



# THE PATRIOT PRESS



JUNE, 2015

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 4

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (By Larry Oshodi)

Dear Parents,

This last quarter of 2015 has confirmed the high quality of our instructional and other programs in a variety of ways. The most significant is the full 6-year clear accreditation given us by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) after an exhaustive review of our school. This is the highest level of accreditation awarded and is awarded to less than 10% of schools! Soon after that, Heritage was also named a Gold Ribbon School, one of a select group of high schools in all of California. The California High School Exit Exam results for the 2015 administration show that 97% (English) and 95% (Math) of our students passed the exam the first time, again putting Heritage at the top tier of high achieving schools in the state.

Additionally, our students and staff continue to win accolades and recognition for their excellence in various endeavors including the performing arts, community service and athletics. Seniors Megan Vernoy and Ron Rubio won the Bay Valley Athletic League (BVAL) 2015 Scholar-Athletes of the Year, and our Softball Varsity Head Coach, Ron Rivers, won the BVAL Coach of the Year!

Closely linked to these outstanding achievements is the commitment and support of our parent community. I want to use this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to the volunteers and board members of our various booster

organizations. Your unflinching support of our students and programs help sustain the safe and nurturing environment we have at Heritage where all students are able to soar.

We end this 2014/15 school year with a hearty congratulations to our graduating seniors and their families. I wish them the very best blessings as they embark on the next stage of the journey of life.

## *Congratulations Students of the Quarter!*

### Math

Bethany Curtis  
Viveka Jones  
Miguel Leria  
Xingbu Qin  
Jonathan Smith  
Matthew Tolero  
Ryann Yelder

### English

Alec Bernal  
Madison Brookens  
Thang Cao  
Catherine David  
Halleuijah Dawite  
Peyton Hamblin  
Sailer Hampton  
Aaron Hanible  
Maxwell Herbert  
Mason Moser  
Hannah Nesta  
Sana Rashid  
Valerie Reategui  
Celia Rivera  
Tessie Robinson  
Jett Stanley  
Kathryn Strock

Nicholas Taylor  
Lareana Toralba  
Madeline Vanderheid Nye  
Madisen Wright

**Science**

Rezahn Abraha  
Patrick Alinaya  
Monica Botross  
Matthew Bryant  
Gurjiwan Dhaliwal  
Makena Horne  
Ian Lemuel Mababangloob  
Cassidy Nelson  
Amy Probst  
Alexandria Renner  
Rigel Matthew Sison

**Social Studies**

Sarah Morales  
Liliana Rangel-Parra  
Vincent Reyes

**World Languages**

Jasmin Asher  
Alejandro Lorono  
Noah Paige  
Matthew Petures  
Blake Tonkel

**Career Technology**

MacKenna Fritsch  
Ijemma Onwuzulike

**Motivational**

Zoe Moniz  
Ashley Nolan-Smith

**Visual & Performing Arts**

Joshua Asuncion  
Jamee Bullock  
Andrea Cliscagne  
Liana Destefano  
David Adrian Gervasio  
Abigail Pena  
Michaela Price

**2015-16 WALK-THROUGH DATES**  
(By Rose Thompson)

**2015-16 Walk-Through Dates**

Wed., July 15<sup>th</sup> (Noon – 7:00 p.m.)  
Thur., July 16<sup>th</sup> (Noon – 7:00 p.m.)  
Mon., July 20<sup>th</sup> (7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)  
Tue., July 21<sup>st</sup> (Noon – 7:00 p.m.)

Look for more information about walk-through in the summer mailer that will be mailed to your home.

**PATRIOT PARENT ORGANIZATION**  
(By Cindy Basa)

Parents as we draw to an end of a great year, I would like to remind you to join the Patriot Parent Organization (Parents Club) next year during walk-through. This will give each of you an opportunity to stay in touch with your child's grade specific activities. Being a member (two-year commitment) will also provide your student with an opportunity to apply for a scholarship in their senior year.

Graduation Leis are available on the Heritage website and will be available for purchase the day of graduation. Pre-purchased (approved only) single orchid Leis can be picked up at our table before graduation. Look for us between the gym and stadium.

Have an enjoyable summer and looking forward to seeing more of you at our meetings next year.

**MOCK TRIALS**  
(By Tyler Rust)

The Heritage Mock Trials Team experienced its most successful year ever in 2015. The team finished fifth in the county ahead of 12 other schools, defeating Acalanes, Clayton Valley, and Doherty in the Contra Costa County Tournament. In

the Quarter Final round, Acalanes defeated Heritage in a closely fought rematch.

