

CARTER CORPS NEWS



A Newsletter for Students, Parents, and Community Members Who Support Carter High School

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CHS Media & Public Relations

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In This Issue ...

Students win Zoo Contest

Three Carter students have won first place in the Fairchild Challenge at Knoxville Zoo's Exhibit Design Challenge.

For full story, see page 3.

Prom Theme Selected as "Under the Big Top"

The 2014 Prom is coming soon. Start making reservations now.

For full story, see page 4.

Governor's School

This summer, four Carter High School students will be attending the prestigious Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts.

For full story, see page 4.

CHS Students in All-State

Two Carter High Students were accepted to participate in the All-State Tennessee Ensembles.

For full story, see page 7.

Runnin' Hornets

Carter High's Runnin' Hornets, have continued to have a more than successful season with a 26-8 record!

For full story, see page 9.

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Carter High School Receives National TAP Founders Award



Press Release and Photo courtesy of National Institute for Excellence in Learning

Los Angeles, CA—Lowell Milken, founder of TAP: The System for Teacher and Student Advancement, surprised the faculty of Carter High School in Knox County Schools, Tennessee, with the prestigious TAP Founder's Award. The award, which includes a \$50,000 prize, was presented before more than 1,200 educators and policy leaders at the 14th National TAP Conference in Los Angeles, California.

Funded by the Lowell Milken Family Foundation, the TAP Founder's Award is given annually to one school for exceptional efforts to implement and represent the principles of TAP: The System for Teacher and Student Advancement. TAP is America's leading comprehensive educator effectiveness model that aligns career advancement, daily job-embedded professional development, rigorous teacher evaluation and accountability, and performance-based compensation. Principal Ryan Siebe accepted the award on the school's behalf.

"The staff at Carter High School represent a living example of what

is not only possible, but probable, when you make teacher excellence the cornerstone of improving student achievement," said Lowell Milken. "I applaud Principal Ryan Siebe, the leaders and the entire faculty at Carter High for their dedication to TAP, and wish them every success as they continue their journey."

Since implementing TAP, Carter High School has focused on improving learning for its high-need student population by working as a team to deliver effective instruction in every classroom. Regular professional development sessions focus on student academic data and specific student needs; teacher leaders guide weekly professional development and provide individual coaching in classrooms, evaluations of teacher practice are followed by feedback and support for improvement, and a performance-based compensation system rewards educators for increased skill and student performance.

The change in teacher leadership and collaboration has made a marked difference inside and outside of the classroom.

(Continued on next page)

Educating, Motivating, and Producing Responsible Citizens of Tomorrow

TAP Founder's Award Continued

"TAP works," said TAP Master Teacher Angie Messer, "Since implementing TAP, teachers are having academic conversations outside the classroom. We are seeing and feeling changes in our craft."

As a result, the school has helped students to achieve significantly more than a year's worth of academic growth for two consecutive years—scoring a value-added growth score of 5 on a scale of 1-5 when compared to similar schools in the state. This progress earned Carter High district APEX awards in 2012 and 2013. The school attracted broader attention when the Tennessee Department of Education, also in 2013, named Carter High a "Reward School" for its placement in the top 5% for growth in the state.

To staff, the reason is clear. "TAP is a very organized way to teach," explained TAP Mentor Teacher Jani Chollman. "You're teaching with a purpose and the results come very quickly."

The TAP Founder's Award recipients are selected **without their knowledge** by the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching, which manages and supports TAP. The honor is based on distinction in the following areas: proficient implementation of TAP's four elements, student academic growth according to state or federal measures, and notable recognition as a center and resource of best practices.

The TAP Founder's Award yields benefits that will strengthen the individual school and support its teachers. This is done by means of prominent public recognition and by opportunities to substantively interact on issues of teacher effectiveness and student learning with leaders from government, business and academia.

After the ceremony, Mr. Siebe immediately emailed the faculty and staff back at school to share the news. Among his comments Mr. Siebe wrote, "This award (which includes a \$50,000 prize for the school) is a testament to all the hard work you've done so far, and

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

As most of you are probably aware, on March 7th, 2014, Carter High School was recognized for academic excellence and extraordinary implementation of the TAP program. We received the "TAP Founder's Award", which includes a \$50,000 prize. I have received quite a few questions regarding what we'll spend this money on... The prize comes with the stipulation that we must spend this money to further and support the TAP program. Essentially, this means that we cannot spend the money on things non-academic in nature. We can't spend our prize money on athletic needs for instance.

