

# FEBRUARY 2011 – NEWSLETTER KALKASKA HIGH SCHOOL



## *A Note From Our Principal, Dale Kasza....*

The marking period ends on March 18<sup>th</sup> with Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> (12:30 – 4pm and 5-8pm), and spring break begins at the close of school (11:25 am) on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

All juniors in the state of Michigan will be taking the **Michigan Merit Exam**. The ACT will be the major portion of the test along with the ACT WorkKeys and additional tests in math, science and social studies. On Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, the test will last from 8am – 1pm. Juniors will be released from school at 1:00 p.m. Testing on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be approximately three hours and students will continue with their usual schedule.

While our juniors are testing on March 1<sup>st</sup>, KHS freshmen and sophomores will also be testing. Our 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the **ACT EXPLORE**, and sophomores will be taking the **ACT PLAN** test. Both tests measure academic achievement in English, Math, Reading and Science, and predict future success on the ACT. The tests take approximately three hours and students will continue with their normal schedule. Seniors who are not MME testing will not be required to attend school on this date.

Each year we are also required at this time to notify parents of post-secondary options to all students enrolled in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or higher. A letter to students and parents is included in this newsletter outlining the Postsecondary Enrollment Act which is commonly referred to as dual enrollment.

Seniors and senior parents – **graduation** is in sight. We ask all parents to review their student's report card and make sure they are in line to graduate. KHS counselors Nadine Holzbauer and Jeremy Guggemos are available to answer any questions. Please feel free to call the high school office (258-9167) or email them at [nholzbauer@kpschools.com](mailto:nholzbauer@kpschools.com) or [jguggemos@kpschools.com](mailto:jguggemos@kpschools.com).

Parents please take advantage of **PowerSchool** and keep track of your student's attendance and grades. We have had over 20,000 log-ins to date. If you have any questions regarding PowerSchool or log-in information, contact the office.

During the month of March we hope to reach out to our community for feedback on our school through surveys. Each year Mr. Kasza interviews seniors before they graduate. This year though we are interested in feedback on our "school climate", from all students, staff, parents, and community members. Surveys will be posted on the Kalkaska Public Schools website.

The KHS Seeds group and the Village of Kalkaska are also looking for feedback from students for after school programs and community issues.

If for any reason you do not want your student to participate in these surveys, please contact the high school office.

We look forward to a great second semester at KHS.



Kalkaska Public Schools  
PO Box 580  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

### **You can log on to:**

**[www.kpschools.com](http://www.kpschools.com)**

Check out the high school calendar, find out dates and times for athletic events, and get handbooks and bus routes.

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**Dale Kasza**, Principal  
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**John Sattler**, Dean of Students  
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**Jeremy Guggemos**  
Counselor, L - Z  
[jguggemos@kpschools.com](mailto:jguggemos@kpschools.com)

## ATTENTION SENIORS AND SENIOR PARENTS!

On graduation night, the Senior Parents Association puts on an "All Night Party" to help our seniors celebrate this special time in their life. At 9:00 p.m. the doors are locked and the party begins with games, food and prizes galore. Students must stay throughout the entire night to be eligible for many great prizes, including a car donated by Bill Marsh! The fun continues until the doors reopen at 5:00 a.m.

Don't miss out on the fun . . . you must register in order to attend! The registration fee is \$30.00 and is due no later than April 29, 2011.

Pay at the High School Office or send payment to the KSPA Treasurer at the address below. Checks should be made payable to "Kalkaska Senior Parents Association"...be sure to include the students name with your payment.

Kalkaska Senior Parents Association  
Attn: Lisa Hartzell  
931 Hartzell Lane  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the High School Office at 258-9167.

## Senior Stuff...

The *Senior Parents Association* usually meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the high school library.

Volunteer parents are still needed during the early planning stages of the party. Some of the committees needing help will be: fundraising, decorating, entertainment food, etc. Parents will also be needed the day of the party to help set up, clean up afterwards and as chaperones. For more information, you may call the high school.

## YEARBOOKS!

It's not too late to order a yearbook. The cost is \$60 and can be ordered through Mrs. Lugiewicz before school or by email [glugiewicz@kpschools.com](mailto:glugiewicz@kpschools.com)

Yearbooks are a priceless memory for you and your child. Please do not pass up on this opportunity!

