

OTHS ASSESSMENT NEWS

February 2026

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requires all students in grades 9, 10, and 11 to participate in specific assessments as part of the state's accountability testing for public school students. Your partnership in supporting this process is greatly appreciated.

This newsletter highlights key testing dates in March and April—please mark your calendars and plan accordingly. Additional details for each assessment will be shared as testing dates approach.

KEY TEST DATES



Wednesday, March 25
Wednesday, April 15



Milburn Campus

- ◆ Wednesday, March 25 — **PreACT 9**; students dismissed at conclusion of testing.
- ◆ Wednesday, April 15 — Shortened schedule; dismissal at 11:30 am (buses run at 11:30 am).

Smiley Campus | South Campus

- ◆ Wednesday, March 25 — Shortened schedule; dismissal at 12:00 pm (buses run at 12:00 pm)
- ◆ Wednesday, April 15 — **PreACT Secure (Grade 10) & ACT with Writing (Grade 11)**; students dismissed at conclusion of testing. **Seniors do not report.**

Grade 11: ACT with Writing (*graduation requirement*)

Grade 10: PreACT Secure (*practice ACT*)

Grade 9: PreACT 9 (*practice ACT*)

Note: Students do not need to register independently for these tests. All registration will be handled by OTHS.

ACT with Writing: Scores will be reportable to colleges and universities. More detailed information about this assessment will be shared with junior students.

✦ **Wednesday, April 15** – Seniors do not report to school.

Testing Coordinator

[Tiffany Lugas](#)

Assessment Coordinator



Testing Accommodations

[Tiffany Schneider](#)

Director of Special Services

TEST DISMISSAL TIMES AND BUS SCHEDULES

On testing days, dismissal procedures will differ slightly by campus. The times listed below are approximate, and delays may occur due to unforeseen circumstances on test day. All testing schedules are administered in accordance with ACT and ISBE testing guidelines.

Milburn Campus: Wednesday, March 25 – PreACT 9

Testing Group	Estimated Test Conclusion	Bus Schedule
Standard Time Rooms	~10:35 am	First bus run at ~10:35 am
Extended Time Rooms	~10:35 –11:55 am	Second bus run by ~11:55 am

Dismissal:

- Students will be dismissed once all standard-time rooms have completed testing.
- Students who receive extended-time testing accommodations may finish later than standard testing rooms, which can result in a later dismissal and bus return time.

Smiley & South Campuses: Wednesday, March 25

Shortened schedule (no testing). Dismissal at 12:00 pm. Buses will run at 12:00 pm.

Smiley & South Campuses: Wednesday, April 15

PreACT Secure – Grade 10 | ACT with Writing – Grade 11 | **Seniors do not report to school.**

Testing Group	Estimated Test Conclusion	Bus Schedule
Sophomores – Standard Time	~11:05 am	Bus run by ~12:25 pm
Juniors – Standard Time	~12:05 pm	Bus run by ~12:25 pm
Sophomores – Extended Time Rooms	~11:05 am – 12:25 pm	Bus run by ~12:25 pm
Juniors – Extended Time Rooms	~12:05 pm – 2:30 pm	Second bus run by ~2:30 pm

Dismissal:

- Students will be dismissed as testing concludes in their assigned testing room.
- Students who walk or have a ride may leave campus; bus riders will wait in a designated area.
- Students who receive extended-time testing accommodations may finish later than standard testing rooms, which can result in a later dismissal and bus return time.

Milburn Campus: Wednesday, April 15

Shortened schedule (no testing). Dismissal at 11:30 am. Buses will run at 11:30 am.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Attendance is required on testing days.** Students must arrive on time for testing. Late students will not be permitted to enter the testing room once testing has begun.
- **Food service:** Breakfast will be available on all test days. Lunch will not be served on March 25 or April 15. On April 15, a light nutritional lunch will be provided to students in extended-time testing rooms who continue testing beyond 1:00 pm.
- **Transportation:** Milburn Activity buses will not run on testing days (March 25 and April 15).
- **Athletics & activities:** Practices and activities on testing days will be determined by individual coaches or advisors and will occur after 3:00 pm.
- **Testing devices:** All exams will be administered digitally on school-managed devices. Students with a school-issued Chromebook may be required to use their device for testing. Students who are not required to bring a Chromebook will be assigned to a testing room where a device will be provided.
- **Absences:** Students who are absent on a scheduled testing day will be assigned a make-up test.