We do have academic needs that must be met though. Our current technology needs are not overwhelming. We have sufficient computers for PARCC testing that will begin next year. It is our goal for all classroom teachers to have a wireless device to assist their instruction. Currently about half of our teachers have access to such resources. Part of our prize money may go toward completing this initiative. Additionally, there are certain aspects of our current technology that need repair and replacement. Some of

our projectors and Smartboards have worn out over time.

Beyond these technology needs we will continue to support our teachers through expanded training on teaching in Advanced Placement courses. This continued growth of our AP programing will coincide with the state initiative to pay for AP exams that was championed by Representative Harry Brooks.

The final consideration for these funds will be the continued implementation and support of Common Core. Common Core is an important initiative that will help our students over the long run. We may need to devote some of our prize money to resources around this important initiative.

Common Core will benefit our students.

Ryan Siebe,
principal

Common Core will benefit our students. It will help them in understanding their own learning and justifying their answers. It will allow them to have consistency in curriculum if they have to move from school to school. Common Core will help the students of Strawberry Plains as we continue to raise academic standards and look towards opening new doors for our students' futures. Please join me in vocally supporting Common Core.

it's a benchmark and signpost for what we will achieve in the future. It's a special time to be at Carter High School and I'm so thankful to join you on this journey. I'm proud of the staff, students, and community that have made this award possible."

"I have never been so proud of a group of teachers! This prestigious award has never been received by a high school before," stated Mrs. Cheryl Hickman, who served as CHS principal for the last 14 years. "It is merely validation for all the

hard work and dedication each person has shown throughout the previous two years of TAP implementation. I feel certain that this will not be the last award won by Carter High School!"

Initiatives of the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching are improving the educational experience for more than 175,000 teachers and 2.4 million students. For more information on TAP or the 14th National TAP Conference in Los Angeles, California, visit <http://www.tapsystem.org>.



Ryan Siebe,
CHS principal

CHS students win Fairchild Zoo Tiger Exhibit Design Contest

Three Carter students, Alicia Carr, Meggan Cole, and Lindsey Fisher have won first place in the Fairchild Challenge at Knoxville Zoo's Exhibit Design Challenge for Carter High School. Hardin Valley Academy finished with a close second, but Carter won the fourth challenge. Carter is confident that these three students will win the fifth and final challenge due to their determination and excellence throughout the preceding challenges. The Fairchild Challenge was founded to provide environmental education to local Knox County high schools. The Challenge consists of a myriad of projects and each year the champion is determined by a points-based system. There are five total challenges. Each unique challenge was designed to foster interest in the environment "by encouraging students to: appreciate the beauty and values of nature, develop critical-thinking skills, understand the need for biodiversity and conservation, tap community resources, become actively engaged citizens, and



Tiger Habitat designed by CHS Students

recognize that individuals make the difference."

Challenge one is the art challenge in which students select species

found on the IUCN Red List and create either a sculpture or a drawing of that animal. Challenge two is the creative writing portion in which students write a first person narrative of a day in the life of an animal on the endangered species list or a persuasive speech that encourages the audience to "make one change in their daily lives that would create 'a better world for animals'." Challenge three is the performance section, entitled "The Last of My Species." For this challenge, students were asked to perform an original piece that "highlights the issues faced by imperiled species." The fourth challenge asks students to design an exhibit for the zoo's endangered Malayan tigers. The fifth and final challenge is called "Sustainable School Communities," in which students research any conservation issue that is affecting their school community and write a scientific paper detailing the issue and designing a local conservation project to aid the community with this issue. Carter students are already hard at work on next year's competition.

