

Conrad Parents/Guardians-

March 1st, signifies the beginning of the Spring Season in schools. This includes outdoor athletics and preparation for important assessments. Please encourage your child to do their very best as these assessments as the results will give the school important data about college readiness and parents' information about strengths, areas to grow, and potential college options. Important testing dates are as follows:

- Smarter Balanced assessments for middle school students will occur April 29th-May 16th.
- Social Studies, Science, and End-of-Course DCAS exams will occur in April and May.
- The SATs will be administered to all 11th grade students on March 27th.
- The PSATs will be administered to all 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students on March 27th.
- AP exams are scheduled for May 6th-May 17th.
- Senior Finals will occur the week of May 20th.

Red Clay is committed to secure test administration; parents with any concerns about appropriate testing practices should notify the building administrator.

The course selection process for the 2019-2020 school year is upon us as well! The coursework our students will select is demanding but I have confidence in them. Conrad is now an AP Capstone school that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. It cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions. AP Capstone is comprised of the Seminar course and Research course, and will complement and enhance discipline-specific study in other classes. Conrad will use the AP Capstone program to provide unique research opportunities for our students, and to expand access to AP by encouraging students to master the argument-based writing skills that the AP Capstone program develops. Rising 11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to register for the AP Research course. Students and parents are encouraged to contact their guidance counselors if they have any questions about the scheduling process.

Academic achievement is the focus at Conrad Schools of Science but can only happen with a safe and secure learning environment. School safety is our #1 priority. Thank you for your support as we continue adjust and refine procedures and communication in this area.

As always, contact me with questions or concerns and enjoy the warmer weather.



Mark T. Pruitt, Jr.