An award for honorable mention was won by **Danielle Tamura** for her pre-trial arguments. The team is returning five juniors for the 2015-16 school year. Teams meet every Thursday after school in B-105 with Mr. Rust.

**2015 SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CLINIC**  
(By Janet Hannigan)

**2015 Summer Volleyball Clinic**

**Visit:**

<http://www.diablovolleyball.org/clinic-information/2014-summer-clinic-information/>

**Hosted by HHS - Diablo Valley  
Volleyball Clinic**

**Session #1 – Heritage High School,  
Brentwood – \$200 – 4 days**

Beginner / Intermediate – Boys and Girls  
(4th-10th grade) – Individual Skills Camp

Monday-Thursday ~ June 15th-18th –  
9:15am to 12pm daily – 48 players max

**Session #2 – Heritage High School,  
Brentwood – \$200 – 4 days**

Intermediate/Advanced – Boys & Girls –  
(9th-12th grade) – Individual/Team Skills

Monday-Thursday ~ June 15th-18th –  
9:15am-12pm daily – 24 players max

**ATHLETIC BOOSTERS**  
(By Cami Vernoy)

It is crazy to think the school year is already at its end!! Our students and student athletes

continue to amaze us and represent Heritage High School with great team achievements and personal successes. It has been an honor for the entire HHS Athletic Booster Board to represent and support this high school and its athletic program. With the year coming to a close we are in need of putting into place a new board to take the helm and continue the success we have had as an organization over the years. The following positions are open and need to be filled. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Snack Bar, Spirit Wear and Membership. If you are willing and interested to be involved and help the athletic program of Heritage High School, please contact our current President, Kim Phipps at [kimhipps5@yahoo.com](mailto:kimhipps5@yahoo.com), and plan on attending our last meeting of the year, Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:00 pm. It is a great opportunity to be involved and work together with others that are passionate about the Patriots! That said, thank you to our outgoing board members that have kept all the balls rolling for the past 2 years..... Kim Phipps (President), Jaime Baum (Vice President), Chris Rook (Treasurer), Angela Millington (Merchandise), and Cami Vernoy and Kristen Jimenez (Membership) who will be staying on as Secretary!! Job well done ladies!!

As many of you are aware, we had to cancel our May event this year for lack of ticket sales. We understand it is a crazy time of year and it is difficult to commit, but please make a point to put the Athletic Boosters event in your minds and on your calendar radar for next year as it is the only fundraising event we put on. Remember the Athletic Boosters give scholarships to eligible graduating Seniors and provides needed funding to our athletic programs at Heritage High School. If you are wondering how you can buy the COVETED Booster Pass Membership take note; they will be available THIS YEAR ONLY during the 4 days of WALK THRU for \$60 PER PERSON. This is a special opportunity and again WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE DURING WALK THRU.

Congratulations to all of our graduating Seniors and the accomplishments and achievements they have had here at Heritage High School. May each of you find the ability to move forward in life with passion, purpose and a bit of Patriot Pride in your hearts.

**2015-16 HOMECOMING INFORMATION**  
(By Jessica Banchieri)

Homecoming Week is the last week before the October break (September 21-25) with the annual semi-formal dance on September 26, 2015 (first Saturday of October break). This is our most popular and well attended dance.

**TARGET'S TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
(By Rose Thompson)

To date, Target® has donated over \$300 million to help K-12 schools through their Take Charge of Education program. When parents, teachers, and other school supports use the REDcard®, Target donates up to 1% of their purchases to the eligible K-12 school they designate. To learn more about the program, visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe).

**ABI PARENT PORTAL INFORMATION**  
(By Gina Kroner)

The Liberty Union High School District has transitioned to a new Student Information System, Parent Portal through ABI (Aeries Browser Interface) for parents. We think you will enjoy the new interface and access to more timely information. The attendance in the portal is updated live-time, as are any assignment updates completed by the teachers.

**How do I get an account?**

Accounts were generated at the end of the first quarter. Any parent with an accurate email address listed in the student's electronic record received an email with the login process as soon as the portal was opened.

**Do I have to have an email address listed to get an account?**

Yes. If your email address is not listed in your child's record and/or you did not update it at walk-thru, please contact the school or email [hhsattendance@luhsd.net](mailto:hhsattendance@luhsd.net) to have that information listed in your child's electronic record. If you do not have an email account, you can create one for free through G-mail.

**Can my son/daughter sign up for an account?**

Yes, your son/daughter can sign up to access his/her own account. To do so, your son or daughter's email address should be listed in the student's record. The view for a student is identical to that of a parent, so they will want to select "Student" when asked what type of account they want to create.