Carter Idol contestants sing for top prize

As the New Year came in, Carter High School students once again competed against each other in a talent competition to find out who would become the next Carter Idol. Carter Idol is hosted by the CHS Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department, including Mrs. Elizabeth Flatford who said, "We've got a lot of talent here at Carter, and Carter Idol is a great way to showcase that talent." This year's event was judged by Joe Cate, music director at Beech Springs Church, Jack Ryan of MERLE FM 96.7, and Carter Alumni, Suzannah Canon. The audience was also invited to vote for their favorite Carter Idol performer through a text to vote system. As the audience did this, Haley Smith performed for the anxious audience. Last year's winner, Haley Smith, said, "It was interesting how there weren't auditions this year because it

allowed for a wider variety of Carter talent to be showcased." On January 16 at 6:00 P.M., Elizabeth Benn, Aaron King, Bryce Massey, Kayla Newman, Nate Paul, Lisa Richards, Ronnie Rogers, Micaela Russell, and Alisha Smith gave their best performances, and this year, Micaela Russell was named Carter Idol with her performance of an original song. Elizabeth Benn said, "Carter Idol was a really great experience! Standing on stage and just doing what I love is one of the best things ever."



Micaela Russell, Carter Idol winner, performs her original piece



Carter Corps News

is produced by the Carter High School Media and Public Relations class. It is intended to inform parents and the community of the great things happening at Carter High.

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Come One, Come All to the 2014 Senior Prom under “The Big Top”

This year’s Senior Prom is just around the corner! Prom will be held at the Pavilion at Hunter Valley Farms on April 19 from 7-11pm. It is located at Hunter Valley Lane in Knoxville, and is an estimated thirty-seven minute drive. The theme for this year will be “Under the Big Top” (*Great Gatsby* meets 1920s vintage circus). Start making plans now! Seniors make sure you know who you are going with and make sure you have asked

them! Girls start looking for the perfect dress and make sure your date is making plans to order the matching tux. The Senior Class SGA has been planning prom since last spring and the event planner at Hunter Valley Farms is in charge of bringing the vision of prom to life. Fund-raising for prom began freshman year and students have participated in everything from selling candy and donuts to working at concession stands at UT football games. Se-

nior class president, Olivia Hosey, says, “With the combination of our venue, decorating choices, and food choices, this prom is something very different than anything Carter has ever had.” Tickets will go on sale for \$30 beginning April 7th and will not be sold at the door.

Winter Formal well attended after Snow Days

The now annual Carter High School Winter Formal was held at the Holston Hills Country Club on Saturday evening, Feb. 1. The theme for this year’s formal was “Blackout” with students dancing the night away under many black lights. To create the blackout effect, the windows were covered with black construction paper, and actual black lights were used to make a glowing effect. Glow sticks and glow-in-the-dark sunglasses were handed out at the door as students entered. The idea for a Blackout theme was inspired by a Gibbs High School prom held at Holston Hills Country Club a few years ago. Winter Formal was at-

tended by 180 students. The Junior SGA officers began planning Winter Formal in mid-November as a fundraiser for their upcoming prom. Maddy Helton, Junior class president, said “Last year was Carter’s first Winter Formal, and it was a success; this year’s Winter Formal included a theme, a DJ (Andrew Abrams), and an awesome venue which contributed to the great turnout and fun we had this year!” Mrs. Davenport, school librarian, said “I really enjoyed seeing the Carter students enjoying the Winter Formal, I thought the location, décor, and DJ were outstanding and it seemed to me that everyone enjoyed themselves.”



Four Carter High Students accepted into Governor’s School for Fine Arts

This summer, four Carter High School students will be attending the prestigious Tennessee Governor’s School for the Arts. Alex Drinnen, Payton White, Elizabeth Benn, and Nate Paul were chosen out of all of the applicants in the state to attend the school for theater, filmmaking, and voice. All four of the applicants agreed that the application effort was well worth the opportunity to work with such accomplished instructors such as those who teach Governor’s School scholars. As participants in the 2014 Governor’s School program, they will have the opportunity to

work with accomplished educators and foster further appreciation and skill in the arts. Nate Paul, CHS junior, was awarded a full-ride merit scholarship to attend this year’s governor’s school. He said, “I knew that once I came back to Carter, God was going to open the door to music for me. I have been able to participate in a top-ten state band, All-East, All-State men’s choir, a largely successful production of “Guys and Dolls” with Carter’s theater program, and to top it off, I have been given a once in a lifetime opportunity to study vocal music with some of the greatest minds in

the country!” Elizabeth Benn, attending the governor’s school for vocal music as a soprano, said, “Making Governor’s school was one of the greatest things that has happened to me this year. It was truly an honor and I cannot wait to go in June!” This enthusiasm is shared between all of the other applicants. Payton White, who will be attending the school for filmmaking said, “I can’t wait to attend this summer!” Alex Drinnen, a junior who was chosen to attend the Governor’s school’s theater program, said “The prospect of attending is just utterly breathtaking.”

