

***UPDATE
FROM THE
GUIDANCE OFFICE
2017***

JANUARY 27

**MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING IS
AVAILABLE IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE:**

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

We are pleased to notify you that Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School has been selected to represent private schools across the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students in public and private schools know and can do in various subjects. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from state and school assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

Your child will take mathematics or reading assessment. The assessment also asks students questions about their daily routine and their educational experiences. For example, students are asked if there is a computer at home and about the amount of reading they do. Student responses are anonymous, and they provide context and meaning to the assessment results. Please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/booklets.asp> to review sample questions.

The assessment takes about 90 to 120 minutes for most students. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347).

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.

- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify Mrs. Gilger in writing by Monday, February 6th.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>.

Contact Mrs. Gilger at 570-644-0375 (ext. 119) or at jgilger@lourdes.k12.pa.us if you have any questions. To learn more about private school participation in NAEP visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp>.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School's students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

NEW Attention Juniors: The postmark deadline for taking the March 11 SAT is Friday, February 10. Students, please make sure that Our Lady of Lourdes School Code 394-483, is included on your registration form. Some students have omitted our school code; therefore, SAT scores are not sent to us and cannot be attached to your transcript now or in the future. Also remember it is suggested that students send scores to four colleges of your choice. There is no additional fee for this. Register today online at www.collegeboard.com.

PSAT/NMSQT paper score reports were given to students before Christmas. Students can access their PSAT and/or Sat Suite of Assessment scores with personalized feedback, practice, college planning and career exploration resources through studentscores.collegeboard.org or collegeboard.org.

- See all your scores and if you are on track for college readiness
- View detailed explanations of skills required to be college ready
- Send your scores to Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy for personalized practice recommendations
- Search for colleges that fit your needs
- Access your PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index score used for participation in programs conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- Start on your scholarship and college financial aid plan

- Explore Roadmap to Careers to learn about jobs and college majors that are right for you
- Get feedback on your readiness for AP courses

PSAT 9 paper score reports were distributed to students.

Grade 9 students can also obtain PSAT 8/9 score reports through studentscores.collegeboard.org. It will be necessary for the student to sign up to create an account with a user name and password. Paper score reports will be distributed to 9th grade students next week.

Parents can refer to www.collegeboard.org and search PSAT Parent Tutorial or PSAT 8/9 Parent Tutorial for a further understanding of scores.

The Advance College Experience (ACE) at Bloomsburg University is designed for college-bound high school juniors and seniors who seek to “jump start” their college career by earning college credits. Bloomsburg University offers a selection of courses intended to supplement high school offerings and to expose students to the academic environment at the college level. Students save 75% of the tuition. Typical offerings will include courses in exercise science, composition, psychology, history, public speaking, political science, language, music, biology, chemistry, mathematics, and geography. For more information call 570-389-4824 or visit www.bloomu.edu/ace.

Luzerne County Community College’s Young Scholars Program - Qualified Juniors and Seniors can take college courses at Luzerne County Community College through the Young Scholars Program and take advantage of a reduced rate on tuition. Contact the Shamokin Campus at 648-2544 or the Guidance Office for more information regarding registration and courses.

The **Pennsylvania School for Global Entrepreneurship (PSGE) at Lehigh University** and the **University of Pittsburgh Health Career Scholars Academy (UPHCSA), former Governor’s School programs**, are accepting applications for the 2017 summer programs. Current high school sophomores and juniors are encouraged to apply. Both programs continue to successfully meet the need for high-achieving students in the state of Pennsylvania, despite the state’s budget cuts. The enrichment programs are second to none in providing the experience and necessary skill set needed for students as they continue their education beyond high school. Both programs have maintained the same curriculum and selectivity

as the former Governor's Schools. Interested students please inquire in the Guidance Office. Further information may be found at go.lehigh.edu/psge and www.hcsa.pitt.edu. Interested students please inquire in the Guidance Office. Deadline is February 15, 2017.