**Are there resources available to me so I know what to do?**

The ABI Parent Portal website was completed with FAQs, video instructions, and other documentation to assist you in navigating the portal. The interface is intuitive, so I think you will really enjoy the new service.

**Who do I contact if I need assistance?**

If you need assistance, you may contact Heritage directly; however, we request that you first go to the online resources on the **Parent Info** tab to address your questions.

**TRANSCRIPTS**  
(By Michelle Snyder)

Need a Transcript? Visit the HHS website at [www.luhsd.net/heritage](http://www.luhsd.net/heritage) and visit the

Counseling page under the Student Info tab. There are two options for transcript requests - Electronic or Other. The electronic process is quick, easy and provides a tracking system. The other process requires printing out a completed form, turning in the form to the Registrar for processing, then pick up/mail out. There is no tracking method with this process.

Want to Play  
College Sports?

You MUST  
Know Your Core  
Course GPA.



CORECOURSEGPA.com

Addressing Recruiting and Eligibility...at its Core.

Heritage High School has teamed up with CoreCourseGPA.com to provide custom online software to all student-athletes to assist in tracking their progress towards meeting NCAA initial eligibility requirements.

CoreCourseGPA.com calculates core course GPA for both the Division I and II, provides corresponding minimum SAT/ACT scores, and a detailed report of core course credits earned and needed.

All student-athletes are encouraged to activate their FREE membership to begin tracking their core course GPA and learn more about important recruiting topics. The sooner, the better - every semester counts!

**Activate Your FREE Membership**

**Step 1:** Go to [www.CoreCourseGPA.com](http://www.CoreCourseGPA.com)

**Step 2:** Click "Free New Member Account"

**Step 3:** Enter School ID and School Code

**Step 4:** Complete Registration Form

**School ID: 050386**

**School Code: 737678811**

The posting of credits to your child's account is done on the Nutrikids website by using a credit card or via Paypal. A link to nutrikids.com is on the Parent Portal, and also on the HHS website. You will be able to view your child's meal purchases online, by accessing your account on the Nutrikids website. We are encouraging you to create an account for your child, but the system is flexible, so you may still pay for meals with cash.

If your child qualifies for Free-or-Reduced price lunches or breakfasts, this information is securely contained within the system and the transaction will be processed just as it is for all other students.

If you are concerned about a food allergy that your child has, please provide the cafeteria with this information. A warning will appear on the cashier's screen for a quick review of the items on the student's meal tray.

**COUNSELING CORNER**  
(By C. Dalton, J. Jones,  
N. Mathrole, I. Preciado)

**CAFETERIA COMPUTERIZED  
PAYMENT SYSTEM**

The Liberty Union High School District recently adopted the Nutrikids computerized Point-of-Sale payment system for meals purchased in the district's cafeterias. Some parents may be familiar with a similar system that is used by some of the elementary schools.

Each student has their own meal account based on their Student ID number. Transactions will only require that the student swipe their ID card across a scanner that is located at each cashier terminal.

Summer has arrived! And with its arrival, the Counseling Department wishes our Class of 2015 the best life has to offer. Good luck to you and all your dreams.

The Counseling Department also welcomes the Class of 2019 to the Heritage campus. We hope that your four years with us are positive, challenging and rewarding. We also welcome the Class of 2019 parents. The Counseling Office has many tools to help your child be successful. We would like to recommend a few points to help you and your child transition into high school.

- Be active in your child's education and activities.
- Monitor your child on the Parent Portal.

- Encourage your child to become involved in clubs, sports, theater and other extracurricular activities.
- Check homework and discuss the assignments with your child.
- Be sure your child is doing his/her work the day it is assigned. With our A/B Block schedule, students sometimes wait until the day before it is due. We highly advise against this.
- Have your child do more than just what is required in homework. Encourage him/her to make flash cards, discuss the topics with you and “teach you” what he/she is learning. To be successful at the high school level, doing homework is not enough.
- The high school curriculum trains students to be analytical thinkers. This includes the tools of thinking outside the box, developing different approaches to problem solving, and trouble shooting. Encourage your child to go beyond what is expected.
- Encourage your child to explore careers and colleges. It is never too early to start.

All of the above recommendations can be applied to our other classes also. We especially encourage all grade levels to visit colleges during our breaks and know the various majors each campus has to offer.

Enjoy your summer. We look forward to a fresh new year and especially meeting the Class of 2019.

