CU and did my undergraduate at Miami University of Ohio. I worked in start ups and at Sun Microsystems (now Oracle) and also have been an engineering consultant. I grew up in Buffalo, NY. Go Bills! A fun fact is I am a dual citizen. I was born in England and immigrated to Buffalo when I was 7.

When I am not at school, you will find me on the slopes of Steamboat skiing with my family, hiking with my dog Poppy and spending time outside in nature. We have two children, Elizabeth who is 22 and lives in Dallas, TX after graduating from Indiana University and Colin who attends the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. I also enjoy knitting, needlepoint and baking sourdough bread. My husband, Chip and I enjoy being empty nesters though miss our children!
Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) would like to continue connecting with you via email. To set preferences for which types of messages are sent to your email address, activate your free InfoCenter account. If you prefer to stop receiving emails from BVSD, follow this link and confirm: Unsubscribe. Please note that if you unsubscribe, your email address will be placed on the "blocked list" for the remainder of the current school year and will no longer receive BVSD school or district emails that are distributed through our SchoolMessenger service.

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation’s leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

**District News**

**Website**

10300 South Boulder Road, Lafayette, CO 80026
Main Office: 720-561-7500 / Attendance Line: 720-561-5368

Icons used found at flaticon.com
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Cathy Kakavas