Performing & Fine Arts

Carter students audition and selected for Tennessee All-East and All-State Bands

Of the 1,800 or so students auditioning for the All East Tennessee Band at Bearden High School, four hundred were accepted. Three of those students were from Carter High School. Reggie Coleman made fourth chair trombone in the 11th-12th grade Blue Band, Gracie Chunn made the 9-10 Blue Band on clarinet, and Preston Spangler made the 9-10



Gracie Chunn, Preston Spangler, and Reggie Coleman enjoying All-East Clinic.

Red Band also on clarinet. Ms. Kristin Arp said, "I am really proud of all three of our students." The clinic was held on February 6-8. All three students had the opportunity to rehearse and perform under world class conductors including Joe Herman of Tennessee Tech University, Dr. Rebecca Phillips of the University of South Carolina,

band at the All-East Clinic was a truly great honor. To play with the best musicians in East Tennessee was an amazing experience. It got me talking to other musicians and talking to big names in the music community. I had a wonderful time getting closer to the other two participants from Carter and my directors. I can't wait for All-State!"

Dr. Gary Shallert of Western Kentucky University, and Mary Land of Young Harris College. CHS Director of Bands, Mr. Matthew McCurry, said, "It's a fantastic opportunity for those students who are excelling to be a part of such a prestigious group. What a great experience!" Of the three students that made the All East Tennessee band, Reggie Coleman was accepted into the All-State band. He said, "Being

selected into the top

CHS Indoor Season ends at Championships

The 2014 Carter High School Indoor Performance Season was met with much hard work and many successes in its quick three months. The two performing groups, the CHS Indoor Drumline and the CHS Winterguard, are both preparing for their final competition run of the season at the Carolina Indoor Performance Association's Championships at Western Carolina University. These groups will compete against many other groups in a chance to be the top performers in this region.

The Indoor Percussion show entitled, "Mirage", has already seen much success this season with the judges and the crowd. A show depicting performers in a desert region lacking water and the visions of water that they chase throughout their journey encompass the audience in the struggle of survival shown throughout the performance. The ending scene offers relief as the rain begins to fall and water is returned to the parched performers. Percussion director, Chuck Brock, says, "This show really grabs the audience visually and keeps them involved until the very end. The distress of the performers adds a very real aspect to the show in which audience members can relate. That was what we were going for." This show has already placed the ensemble at the top of their class for performance.

The Winterguard performance of their show, "Final Instincts", has also introduced a high-energy show to the audience. Based on the life and characteristics of a group of wild tigers, the show comes to life through the performers expressions and mannerisms as these wild animals. Guard Instructor and Designer, Mrs. Kristina Seabolt, said about the show, "I am so proud of these girls and the level of performance that they have achieved this season!" This show is also sitting, points-wise, at the very top of the Scholastic A class in which this group competes. Both groups look for exceptional Championship performances in the near future.

Choir represented in Tennessee All-State Choir

Nate Paul, a Junior at Carter High School, was recently accepted into the Tennessee All-State Men's Choir. All-State Choir is a choral group composed of the highest scoring vocalist in their vocal part from All-East, All-Middle, and All-West choirs. To audition for All-State, men and women must sing two prepared pieces (one for mixed choir and one for the single-gender choirs), then a sight-singing piece, and lastly are scored for pitch and rhythm accuracy. Nate

auditioned at the end of September and participated in a vocal screening in October in order to be eligible to participate in All-East. There were 145 total students selected and about thirty Baritones, which were then split between the mixed and men's choir. Fifteen of the thirty baritones were placed in the men's choir. Because of his high scores, Nate will take part in the Tennessee All-State Choir on April 9-12, in Memphis. Nate is the first to be accepted into All-State Choir in four years.

