

BLACKHAWK BULLETIN

Fort Atkinson High School



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January, 2021

From the Principal...2021-2022 COURSE SELECTION BEGINS!

In late January, you will receive more specific information regarding the 2021-2022 course selection event and how it will more than likely be different this year compared with previous years. However, one thing remains the same, careful and focused course selection is extremely important. Staffing decisions will be made based upon the information gathered during the course selection process. Furthermore, the 2021-2022 course schedule will be built to accommodate the tally of student requests. The Course Selection Program is most beneficial in allowing us to gather accurate information and significantly reduces schedule changes and related loss of instructional time. Too many students believe their schedules can be easily changed in August right before school begins. A flood of schedule changes in August causes students and the entire school significant problems. Class enrollments often max out or drop significantly due to these changes, limiting student access. Additionally, the amount of instructional time lost and/or disruption to the class affects the student and the entire class adversely. Due to the course selection programs and the process used, we have been able to significantly reduce the number of conflicts and schedule changes. This process will allow us to possibly provide students with their 2021-2022 class schedules in June. Please take time to review the on-line Program of Studies and plan now to attend one of the two Course Selections Programs on Thursday, February 4th or Monday, February 8th. Specific times will be shared later. Thanks for your assistance with this highly important process!

COURSE SELECTION PROGRAM

Fort Atkinson High School is planning to hold its Course Selection Program on Thursday, February 4th, from 2:00-4:00 pm and on Monday, February 8th, from 4:00-7:30 pm p.m. in the gymnasium and commons. **It is essential that students and their parents attend one of the scheduled Course Selection Programs.**

On Feb. 4th and 8th school counselors will be available for assistance. One of the counselors will be located in the commons where tables will be set up for you to discuss choices with your son or daughter. **Freshman parents and students are required to attend a presentation, "Freshman Course Selection," prior to going to the gymnasium to finalize their course selections.** This presentation will occur in the auditorium at set times which will be communicated in a letter that you receive. Following the presentation, students and parents will select their courses for the following year through consultation with teachers available from each department. Teacher signatures are required for department selections and for each course that has a pre-requisite course requirement. **Parent/guardian signatures are required to complete the registration process.**

A letter with all of the details regarding the Course Selection Event will be mailed home to each student. The Program of Studies book will be posted on the high school website. If you need a printed copy or cannot attend one of the two days for course selection please contact Mrs. Gilson, Pupil Services Support Staff, at 920-563-7811 Ext. 1143.

*** Please note that there is the possibility that this year's Course Selection process may need to be conducted in a virtual format. If that is the case we will communicate in advance as to how this will occur.**

DATES FROM PUPIL SERVICES

January 8 Local Independent Scholarship Applications due at 3:30pm
Feb. ACT Registration Deadline
January 15 Records Day – No School for Students
February 1 Deadline –Combined/Online Scholarships 10:00 p.m.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Independent Local Scholarship applications are due by 3:30pm pm to Pupil Services on **Friday, January 8th** unless an alternative date is stated in the specific scholarship's details. If students need hardcopies of applications from the Pupil Services Office, they can email their counselor to add those applications to their Material Pick-Up bag.

Local Online Combined Scholarship applications are due by 10:00 pm on **Monday, February 1st**.

OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION WINDOW IS FEBRUARY 1st TO APRIL 30th, 2021

Open Enrollment Application Window is February 1-April 30 before 4 p.m.: We want to make sure families are aware of the open enrollment window. For families now living in our District who may be considering moving out of our District but wish for their children to remain in the Fort Schools or for parents from other districts wanting to enroll their students in our District, you may apply on line at dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment/applications from February 1 to April 30. We also have paper applications available at the District Office. Please contact the Superintendent's assistant, Lisa Haas, at 563-7807 for information on open enrollment. The process is very simple and painless; it is just a matter of doing it within the timeline noted above. Any applications coming in after the deadline cannot be accepted per the open enrollment laws. So please mark your calendars and let us help you if you need our assistance.

ACT/SAT 2021 Test Dates

National Test Date		Regular Deadline	Late Deadline
2/06/21	ACT	1/08/21	1/15/21
4/17/21	ACT	3/12/21	3/26/21
6/12/21	ACT	5/07/21	5/21/21
7/17/21	ACT	6/18/21	6/25/21
3/13/21	SAT	2/12/21	3/02/21
5/08/21	SAT	4/08/21	4/27/21
6/05/21	SAT	5/06/21	5/26/21

FANS MEETING

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 9:30am, virtual/in-person details coming soon. Everyone 's welcome to join the meeting!

