



Five Days of Tests for Grades 3-8

Common Core Testing



Photo by Woody Jenkins

CENTRAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL — Staff members at Central Intermediate School greet visitors. Shown (left to right) are Dee Dee O'Quin, CIS assistant principal Julie Stevens, and Sharon Leblanc.

Governor Proposes Ending CC, Adopting Louisiana-Based Test

BATON ROUGE - On Wednesday, Gov. Jindal announced a plan "to remove Common Core from Louisiana and replace it with high-quality Louisiana standards while ensuring that Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) contracts, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), and Cooperative Endeavor Agreements (CEAs) do not hand control of Louisiana schools to third-party entities or the federal government."

The plan will also replace the PARCC test, prohibit the collection of biometric information from students, and ensure that BESE, like all state agencies, is subject to the Administrative Procedures Act (APA).

Gov. Jindal emphasized that this package of legislation will help to address the growing concern and frustration surrounding Common Core and the PARCC assessment, as more parents opt out of these tests and

seek clarity for their children's academic future.

Jindal said, "This legislation will help us get Common Core out of Louisiana once and for all. We will not accept this one-sized-fits-all approach to our children's education. The package of legislation will make clear that the federal government or third parties do not have control over Louisiana's schools, and help ensure that Louisiana parents and

Continued on Page 5

Central Schools Required To Administer PARCC Test But Taking Test Is Optional

CENTRAL - Nearly 2,000 students at Central Middle and Central Intermediate schools are completing five days of tests offered as part of Common Core national standards. The tests, which last 90 minutes each day, are known as PARCC, short for Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, or BESE, has required that Central and other school systems offer the tests, but it is up to parents to decide whether their child will take the tests.

In Central, 153 students had opted out of the tests, as of Monday. This was eight percent of the students eligible to take the tests in grades 3-8. Only Calcasieu and Jackson parishes had higher opt-out rates.

Central schools Supt. Mike Faulk and other Central school officials pushed hard to encourage participation, partly because BESE said students who did not participate would get a zero, which could lower overall school performance scores. However, on Tuesday, BESE chairman Chas Roemer said that students choosing to opt out would not result in lower letter grades for schools in the Central school system.

Supt. Faulk: We Support Our Parents' Decisions

CENTRAL - Central Supt. Mike Faulk said it has been a busy week, as Central Middle and Central Intermediate schools have administered a controversial PARCC test to nearly 2,000 Central students in grades 3-8, while responding to issues raised by the fact that many students opted out.

Supt. Faulk said, "The taxpayers and the parents of this community are our bosses. That is one of the reasons we completely support the decision by our parents on whether to participate in the PARCC test. That is your right, and we back you up. We were not expecting the large number of students who opted out this week, and we had to make some decisions on logistics very quickly. Where we made mistakes, please forgive us. We want every parent to know that you are an indispensable part of this school system and we greatly value your continued involvement and support."

BESE Chairman Chas Roemer Weighs In

Opt-Out Won't Hurt Central School Ratings

An 'A' School Won't Become 'B' School Because Parents Opted Out of Test

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central Wildcat

BATON ROUGE - In an exclusive interview with the *Central Wildcat* Tuesday afternoon, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education chairman Chas Roemer said the board will not allow the Central Community School System to be penalized because a large

number of students have opted out of PARCC tests being administered this week. Roemer said the board had anticipated that many parents would opt out of the tests around the state but the large number in Central came as a surprise.

"We've told state Supt. John White to give us an analysis of how many students have opted out in each school district. But the fact that they have opted out will not affect the school's performance score," Roemer said.

"In other words, if you're an 'A' school, you're not going to become a 'B' school

because of students opting out. Central will have to go through the process we established to deal with testing just like everyone else. That will be a fair process."

Roemer said opting out of standardized tests is nothing new. It simply has not gotten a lot of publicity in the past. "I urge parents to have their children participate in these tests, but students have every right to opt out, and we support that. They also have a right to opt out of LEAP and iLEAP. But PARCC has been more controversial, and more students have chosen to opt out of this exam."



Chas Roemer, chairman, Board of Elementary & Second Education

Roemer said BESE's policy is that students who do not participate in PARCC will get a zero on the test for statistical purposes but that will not affect the student or the school's performance rating.

Although Roemer was questioned about how parents opting out of PARCC would affect Central's school performance scores, his answers apparently apply to other school districts around the state where large numbers of students opted out of the tests.

The PARCC test results will not be released until this fall, Roemer said.

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CENTRAL HIGH CONCERT CHOIR — Congratulations to the Central High School Concert Choir for receiving Superior scores at District Festival and qualifying for State Festival. They are planning to compete at State Festival in Lake Charles next month.

