

# Moody High School

**Christopher Walters, Ph.D.**  
Principal

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Moody High School Parents and Guardians of 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Students,

The 11<sup>th</sup> grade year in high school is important in so many ways for our students. In a few short months, these students will graduate from Moody High School. It is our aim to help best prepare our students for whatever goals they have set for their future careers. One big step towards meeting these goals is that each student in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade will complete the ACT with Writing. The state of Alabama pays for every 11<sup>th</sup> grade student in the state to take this test and will offer this one-time free test opportunity here at Moody High School on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

The ACT with Writing is important for college-bound students because it is a factor for many colleges and universities in the admission process as well as for scholarship consideration. Even if a student has not achieved the GPA that they wanted in high school, a student may use their ACT score to help gain scholarship money. Another reason a student will find that the ACT is important is because some colleges use the ACT to place you in classes and avoid placement tests. For example, a good math score on the ACT could potentially help a student avoid taking a remediation math course in college that does not count toward their degree (but you still must pay to complete).

The easiest way to help improve ACT scores is through a combination of taking the test and test preparation. Teachers have been incorporating some ACT style testing and preparation in the classroom through bellringers and their tests; however, the teachers must teach the standards for a particular course according to the Alabama State Department of Education. This makes it difficult for test preparation. Knowing that Moody High School wants to help every student reach their ACT score goals and the difficulty of including test prep in the traditional classrooms, we are making every effort to offer ACT test prep to our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. This will include the following for the spring of 2025:

- Every Friday in social studies in Coach Eastham's class will be ACT Friday. A teacher in one of the subject areas (Math, English, Science, or Reading) will come to Coach Eastham's class and conduct an ACT preparation lesson designed for the ACT. For example, Dr. Hood will conduct a science preparation on Friday, January 10.
  - If you have dual enrollment history, you can still come to Coach Eastham's class during 2<sup>nd</sup> periods on Friday.
- Complete 1 mock ACT test during the school day and providing feedback on correct and incorrect answers.
  - This test will be on Friday, January 31, 2025.
  - Teachers will go over the feedback with students in the subject areas for improvements.
- Teachers will utilize a program called iXL for remediation areas in English, mathematics, and ACT prep. Every 11<sup>th</sup> grade student at MHS was purchased a license to utilize iXL, and teachers will assign specific areas for students. This will mostly be delivered as homework since it will serve as remediation areas in which our students are weakest. Students can log into iXL on their computers using the following path: Clever – iXL – Learning tab at top of screen – Test Prep Option – ACT icon.
- Encouraging students to utilize online test prep through the Alabama Career Planning System (includes both ACT and AP) and ACT Online Prep. These online prep programs can be completed through the student laptops, and they include lessons, strategies, and additional mock ACT exams that a student can complete.
  - Directions for logging into the Alabama Career Planning System website by the students can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3UITsLq>.
  - Your student has been emailed directions for accessing their ACT Online Prep account along with a Student Experience Guide and Study Plan Outline.

Please encourage your child to take advantage of these opportunities as the preparation will give them the best chance to achieve their goal score. Additionally, you can pay for your student to take the ACT on Saturday, February 8, 2025 (\$68-88 and not at MHS), and they have late registration until January 20, 2025. You can register here: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Walters'.

Christopher Walters, Ph.D.  
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