SEMESTER EXAMS

As exams are fast approaching, we wanted to communicate a few changes with you regarding how exams will take place this semester. We will continue to run our daily A/B daily schedule with enrichment time and some teachers will be scheduling semester exams during the last week of the semester. If a student has three or more exams in a day they will have the ability to reschedule one or more of those exams through their associate principal to another day. Teachers and administrators have collaborated on this process in order to keep consistency, allow teachers to best utilize the class time, and keep the ability for students to connect with teachers during enrichment time in order to get the additional help that they may need before they take their exam. As not all classes will be giving semester exams, students will be expected to be in all of their scheduled classes through the end of the semester.

ACT TESTING

As one of the most influential people in your child's life, you have the opportunity to help him or her understand the importance of preparing for life after high school. Assessing students' academic strengths and areas of need at this time allows them to make timely coursework adjustments to get, or stay, on target for their educational and career goals. While graduation day may seem to be far in the future, now is a critical time to make sure your child is prepared to take that next step after graduation, whether that means starting college, joining the military or starting a career.

We are committed to college and career readiness for all students and are using the ACT assessment to help us. The ACT program helps 11th graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts' high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for their remaining time in high school and beyond.

Fort Atkinson High School will be administering the battery of ACT tests to all Juniors free of charge on Tuesday, March 9th 2021 as required by state mandate. The schedule and more specifics the test day will be provided to your student in an Enrichment Time for what to expect during the day of testing. Students in need of accommodations for testing via special education or 504 plan services, will be contacted about their individual student needs and testing window.

The ACT is one of the best indicators of readiness for life beyond high school. Visit www.act.org for more information. Together we will prepare your student to be ready for their futures.

IMPORTANT AP INFORMATION

If your student is in an AP class, please plan ahead for AP testing. AP exams are given during school hours at various locations (TBD) in Fort Atkinson. The schedule is as follows:

Week 1

- 5/4/21—8am: Calculus AB / BC
- 5/5/21—8am: English Literature and Composition
- 5/6/21—8am: United States History
- 5/6/21—12pm: Art History
- 5/6/21—12pm: Computer Science A
- 5/7/21—8am: Chemistry

Week 2

- 5/11/21—8am: Spanish Language and Culture
- 5/11/21—12pm: Psychology
- 5/12/21—12pm: Microeconomics
- 5/13/21—12pm: Statistics
- 5/14/21—8am: Biology

Additional Information

- Please do not plan family vacations, college visits, etc. during this time. AP charges an additional fee of \$40 for an alternative exam date. (If your child is ill on the exam date, please provide documentation from your physician so that you do not get charged the additional fee by AP.)

WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!

The Fort Atkinson School District is in need of your help, if you've checked out a mobile hotspot from the district and no longer need it, please return it so we can get them in the hands of other families in need. Please drop the hot spot off at the high school library as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

- 1/4 Staff only – Student return Tuesday, January 5th - In-person
- 1/5 Classes Resume/Students return in-person (*A Day, Cohort 1: (A-K)*)
- 1/8 Local Independent Scholarship Application Due 4pm
Feb. ACT Registration Deadline
- 1/11 Early Release 1:30pm Students/Teacher Professional Development
HS VOICES Meeting 6:30pm Virtual
Band Meeting 6:30pm Virtual
- 1/12 Rescheduled Picture Retake Day 8:00-1:30pm Auditorium
- 1/14 End of Quarter 2/Semester 1
- 1/15 No School For Students, Teacher Records Day
- 1/18 3rd Quarter Begins/Grades Due 8:00am
Early Release 1:30pm Students, Teacher Professional Development
- 1/19 Orchestra Booster Meeting 6:00pm Virtual
- 1/21 Board of Education Meeting 6:00pm Luther
- 1/25 Early Release 1:30pm Students/Teacher Professional Development
- 1/26 FANS Meeting 9:30am Virtual
- 2/1 Local Online Combined Scholarship Application Due 10pm

LOOKING AHEAD...

- 2/1 Combined Online Scholarship Applications Deadline, 10:00 pm
- 2/4 HS Course Selection for 2021-21 school year
- 2/6 ACT National Test Date
- 2/8 HS Course Selection for 2021-22 school year
Voices Post Meeting, 6:30 pm, Virtual
- 2/15 Early Release 1:30pm Students/Teacher Professional Development
- 2/18 Board of Education Meeting, Luther, 6:30 pm