NCAA Eligibility Center  
(By Scott LeVeque of  
CoreCourseGPA.com)

Class of 2016 athletes...as your junior year wraps up, it's very important that you know where you stand with the NCAA's new 10/7 core course credit standard. Any juniors who have not completed 10 core course credits (including 7 in English, math, and science) PRIOR to the start of your senior year in the fall, will not be eligible to attain NCAA DI Qualifier status and compete in their sport as a college freshman. All junior year student-athletes, regardless of GPA, are affected by this new credit standard.

The classes of 2017 and beyond have time to adjust and correct core course credit deficiencies. Getting started now in tracking and planning your NCAA core courses, if you haven't already, is crucial. With only six semesters available, the DI timeline has been moved up and the margin for error greatly reduced.

For more information on this, please see the attached brochure.

HERITAGE HIGH LIGHTS  
(By Rose Thompson)

■ Congratulations to **Austin Rickli**. Austin was selected by Contra Costa County to receive a Youth Hall of Fame Award for his valuable contributions to our community.

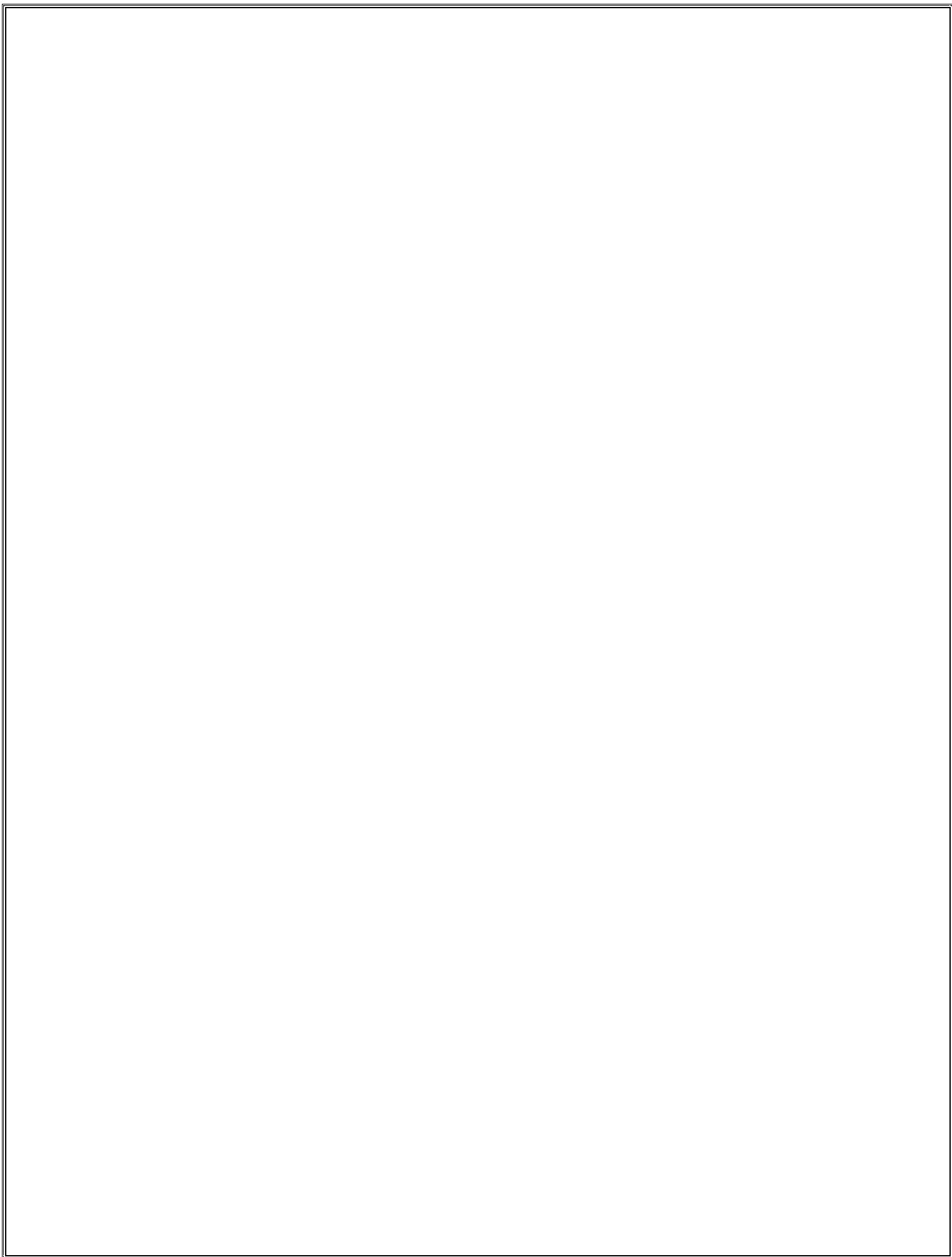
■ Congratulations to Mr. Tinder and his Business Finance students for their outstanding success in the 2014-15 Stock Market Game sponsored by the Securities Industry & Financial Markets Association (SIFMA). Two teams from Heritage won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

**Jaylon Pettis and Giacomo Zivieri:** First Place-High School Division.

**Michael Silva and Adam Ortega:** Second Place-High School Division.

■ Congratulations to **Penelope Stevenson** who received the 2015 ROP Student of Excellence Award for ROP Computer Aided Drafting and Design.

