

BEARDEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



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Sept. 3, 2019

Dear Parents, Families, and Community Partners:

As we begin the school year, I am excited to share that the Tennessee Department of Education will again offer the ACT Senior Retake Opportunity for all public school seniors. Our school will offer the ACT Senior Retake Opportunity on **Oct. 1, 2019**.

The ACT is a powerful national measure of readiness in terms of the cumulative academic knowledge and critical thinking skills **valued by both employers and postsecondary institutions**. In Tennessee, our state data indicate that students who retake the ACT **typically increase their score by 1–3 points**. By increasing their scores, students can open more doors for postsecondary education and high-quality employment.

Last year, nearly 52,000 students participated in the ACT Senior Retake Opportunity, and 40 percent of those students improved their composite score. As a result of retaking the ACT, **over 2,000 additional Tennessee students gained access to over \$21 million in HOPE scholarship funds**, and thousands of students were able to avoid remedial coursework in postsecondary. Increasing the percentage of students who graduate high school with improved ACT scores will allow for more students to start their next phase in life on pathways to success.

All BHS Seniors are eligible for the ACT Senior Retake Opportunity and will be automatically registered for the retake through the school during homeroom. **The test will take place at school on October, 1, 2019 during regular school hours**. We expect all seniors to participate in this opportunity. If your student wishes not to retake the ACT on Oct. 1, they will need to complete the Opt Out Form and return it by Sept. 17, 2019. Opt Out forms can be found in the School Counseling Office.

Special note: Students who were previously approved for accommodations through ACT will automatically be registered with these same accommodations. If they elect to participate in the October 1st test date, arrangements will be made for students to test with accommodations during the ACT approved window October 1st-October 15th (with the exclusion of fall break).

If you have questions or need more information, please contact karen.smiley@knoxschoos.org.

Sincerely,

Karen Smiley
BHS Testing Coordinator