Update on Issues Facing Central School System

CENTRAL — Here is an update on some of the issues facing the Central Community School System:

- **Future of Common Core** — With Gov. Jindal's proposals on the table to repeal Common Core and replace it with Louisiana-based standards and testing, the future of Common Core is up in the air. We really won't know what will happen next year until the Louisiana Legislature meets this spring and deals with the issue.
- **Calendar for 2015-2016 School Year.** The Central Community School Board will consider the School Calendar for the coming year at its meeting March 30. Two proposals will be considered — Calendar 3a and Calendar 3b. The proposals are identical for the Fall Semester. Both provide that the school year would begin for students on Aug. 13. Key dates are Sept. 7 Labor Day; Sept. 25 Staff Only Day; Oct. 23 Parent-Teacher conferences; Oct. 26 Fall Break; Nov. 20 Staff Only Day; Nov. 23-27 Thanksgiving holiday; and Dec. 17-18 Early Dismissal. Christmas holidays would start Dec. 21. Jan. 4-5 would be Staff Only Days, and students would return to class Jan. 6.

- Future of Common Core
- Calendar for 2015-2016
- Vision for School System
- Future of ROTC Program
- Alternative Discipline Program
- Reassignment of Duties
- New Facebook Page

In the Spring Semester, Calendar 3a and Calendar 3b are the same in the following ways:
 Jan. 18 Semester Begins; Feb. 8-10 Mardi Gras Break; March 21-28 Easter Break.
 The main difference is that Calendar 3a would end the school year for students on May 24, whereas Calendar 3b would include Spring Break April 21-22 and end the school year for students May 25.

- **Vision for School System.** On

April 6, the Central Community School Board will sit as the Committee of the Whole and consider four proposals that would affect the direction of the school system.

Proposal No. 1 would re-state the system's approach to instruction; expand communication; provide new opportunities for staff growth, and better integrate technology into instruction.

Proposal No. 2 would continue the Jr. ROTC Program at Central High School. Supt. Mike Faulk has been in communication with the U.S. Army and developed a plan for continuing and enhancing the program.

The plan addresses declining enrollment in ROTC, the quality of the program, the cost to the general fund, and oversight of the program.

In the future, the program will abide by policies and procedures established by the Central school system; allow Central to select the instructors in the program; require teachers to use the same teaching standards employed in the rest of the school system; and meet the Army's expectations for the program

including integrated extracurricular activities such as color guard, participation in national ROTC leadership and academic bowls, and other activities.

The program would be reduced from a 12-month to a 10-month program, but the school system would expand participation.

During the current year, the budget for ROTC is \$258,000 with Central providing \$203,000 and the Army \$55,000.

Proposal No. 3 would restructure the school system's Alternative Program and Discipline Center. The Alternative Program would be open to students who have been expelled from school for the violations outlined in the student handbook. Minor offenses which do not warrant expulsion would be assigned to before- or after-school detention and housed at the student's school. Students with repeated offenses of a minor nature would be assigned to in-school suspension at the student's school. Continued discipline problems would result in out-of-school suspension, resulting in unexcused absences and the inability to gain credit for work missed.

Discipline issues such as fighting are handled by the school system's Zero Tolerance Policy, which currently applies at age 14. Under the proposal, that age would be dropped to 12.

Bullying and cyber-bullying would be serious offenses resulting in out-of-school suspensions and unexcused absences.

- **Proposal No. 4** would reassign duties so that all academic, instructional, and curriculum responsibilities would be under one umbrella.

- **Central Community School System Now Has a Facebook Page.** The school system has had an active web presence since the school system was created in 2007. However, it is now offering a Facebook page, which is designed to reach into the community more aggressively.

Supt. Faulk said, "Our research shows a high percentage of people use Facebook as their source of information. We will use it to distribution information to the public."

The Facebook page is "Central Community School System."

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Central High School DEMCO Essay Winners

Six of 12 Finalists In Competition Were from CHS

CENTRAL — Essays in the 2015 DEMCO Rural Electric Youth Tour Essay Contest were submitted from 12 schools from the seven-parish DEMCO service area. Then 12 finalists were chosen to present their essays before a panel of judges March 3 at White Oak Plantation.

Of the 12 finalists, six were from Central High!

Grant Falcon, Madison Hadden, Sarah Pursifull, Lizzie Wicker, Lexi David, and Kylie Yglesias of Central High all gave compelling speeches.

Here is Lexi David's winning speech on the devastating effects of traumatic brain injury:

Is Negligence Worth the Risk?

What would your last words be to someone you love? What would you say?

It never occurred to me that I might have to say goodbye. I was walking to my mom's hospital room the night of her accident, faced with the reality that people are not invulnerable.

Doctors don't always have all the answers.

