

Cougar Chronicle

"The School That Makes Education Happen"

WELCOME BACK!

A LETTER FROM MR. GREER



September 2007

CALENDAR ITEMS

ASVAB Testing	9-11
Parent/Teacher Conferences	10-18
No School	9-21
First grading period ends	10-9
Fall Break No School	10-22—10-26
AIMS Retest	
Writing	10-30
Reading	10-31
Math	11-1
Veterans Day (No School)	11-9
1/2 Day Schedule	11-21
Thanksgiving Break	11-22 11-23

August 2007

Dear Cougar Educational Community:

As we approach another "grand opening" of school for 2007 – 2008, we are focusing on our sustained effort to move our school forward from "good to great". It is our mission to prepare students for success in future academic, social, and business endeavors by providing an atmosphere that supports the cooperation of teachers, students, and parents in a variety of learning activities. Our goal of greatness will be realized when all of our students reach their full potential academically, socially, and vocationally. Our preliminary data on student achievement and performance, while not final-

ized, suggests that we are continually improving as indicated on Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) and other data related to learning. This success is only one example of the numerous academic and co-curricular programs occurring in our school. The most important factor in our overall success as a school community comes from the outstanding cooperation and cohesive efforts of students, parents, faculty, support staff, and alumni. As always, we hope you will get involved with booster clubs, district goal teams, Site Council, and many other efforts designed to support our school community programs. In an effort to share important information relative to school opening dates, and registration information, athletic The

schedules, and other important events, please read the contents of this letter very carefully.

As we progress through the opening day of school, please be reminded that we expect students to be on time for school and to dress appropriately while at school. Some reminders are as follows:

Regular school hours are 8:05 A.M. – 2:45 P.M. except on Late Start Wednesdays when our school hours are from 9:05 A.M. -2:45 P.M. This policy also applies during detention periods before, after, and during regular school hours.

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FROM THE NURSES OFFICE

Rabies Alert: From the Arizona Department of Health Services:

We need your help in educating youngsters to stay away from bats and other wild animals. Every year many people in Arizona have to receive

rabies prophylaxis after handling bats. The majority of these potential rabies exposures involve children who pick-up and play with grounded bats. Many bat exposures incidents have occurred on school grounds or



during school field trips. Since a significant number of bat exposures have involved school children,

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TESTING DATES AND INFORMATION

FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

TEST INFORMATION FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

College Board Exams (SAT Reasoning Test & ACT) are required by most colleges and universities as part of meeting admission requirements. Most universities accept either test. These exams should first be taken at the end of the junior year. Registration deadline for each test is five weeks prior to the test date. Registration dates are posted in the Guidance Office but can be obtained on their web site. FREE testing practice is available at the Casa Grande City Library and online. Ask your counselor for information.

COLLEGE DAY SPONSORED BY ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL RELATIONS COUNCIL

Seniors are invited to attend College Day at CAC on Wednesday, October 17th. Students will be transported to CAC to meet with representative of numerous colleges. The presentation will be from 9:45-11:00am. Students must be passing ALL classes in order to attend. Ms. Boremi will be visiting with classes in September with more information, flyers, and permission slips.

ACT and SAT tests are offered three to four times a year at CGUHS. Check with your counselor or on the exam posters for this information. You may also take the exams at other sites during the year. Fee waivers are available if the cost of these tests will cause a hardship.

SAT - Standardized Aptitude Test is now known as the SAT Reasoning Test. This test consists of 3 areas- Critical Reading, Mathematics, and a Writing Test. The fee for this test is \$43.00. Registration materials are available in the Guidance Office or registration can be conducted online at: www.collegeboard.com. This web site also offers a FREE practice test and a daily practice question.

ACT - American College Test. The test is divided into four subject areas; English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning. There is an optional writing test available for those students wishing to showcase their writing skills.

The fee for the basic test is \$30.00 and an additional \$14.50 for those who wish to take the writing exam. Registration materials are available in the Guidance Office or

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AIMS SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Beginning with students graduating in **2009**, only AIMS High School results from a student's sophomore and junior year will be considered when determining eligibility for the High Honors Tuition Waiver to AZ State Universities.