**Seniors** – If you have not turned in your photos and your photographer's release form for the Senior Hallway Composite, you need to do so IMMEDIATELY! As of March 1<sup>st</sup> I will no longer be able to accept any photos, and if I haven't received one from you, I will be using your school photo taken by Lifetouch. Please be advised if you did not use Lifetouch or Prestige for your Senior pictures then an \$8.00 charge is due for the hallway composite. If the \$8.00 fee is left unpaid, it will be applied to your senior bill. You will not be given your diploma until your Senior bill is paid in full.

Senior Slideshow photos are also due. Please turn in up to four photos, preferably four different stages of your lifetime. These photos can be turned into the office or directly to Mr. Vanalstine.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the High School Office.

Mary Deb Rabourn

*Students Today Leaders Tomorrow*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Effective April 1, 1996, Public Act 160 created the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, commonly referred to as dual enrollment. This law directs school districts to assist students in paying tuition and fees for courses at Michigan public or private colleges or universities, if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Students are in grade 11 or grade 12.
2. Students can qualify for dual enrollment by taking one of the following assessments: PSAT, ACTPLAN, ACT, or MME. The following table shows the complete list of scores that qualify students for dual enrollment:

Assessment	Test Section	Content Area	Minimum Dual Enrollment Qualifying Score
PSAT	Critical Reading	Reading	44
	Writing Skills	Writing	49
	Mathematics	Mathematics	45
PLAN	Mathematics	Mathematics	18
	Reading	Reading	17
	Science	Science	19
	English	English	21
ACT	Mathematics	Mathematics	18
	Reading	Reading	17
	Science	Science	19
	English	English	21
MME	Reading	Reading	1100
	Writing	Writing	1100
	Mathematics	Mathematics	1100
	Science	Science	1100
	Social Studies	Social Studies	1100

Additionally, according to P.A. 160, eligible students may take courses for which there are no endorsements, such as computer science, foreign language, history, political science, or psychology, as long as they have taken all sections of the MME, ACT PLAN, ACT or College Board PSAT. State endorsement is not required in any specific area for this participation.

3. Students must be enrolled in both the school district and postsecondary institution during the local school district's regular academic year and must be enrolled in at least one high school class.
4. The district must not offer the college courses. An exception to this could occur if the local board of education determines that a scheduling conflict exists, which is beyond the student's control.
5. The college courses cannot be a hobby, craft, or recreation course, or in the subject areas of physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education.
6. School districts are required to pay the lesser of:
  - a. The actual charge for tuition, mandatory course fees, materials fess and registration fees; or
  - b. That state portion of the students' foundation allowance, adjusted to the proportion of the school year they attend the postsecondary institution.

If you believe your child is eligible for dual enrollment, qualifies for tuition and fee support, and wishes to participate, contact your Counselor or Principal.

Sincerely,  
*Dale Kasza, Principal*

## NEWS FROM YOUR COUNSELORS...

The counseling department at Kalkaska High School on February 1<sup>st</sup> received a grant for \$1,000 to take high school students on a college admissions visit. The grant award recommendation was made by high school students from Kalkaska County who are part of the Community Foundation's Youth GrantMaker program. The counselors plan to make a visit in April of this year, but the destination is still undecided. This opportunity is wonderful for our students and the counseling department has seen a rise of about 30% in admissions applications by seniors after previous visits to other Michigan colleges.



## Glen's Markets Cash for Class Program

Kalkaska High School is again participating in Glen's Markets Cash for Class program to earn money for our school. During the weeks of February 6<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup>, purchases you make with your 'yes' card will automatically be credited to our school account if you link your card to our school code. At the end of the school year and after all event weeks are finished, our school will receive a rebate check based on the percentage of all of our member's purchases.

As a 'yes' cardholder, you need to go to [www.myyesrewards.com](http://www.myyesrewards.com) to link your card to our school. Our school code is **88066**. You only have to link your 'yes' card once each school year. The Cash for Class program does not interfere with your 'yes' card points earned or points exchanged. You will continue to get ad savings and points and it will not cost you any money to participate and help our school.

## Vision Statement

**The vision of Kalkaska High School is to be a model of education and a source of community pride.**

## Musician of the Month

Richard Jones – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Alto Sax

## Important Dates to Remember

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** MME Test 11<sup>th</sup> grade, ACT Plan 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and ACT Explore 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** Third Marking Period Ends.

**March 24<sup>th</sup>** Half Day Parent-Teacher Conferences; 12:30 -4:00 p.m.; 5:00-8:00 p.m.

**March 25<sup>th</sup>** Half Day; Spring Break Begins

**April 4<sup>th</sup>** School Resumes

## START & DISMISSAL TIMES

### Kalkaska High School

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Half Day Dismissal 11:25 a.m.