SALT TEAM - Lourdes Regional High School is a community brought together in response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We seek unity through affirmation, and integration of our gifts and talents for service. Acknowledging that our students are all children of God, the school community challenges them to full development of their talents. Along the way, some students develop difficulties related to drugs, alcohol, and/or mental health issues. Recognizing these possibilities, this school community supports a **Student Assistance Program** to help identify such students. The heart of the program is a **Student Assistance Team Known as SALT (Student Assistance – Lourdes Team)** which is a core group of school personnel specially trained to work with these students. Since students cannot fully enjoy and appreciate God's gift of life unless they are experiencing good health and total fitness, the SALT Team intervenes and, if necessary, refers students at risk to appropriate personnel or agencies. The intervention is made in the hope that such students may once again come to appreciate the gift of life and utilize their many talents for the benefit of themselves and others.

The heart of the SAP (Student Assistant Program) is the SALT Team comprised of administrators, counselors, teachers, and the school nurse. The team is specially trained to identify and help students experiencing problems related to alcohol and drug use or who are at risk of suicide and other mental health problems. It is not the function of the SALT Team to diagnose or treat a problem. The function is to identify patterns of behavior which is associated with a problem. When such patterns are discovered, the student is referred to in-school personnel or to appropriate community services.

For more information about the Student Assistance Team, please call Mrs. Gilger in the Guidance Office.

NCAA – National Collegiate Athletic Association – Many college athletic programs are regulated by the NCAA, which has established rules on eligibility, recruiting, and financial aid. If a student is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wishes to participate in Division I or II athletics, he or she must be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. The process of certification should begin at the end of the Junior year in high school. NCAA requests that students apply online at www.eligibilitycenter.org. It is necessary to

send ACT or SAT scores to the Clearinghouse directly from the testing agencies. The code for NCAA is 9999.

NEW Pennsylvania American Legion - Keystone Boys State

Open to any male student who has completed their junior year and resides in Pennsylvania. KBS students practice and operate fictitious cities, four counties and one state, based on the statutes and codes of the State of Pennsylvania. The program takes place from June 18 - 24 at Shippensburg University. Local legion posts will sponsor the students to attend.

NEW Pennsylvania American Legion – State Police Youth Week

Open to any male or female student who is 15-17 years old and resides in Pennsylvania. The student should be in good health and physically fit. This camp is run like a boot camp, to introduce students interested in law enforcement or a branch of the armed forces. Cadets march in platoons, do physical training and have instructional time. The program takes place from June 11 - 17 at York College of Pennsylvania. Local legion posts will sponsor the student to attend. Deadline is May 19, 2017.

TELOS SAT PREP COURSE – This 8-session power course is a great way to prepare for the SAT without adding more stress to your life. Telos expert instructor offers direct instruction and guided practice to help improve scores for each section of the exam. Pre and post practice exams will be administered to help students become familiar with the test format and time restraints, as well as to measure their growth. Telos SAT Prep Course includes: (8) 2.5 hour sessions, one time a week. Come join us and improve your score.

2017 Dates: January 8 – February 26 and March 5 – April 30

Telos Educational Services

115 Main Street

Montandon

570-238-1701

TelosTutoring.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

The **2017 Epilepsy Foundation Western/Central Pennsylvania scholarship program** for students who have epilepsy/seizure disorder will be awarding eight scholarships, totaling \$10,000, this year. Awards will be based on the quality of the

student's application determined through a competitive scoring system that balances need with achievement. Application deadline is March 17, 2017.

The **Lehigh Valley Section of the Society of Women Engineers** is announcing their scholarship program for female students graduating from high school who are enrolling in engineering at a college or university. Scholarships of up to \$5000 will be awarded. The scholarship recipients are chosen every year based on academic achievement, extracurricular and leadership activities, a recommendation, and an essay. Applications are available in the Guidance Office. Deadline is February 12, 2017.

NEW Pennsylvania American Legion Scholarships:

- **Joseph P. Gavenonis Scholarship** – Open to any Pennsylvania high school senior who is child/grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire. The student needs to be seeking a four year degree in a Pennsylvania college or university. Deadline is May 31, 2017.
- **Robert W. Valimont Endowment** – Open to any Pennsylvania high school senior who is a child/grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire. The student needs to be seeking a two year career-oriented education or training in a less-than-four-year program in a Pennsylvania school. Deadline is May 31, 2017.

For more information go to: <http://pa-legion.com/programs/student-programs/>