This means that students will need to "Exceed" on AIMS during their sophomore or junior year to qualify for the tuition waiver.



FROM THE ATHLETICS OFFICE

This year we are changing the process for student athletic eligibility. It is felt that this will help the teachers and student athletes stay in tune with their academic progress. The changes are listed below and we wish to thank the teachers for their cooperation.

Grades & Eligibility Timelines

1. The Coaches are to submit their rosters to the Athletic Secretary by **Wednesday** afternoon every week during their season.
2. The Athletic Secretary will send out an email to all teachers listing the athletes in alpha order by **Thursday** morning.
3. The Teachers must contact the Athletic Secretary with their list of failing athletes by **Friday morning**.
4. The Secretary will email everyone the failing list by **Friday noon**.
5. The failing athletes will be ineligible beginning on Monday morning. They will remain ineligible until the teacher notifies the Secretary when the student is no longer failing their class.
6. Once the student is passing, they must obtain an "Eligibility Clearance" from the Athletic Office and take that form to their coach.

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Athletic Director
Ext. 3350
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FROM THE MATH DEPARTMENT

Math On-Line Testing (Practice Makes Perfect)

Students can get a glimpse of the problems and practice taking the exam by logging on to www.quizplace.com. Sample tests similar to those they will be taking in their math classes are available through the internet. Each course has its own web id (Web ID: 6483 for Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 exams, 6484 for Geometry 1 and Geometry 2 exams, 6485 for Algebra 3 and Algebra 4 exams, and 6486 for Algebra 5 and Trigonometry exams). Students use the same word for item for their web login and password, the word student followed by a number 1 to 15 with no space between the word and number (e.g. *student1*, *student2*, or *student3*, or ...*student 15* (web login & password match). On the next screen, click the *Test* box in the upper right corner of the screen. Click on the arrows to the left of the name of the exam that you wish to practice and select *Continue* on the next screen. The program will grade the multiple choice questions, but not those that require you to type the answer. If you wish to come back to a question, you may select *Flag?* to mark the question. After answering all questions, select *Score Board*. The screen then displays which questions have been answered, unanswered and flagged. Select *Score* to display the find the percentage you answered correctly. You must select *Yes* on the next screen before viewing your score. On this screen, you can select to *Review Incorrect* or *Review All* or redo the exam (*Menu*). Practice tests may be taken multiple times with each attempt having the questions modified and order changed.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONT.

The use of any type of unauthorized electronic or mechanical device including cell phones is prohibited during regular school hours and may not be used for any reason during the school day. This shall include, but not be limited to, pagers, cellular telephones, walkman radios, MP3 players, laser pointers, etc... or the representation thereof. These items will be confiscated by the school administration and returned to a parent or legal guardian.

Students will be assigned detention or other disciplinary consequences for tardiness to class and school.

Failure to serve detention will result in additional disciplinary consequences.

Tank tops, low cut or form-fitting clothing, bare midriffs, and T-shirts with inappropriate messages, language, or advertisements are not permitted. Students are expected to wear their pants at the level of their waist and are prohibited from wearing clothes that reveal undergarments.

Hats, bandanas, headscarves, and other accessories (for boys and girls) may not be worn in the school. Flip-flops are discouraged. Blue, brown, or red shoelaces may not be worn at any time.

The school staff shall make decisions regarding the appropriateness of clothing, footwear, and accessories.

The school staff will make decisions regarding the appropriateness of public displays of affection. Excessive or inappropriate public displays of affection, including kissing, may result in disciplinary consequences.

In closing, I look forward to working with you for a successful 2007-2008 school year.

If there are any urgent concerns, please do not hesitate to contact
at :

kgreer@cguhs.org or (520) 316-3341.

Professionally,

Keith D. Greer
Principal
Casa Grande Union High School
"The School That Makes Education Happen"



LETTER FROM THE NURSE CONT.

we are asking for your help in educating students to leave bats, and other wild animals, alone. If you or someone else touches a bat, or gets bitten by an animal, be sure to tell your teacher, school nurse or principal right away!