ATHLETICS

Runnin' Hornets Bounce into State Basketball Championships

Carter High's Boys Basketball team, now known as the Runnin' Hornets, have continued to have a more than successful season with a 26-8 record! In the past two seasons, the hornets only managed to win eighteen games combined. The new head coach, Joby Boydstone, has installed a new successful, upbeat, and relentless chaos called "System". At the end of the season, with a 19-7 record, tournament time came and the team faced off in the opening district tournament game against Union County. They were victorious with a score of 101-67 over the Patriots. In the next round, they were matched with #1 seed Fulton HS, whom they beat 70-63 in an epic battle. In the end, the Runnin' Hornets won the district championship game against Gatlinburg Pittman with

a high scoring point total of 110-103. The Runnin' Hornets made history becoming the first district champions since 1987! Following the district tournament came the

Scott County easily defeating the highlanders with a 106-79 victory. The runnin' hornets next faced the Alcoa tornados whom they defeated at Alcoa in over time, 87-81. In the end, the hornets faced CAK in the regional championship and won for the first time in Carter High School history with a score of 77-73. Because of this victory, the hornets would host the Sub-State game at home against the Unicoi County Blue Devils where they continued their winning streak with a score of 72-57 to advance to the **TSSAA STATE TOURNAMENT** at MTSU! Our hornets now rank first in the state and second in the COUNTRY in points scored every game with an average of 92.8 points a game. The hornets played strong against the Greeneville Green Devils but fell short in the last few seconds of the game.



The Runnin' Hornets pose for a picture after their win against Unicoi County.

regional tournament where the first two out of the three games are single elimination. The hornets hosted the first regional game at Carter against

Lady Hornets Hoops

The lady hornets had a very successful season with a record of 15-13! During the middle of the season the girls went on a six game winning streak with victories over Austin-East twice, Berean Christian twice, Gibbs, and Washburn. The lady hornets look to have yet another strong season next year with many underclassman returning with good experience. Coach Wendell Mims commented, "As the Lady Hornets prepared for the season we had the potential to be a good team. It took time to find our identity, but when we did things fell into place. We finished fourth in a very tough district, thirteen wins, and thirteen losses. For the first time in nine years the Lady Hornets finished with a winning season. Katie Bailey made the All-District Tournament Team and Che' Davis made the All-District team. We are excited about the coming year and look forward to improving our record as we expect our returning players to work hard and play up to their potential."

Two CHS Hornets sign on National Signing Day

On February 5, two members of the Carter High School football program participated in National Signing Day. Hank Black, wide receiver, signed to East Tennessee State University because it offered the chance to continue his football career while still being close to home. Hank hopes that younger athletes in the community will see that hard work pays off. When asked about the experience, he said, "I'm very blessed to have this opportunity. I have had a great four years in high school sports and can't wait to further my football career."

Antonio Brabson, CHS linebacker, signed to Austin Peay State University after being offered a starting position and a chance to play football in this great environment. He hopes younger athletes will see that if they work harder and expect more they will

see the happiness that comes with signing. He said, "These opportunities don't come everyday. Playing college football is every kid's dream. Reality is wrong, and dreams are for real. I'm soaking this moment up and couldn't have done it without the support from the Hornet Nation." Dr. Smith, athletic director and assistant principal, said, "Any time a student athlete at Carter can get any school to pay for their education, it's special and a big deal."



Hank Black and Antonio Brabson sign their commitments on National Signing Day

Jeff McMillan joins CHS as Head Football Coach

The Carter Hornets Football team ended the 2013 season on a strong note, but the 2014 season will begin with a new head coach. Coach Jeffrey McMillan is a Carter Alumnus and lives in the Carter community. McMillan says that “Carter has always been a special community, I’ve lived here all my life and the things that made it special growing up are still here today.” The whole team seems to share the same opinion of junior teammate, Jared Lyness, who said, “The new coach has a totally different approach to discipline.” Carter Athletic Director, Dr. Chad Smith said that McMillan is “a proven winner. Everywhere he’s been, he has been part of a winning team.” McMillan was the defense coordinator at Fulton for the last two years, where the team won two consecutive state titles. Coach McMillan is currently one of the Driver’s Education teachers at Central High School, where he has taught for

twenty-seven years. As a coach, McMillan began coaching at Central High School in 1982, as well as some time at Lenoir City, South-Young, and Fulton High Schools. During his time at Fulton, the football team won back-to-back state championships in 2012 and 2013.