I discovered that my mother was in a coma as a result of a traumatic brain injury, and that other than stabilizing her and making sure her vitals were in check, there was nothing more the doctors knew to do.

A traumatic brain injury (TBI) is defined as nondegenerative, noncongenital insult to the brain from an external mechanical force, possibly leading to permanent or temporary impairment of cognitive, physical, and psychosocial functions, with an associated diminished or altered state of consciousness.

In other words, it's a severe brain injury that can weaken a person's thinking, motor, and social skills. Each year TBIs contribute to a substantial number of deaths and cases of permanent disability.

According to the Brain Trauma Foundation, at least 5.3 million Americans currently live with disabilities as a result of TBIs, and an estimated 52,000 deaths occur from TBIs yearly. The most significant fact about this type of injury is that, unlike many diseases, TBIs differ from person to person in both severity and location within the brain. This means that there is no definite treatment or cure for them, especially in the case that the injury results in a coma.

Though TBIs may not have a set treatment or cure, they all have a common way of prevention: Safety and awareness within a community.

The United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention notes that brain injuries are most often caused by motor vehicle crashes, sports injuries, or simple falls on the playground, at work or in the home. The occurrence of these types of injuries can be lessened by making a few small, but crucial changes in not only our everyday lives, but also our community.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DEMCO ESSAY WINNERS — Central High School's DEMCO Electric Youth Tour Essay Contest finalists (L to R): Lizzie Wicker, Sarah Pursifull, Lexi David, Grant Falcon, Kylie Yglesias, and Madison Hadden

As individuals, it is our job to take the provisions necessary to keep our brains and those around us safe.

One of the simplest ways to do this is to take into deep consideration the importance of a helmet. Whether it be while playing contact sports or taking part in potentially dangerous activities such as horseback riding, bicycling/motorcycling, ATV riding, or skateboarding, a helmet should be worn at all times by people of all ages.

Adults should also keep a close eye on children, especially when visiting more risky places, such as playgrounds or swimming pools. People should never assume they are too old or experienced to apply these safeties in their everyday lives.

As a community, we should work together to educate the public on how important this safety is. Signs should be placed in different locations to remind the community of the potential dangers of not wearing a helmet or being careful when partaking in certain activities. Safety laws, such as motor vehicle operating age and riding capacity, should also be more strongly enforced within the community.

These are just a few of the many ways to lessen the amount of traumatic brain injuries that occur within your community. Though they may seem unimportant or somewhat pointless, they can make all the difference in the severity of an accident.

To better emphasize the need for safety precautions, I'd like to share with you a little more of my mother's

story. Last August marked the one-year anniversary of her accident. It also marked the end of an entire year in which I was not able to hold a conversation with her. Though she has made many improvements, she is still in a comatose state. This keeps her from being able to partake in the activities of her daily

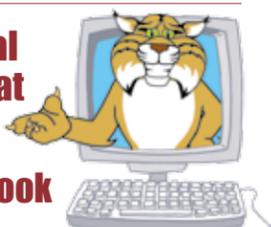
life, or watch those of her children.

All this because she got in an ATV accident. She wasn't wearing a helmet.

With this in mind, I now hope you understand not only the importance of taking precautions to prevent traumatic brain injuries, but also the dangers of ignoring them.

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WAFB's Jay Grymes visits Tanglewood



TANGLEWOOD 2ND GRADERS AND TEACHERS pose with WAFB's Chief Meteorologist and LSU AgCenter Climatologist Jay Grymes. At right, Jay with Addie Vance.

CENTRAL —The 2nd graders at Tanglewood Elementary have been studying weather and the water cycle. To connect their unit to real world experiences, WAFB's Chief Meteorologist, Jay Grymes visited Tanglewood.

During his visit, Mr. Grymes gave a presentation on weather

and the water cycle.

The students learned about different types of clouds, how meteorologists predict the weather, and why the water cycle is important to weather. The students had a great time and were so excited to hear Mr. Grymes mention them on the 6 o'clock news!

CMS Choirs Earned Superior Ratings At District IV Performance Assessment



Central Middle School 8th Grade Choir

CENTRAL —Last week, the Central Middle School Choirs participated in the Louisiana Music Educators Association District IV Large Ensemble Music Performance Assessment.

This event is sponsored by the LMEA. It is a way for a choir and its director to receive feedback from professionals in the field of music education.

The choirs participated in two separate events — concert performance and sight-reading.

The choirs scored well, and each group left the MPA with an

award. The 6th grade choir received a Superior rating in the concert portion and an Excellent rating in the sight-reading portion.

The 7th grade treble chorus received an Excellent rating for the concert portion and a Superior rating for the sight-reading portion.