Rabies is a viral disease that attacks the central nervous system of its victims and is always fatal once symptoms appear. Rabies can be prevented in persons who have come into contact with or have been bitten by a wild animal through prompt treatment with anti-rabies and rabies immune globulin.

If a grounded bat (live or dead) is found on school ground, we recommend the following steps be taken:

1. Immediately take steps to keep people away from the animal.
2. Find out from "witnesses" if anyone touched the bat in any way. If there is human contact that animal should be tested for rabies at the State Health Laboratory.
3. If possible, contain/capture the bat, but avoid any physical contact.
4. Notify your local animal control office or county health department. They can make arrangements to pick-up the animal and submit it to the laboratory.

TESTING CONT.

registration can be conducted on line at: www.act.org.

Remember that the AIMS Fall Re-tests (Oct 30, 31, & Nov 1) are ONLY for juniors and seniors who failed any of the AIMS tests last spring, or want to attempt to go from "Meets" to "Exceeds". Sophomores, (cohort class of 2010) do NOT test until Spring 2008.

Other tests offered or required at CGHS:

AIMS –The Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards. Curriculum and instruction at CGHS are in place to prepare students to pass the AIMS test. Beginning in 2006 the Arizona Department of Education required all high school graduates to pass the AIMS Test.

ASVAB - (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is in the fall for both juniors and seniors. Taking this test does NOT require any commitment to the military. The ASVAB is a career guidance instrument that measures both the student's work interests and aptitude for career occupations. Testing is Tuesday, September 11, 2007.

PSAT -(Preliminary SAT Test) The Guidance Department recommends that college-bound 10th and 11th grade students take the PSAT Test. The top scoring one half of one percent of the 11th grade student taking the PSAT can qualify for National Merit Scholarships. Eleventh grade African American students may request entry to the 2007 National Achievement Program (over 700 Achievement Scholarship awards) when they take the PSAT. Also high scoring 11th grade Hispanic students will be included in a national Hispanic recognition program which can lead to scholarship opportunities.

Not only is the PSAT good practice for the SAT, but it is also used as a determining factor for AP potential and can be used to compare a student's academic skills with other college-bound students. Students can voluntarily place their name in a pool of those interested in receiving admission and financial aid information from colleges and universities. The cost to take the PSAT is \$13.00 per student; however, arrangements can be made in the Guidance Office if money is an issue. The PSAT Test is offered at CGUHS October 17, 2007. The last day to purchase a test is October 16, 2007 or until they are sold out, whichever comes first.

PLAN -The Guidance Department recommends that college-bound 10th graders take the PLAN Test (Pre-ACT). The PLAN is good preparation for the ACT Assessment Test, which is used for college admissions. The PLAN also provides information for educational and career planning. Each participating student receives a report that identifies academic strengths and weaknesses, and helps students explore career interests. The cost to take the test is \$9.40 per student; however, arrangements can be made in the Guidance Office if money is an issue. The PLAN Test is offered at CGUHS November 15, 2007. The last day to purchase a test is November 14, 2007 or until they are sold out, whichever comes first.



*“The School That Makes
Education Happen”*

Casa Grande Union High School
2730 N. Trekell Road
Casa Grande, Arizona 85222

To the Guardian(s) of:



VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

ALL FUTURE NEWSLETTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PARENTS IN THE FORM OF E-MAIL OR VIEWED ON-LINE AT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE OFFICE HAS A CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

We are very proud of our Learning Center at Casa Grande Union High School. The Learning Center is open before and after school to provide homework support and computer access to our students. The Learning Center is located inside the CGUHS Library. Students coming to the Learning Center to study before and after school must wear their school ID and follow all school rules. There are both adult and student tutors available (before and after school) to assist students as needed with their homework. The Learning Center hours are as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	7:30 -8:00	7:30 -8:00	7:30 -9:00	7:30 -8:00	7:30 -8:00
Afternoon	3:00 – 5:30	3:00 – 5:30	3:00 – 5:30	3:00 – 5:30	3:00 – 5:30

**The late bus leaves CGUHS at 5:45 PM Monday through Friday and is available to students using the Learning Center after school.