Coach McMillan said, “Since being hired in January it has been a whirlwind of activity. Putting together the coaching staff, raising money for the new weight room and uniforms, meeting alumni, contacting colleges, setting up summer camp, and all the other things that come with being a coach.” The team’s new motto is “I am Third”. This phrase was taken from Gayle Sayers’ autobiography. He says it “helps us keep our priorities in the correct order. God is first, Family (TEAM) is second, and I am Third. As long as we play together as a team, play for each other, and don’t worry about who gets the credit, we will be successful.”

CHS Cheerleaders Perform during Gator Bowl

The Carter High School Cheerleaders had the opportunity to cheer for a different crowd this past December as they accepted an invitation to cheer at the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. Over Christmas break the Carter High School cheerleaders set off on their trip to the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville where they would spend many hours practicing in order to prepare for their two choreographed performances. When they arrived in Florida, the team

spent three days practicing before the big performance day. Along with performing in the Gator Bowl halftime show they also participated in the parade. They were invited to perform by the WorldStride organization. Makyla Chollman said, “This was a great opportunity that we were blessed to take part in. It was so much fun and we made many memories that we won’t forget.” As a bonus, the cheerleaders brought home the spirit award from their performance.



The CHS Cheerleaders snap a team picture before the Gator Bowl Performance



CHS Senior, Jermey Fultz, signs with the University of TN, Nashville

Jermey Fultz receives 4-year Gold Scholarship

Jermey Fultz, CHS senior, was offered a four-year golf scholarship from the University of Tennessee in Nashville, where he will be on the Tigers Golf Team. The Tigers are a division I golf team and a part of the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC). Of the 8 players currently on the team, three are seniors, and Jermey said, “with three graduating, I should have a good chance to play.” His goal as a freshmen next year is to be recognized as the All-New Coming Player for the Ohio Valley Conference. Jermey’s sportsmanship was displayed during the state gold tournament at Willow Brook Golf Club in Manchester, Tennessee, where he scored a 74 the first day of the tournament and finished the second day with a 64, earning himself third place in the state.

“Sometimes being out here this far in the country people tend to forget us, so I made it a plan of mine to be noticed.” Jermey stayed in contact with the Prep Extra Newspaper editor, sending his scores after every match and notifying him when he made it to district. Carter High School golf coach, Chad Grubb, helped Jermey to stand out by doing the same throughout the season. This persistence helped Jermey to be recognized by the Knoxville News Sentinel as Prep Extra Golf Player of the Year. He was playing golf at Holston Hills, when Coach Grubb called to inform him of the recognition. Jermey Fultz said that he “was really excited and proud of myself. Hard work and determination really pay off.”

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WHAT IS CARTER CORPS?

Carter Corps is bringing together students, parents, teachers, staff, administration and the Carter Community for the advancement of Carter High School. We know it takes everyone, actively involved, to make Carter High a safe, well-organized, and productive learning environment. Carter Corps is about getting information and getting involved in Carter High School!

Carter Corps News brings you the latest and greatest happenings at Carter High School in newsletter form.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS sent directly to your email keep you informed of the daily announcements at Carter High School. Make sure you are up to date with what students are hearing daily.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES abound at Carter High School. Email your child's teacher or call the main office to see what the needs are at Carter High. We would be glad to have you at our school!

**School Volunteers
Make the Difference!**

NOT GETTING ANNOUNCEMENT EMAILS??

If you are not getting the daily announcements, login to your SchoolFusion account and select receive email notifications under preferences. You will start receiving the Daily Announcements to your inbox the very next day. We want to keep everyone informed of the great things that are happening at Carter High School!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

4..... Cheerleading Tryouts
12.....ACT Testing
14..... Solo & Ensemble Concert
18..... School Holiday
21..... School Holiday
23..... End of Grading Period
28..... Band Spring Concert
30..... Senior Awards

May

2..... Colorguard Auditions
12,13..... Senior Exams
14..... Senior Exam Make-Up Day
14..... Majorette Auditions
15..... Graduation Practice
15..... CHS Commencement
19,20..... Underclass Finals
21..... Final Exam Make-Up Day
21..... Last Day of School

June

14.....ACT Testing