■ Students in Mrs. Worden's Design Drafting, Jumpstart to Engineering, and ROPCADD classes produced amazing results at the Contra Costa County Fair this past weekend. There were 39-1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners, 53-2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winners, and 25-3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winners. **Best of Class:** Nicholas Shaw, Tyler Fletcher, Nico Kang (2 categories), and Jeremiah Eseed. **Best of Division:** Tyler Fletcher and Nico Kang. **Best of Show:** Nico Kang. Congratulations to these students for a job well done!







**GET  
READY**

For more information:  
**eligibilitycenter.org**  
2point3.org  
@NCAA\_EC

## YOUR CHECKLIST

If you want to play sports at a Division I or II school, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).

### FRESHMEN

- Ask your counselor for a list of your high school's NCAA core courses and make sure you take them.
- Study hard and earn good grades.

### SOPHOMORES

- Register at the beginning of the year at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).
- Make sure you take core courses on your high school's List of NCAA Courses.

### JUNIORS

- Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate on time.
- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA using code 9999.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor to send your official transcript to the Eligibility Center.

### SENIORS

- Take the ACT or SAT again, if necessary.
- Request amateurism certification after April 1.
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to submit your final official transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

**GO**



**WANT  
TO PLAY  
COLLEGE  
SPORTS?**



## ELIGIBILITYCENTER.ORG

If you want to play NCAA sports at an NCAA Division I or II school, you need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org). The Eligibility Center works with you and your high school to certify your initial eligibility.

## CORE COURSES

Not all high school classes are NCAA core courses. A core course prepares you for a four-year college and is taught at or above your high school's regular academic level. Visit [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org) for a full list of your high school's core courses.

## GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

Only classes on your high school's List of NCAA Courses will be used for your core-course GPA.

## TEST SCORES

Division I schools match test scores and core-course GPA on a sliding scale. After August 1, 2018, Division II schools will also use a sliding scale. Find the sliding scales at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).

An SAT combined score is calculated by adding your reading and math scores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English, math, reading and science scores. You may take the SAT or ACT as many times as you like before you enroll full time in college. If you take either test more than once, the best sub score from each section is used for initial-eligibility purposes.

When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 so your scores are sent directly from the testing agency. Test scores on transcripts will not be used in your academic certification.

## DIVISION I GUIDELINES

### Before August 1, 2016

- Graduate high school.
- Complete 16 high school core courses in four academic years.
- Earn at least a 2.000 GPA in your high school core courses.
- Earn the SAT or ACT score that matches your core-course GPA (minimum 2.000) on the Division I sliding scale.

### After August 1, 2016

- Graduate high school.
- Complete 16 high school core courses in four academic years. Ten core courses, with at least seven in English, math or science, must be completed before you start your seventh semester.
- Earn at least a 2.300 GPA in your core courses.
- Earn the SAT or ACT score that matches your core-course GPA (minimum 2.300) on the Division I sliding scale.

### Core Courses

To play sports at a Division I school, you must complete these core courses:

- 4 years of English;
- 3 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher);
- 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if your high school offers it);
- 1 additional year of English, math or natural or physical science;
- 2 years of social science; and
- 4 additional years of English, math, natural or physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy.

## DIVISION II GUIDELINES

### Before August 1, 2018

- Graduate high school.
- Complete 16 high school core courses.
- Earn at least a 2.000 GPA in your high school core courses.
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

### After August 1, 2018

- Graduate high school.
- Complete 16 high school core courses.
- Earn at least a 2.200 GPA in your core courses.
- Earn the SAT or ACT score that matches your core-course GPA (minimum 2.200) on the Division II sliding scale.

### Core Courses

To play sports at a Division II school, you must complete these core courses:

- 3 years of English;
- 2 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher);
- 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if your high school offers it);
- 3 additional years of English, math or natural or physical science;
- 2 years of social science; and
- 4 additional years of English, math, natural or physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy.