

Independent School District No. 51 FOLEY HIGH SCHOOL

"Developing the Full Potential of the Individual"

Joel Foss, Principal

January 22, 2024

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians of the Class of 2025,

All students in the class of 2025 are being offered the opportunity to take a College and Career Readiness assessment prior to graduation. Foley Public Schools has selected the ACT Test, from ACT Incorporated as that assessment.

The ACT test is a timed assessment that measures student achievement across four different academic areas: English, Math, Reading and Science. In addition to being a measure of academic progress, students use ACT scores as part of the college admission process. Students will be able to use the score obtained on the upcoming ACT test while applying to technical, community and/or 4 year colleges. In addition, these scores will give Foley Public Schools data that can be used to assess curriculum and instruction with the intention of continuing to improve student learning. Some institutions have stopped requiring the ACT for the admissions process. However, most still utilize the ACT for scholarships and we believe that the ACT is still a very valuable assessment that is well-worth the time invested to take it.

Foley Public Schools will pay the cost of this ACT test for all students in the 11th grade if taken on March 12, 2024. A makeup date is scheduled for March 19th, 2024 for those who are unable to take it on March 12th. The students who are on the Costa Rica trip are scheduled to take the exam on the makeup date. Foley High School is managing all student registration for the March 12th & 19th test dates. Students may benefit from taking the test more than once as colleges are interested in only the best score obtained by a student. The ACT is regularly offered seven other times throughout the year on a Saturday and many students will choose to take the test on one of those days in addition to the March 12th test. To take the test independently on a Saturday, students can expect to pay between \$68.00 and \$93.00. The next Saturday test which will be held in Sartell (closest in proximity to Foley) is scheduled for April 13th and registration is needed online at www.actstudent.org prior to March 8th. Additional opportunities to take this test on Saturdays at other facilities are at the above link as well. Again, please note that there is no necessary registration outside of school for the exam administered by Foley School District, but individual student sign-up is required for any other time.

The ACT test on March 12th is highly recommended as it is a great opportunity for students to take the test, at least once, with no cost or sacrifice of a weekend day. As stated earlier, any student who is considering applying to college will be able to use their ACT score as part of the admission process and is highly encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity. This opportunity is, however, ultimately a









Independent School District No. 51 FOLEY HIGH SCHOOL

"Developing the Full Potential of the Individual"

Joel Foss, Principal

choice for the student and family. There are a number of preparation opportunities and activities that can be used prior to taking the ACT:

- 1. ACT Incorporated has provided additional resources for students, including the <u>Preparing for the ACT Test</u>. In addition to the information contained in this packet, there is a practice test starting on page 11. The timing of the ACT test is often a challenge for students. The more opportunities a student utilizes to take practice tests and get a feel for the time allotments, the better opportunity the student will have for time limits to be less a factor on test day.
- 2. ACT Incorporated also offers an online practice test. Taking the online test will allow for students to know what they missed and what they didn't with a score report and allows them access to related resources to improve their skills. Please see the <u>MyACT quick start guide</u> for more instructions on how to use this option. Students will be creating their MyACT account during Flex on Thursday, February 22nd. However, students are encouraged to create their account prior to this date. Students can follow these <u>step-by-step instructions</u> (pages 1-6) on how to create your account.
- Students can utilize free online ACT prep courses and events through <u>Kaplan ACT Prep</u>.
 Kaplan ACT prep offers a variety of different options for preparing for the ACT including a half length practice test, ACT pop quizzes and questions of the day, and free ACT prep and college and career readiness classes.
- 4. Also available to students is an ACT Prep course offered through Edgenuity, which is an online learning program that Foley High School has access to. Students who are interested in this free opportunity need to sign up in the Guidance Office.

Because the vast majority of our students will benefit greatly from taking the ACT, there is no further action needed for students planning to take the test on March 12th or 19th. We will plan for all students to take the test unless a student and parent inform us otherwise. Any student who chooses to **not** take the ACT must return the form below to notify Foley High School by Thursday, February 29th. Questions regarding this process can be directed to the Guidance Counseling Office, reached at (320) 968-8416 or kbrenny@apps.isd51.org

Sincerely,

Joel Foss Principal

Jul Fors

Dave Dahlstrom Counselor Barb McIntire Counselor

Joe Mellgren

District Assessment Coordinator



Independent School District No. 51 FOLEY HIGH SCHOOL

"Developing the Full Potential of the Individual"

Joel Foss, Principal

Return this page to the FHS Counseling Office by February 29th, 2024 if not taking the ACT.

My student will <u>not</u> be taking the ACT test at Fole School on March 12th, 2024. We have discussed the opportunity and understand that this i opportunity to take a free ACT paid for by Foley Public Schools.		will not be taking the ACT test at Foley High be opportunity and understand that this is an	
		•	
Student Signatur	re	Date	

*You may also reply to this email or call to notify the Guidance Office that your student will not be taking the ACT on March 12th.