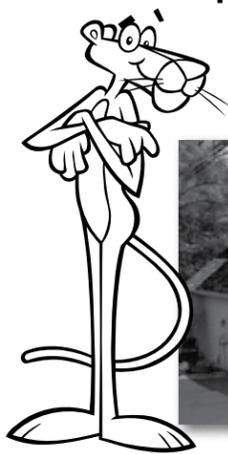
The 8th grade chamber choir received an Excellent rating for the concert portion and a Superior rating for the sight-reading portion.

The students have worked very hard this semester, and their hard work paid off last week at the Music Performance Assessment.

Spring Fling Eggstravaganza March 29

St. Alphonsus Kids In Ministry will host their annual **Spring Fling Eggstravaganza on Sunday, March 29, 2015**, in the grassy field behind the Family Center at **1 to 3 p.m.** All children **infants thru 5th grade** and their families are welcome to join us for food, games, crafts and an egg run! Bring a blanket for a picnic with your family and a camera for a photo with the Easter Bunny. For more information call 261-4644

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Gov. Jindal: Repeal Common Core in La.

Continued from Page 1

teachers create Louisiana standards and curriculum.”

First, this plan “will immediately remove Common Core from Louisiana, and establish a clear and transparent standards adoption process that includes parents, educators, and school leaders.”

Jindal said no standards adoption or review process exists in current law, which allows BESE to circumvent the public process, as the Board did when they adopted Common Core as “guidelines,” in 2010 and failed to promulgate the standards through the APA rulemaking process. There is no guarantee that the current BESE standards revision process will include the public or be controlled within Louisiana using Louisiana teachers, he said.

Prior to 2010, BESE worked with groups of Louisiana teachers to review standards by grade level and subject area. Jindal said his legislation would return to the pre-Common Core standards adoption process—all the while making the process more transparent and

easier to understand. While these new Louisiana standards were being developed, Louisiana schools would use the 2004-2005 Grade Level Expectations, and the LEAP and iLEAP would be administered with a replenished questions bank. He said this would bring clarity for teachers who are on the front lines and educating our children in the classroom.

Under the new adoption process, elected officials involved in education (including the Legislature, school board members and BESE members) would vote on the draft standards and give parents the opportunity to weigh in and express their concerns. Ultimately, the standards would be approved by majority vote of both houses of the Legislature through an up or down vote with recommendations sent to BESE for amendments.

These new standards would also set minimum requirements for English Language Arts by giving equal consideration to elements that have been minimized in the Common Core standards, like classic litera-

ture and complete works of literature. The new standards would also set minimum requirements for the use of math algorithms that consistently result in a correct answer and follow traditional formulations to combat Common Core’s use of what Gov. Jindal called “fuzzy math.” He said this will ensure students are learning both how to achieve the right answer and the right answer.

Second, Jindal’s plan would prohibit BESE from entering into contracts, MOUs, CEAs, or agreements that violate Louisiana’s control of education.

The plan would prohibit state funds from being spent on state contracts, MOUs, CEAs or agreements between BESE, the state Superintendent of Education, or any employee of the Department of Education and any third-party nongovernmental entity that has competing authority over education in Louisiana, unless expressly provided for in law.

Additionally, no state or public funds could be spent on any contract, MOU, CEA, or waiver

agreement entered into by a public education body in Louisiana that would constitute a shift in policy in response to the federal regulation or financial incentives from the federal government, unless expressly provided for in law.

All MOUs or agreements in place on the effective date of the act would be amended to comply with the act within 60 days or be considered null and void.

This legislation would prohibit any state employee, state education board member, legislator, or executive branch staff member from receiving anything of economic value from a contract with BESE or the Department of Education. BESE members and the State Superintendent would also be prohibited from participating in any organization that requires adherence to or adoption of standards, conditions, or policies as a condition of membership or participation. It will also establish a two-year “cooling off” period for these same employees.

Parents Tell Why They Opted Out

CENTRAL - Opposition to Common Core has been simmering for the past year in Central, but it came to a head over the past week, when 153 students chose to opt out of PARCC tests, which are administered as part of Common Core.

Three prominent Central citizens were among parents who spoke out — Central Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Kim Fralick, City Councilman Shane Evans, and Greenwell Springs Baptist Church pastor, Dr. Jeff Meyers.

Dr. Fralick has been careful not to criticize the Central school sys-

tem. “I love our schools and administrators. They are caught in the middle,” she said. Instead, she has focused on the Obama administration and the State Department of Education.

She said “Common Core is about the federal takeover of education. It is promoted as providing higher standards, but their guidelines have never been tested. Our students are guinea pigs for an untested system. PARCC is promoted as a way to compare our students, but only nine states are using PARCC,

and the test in Louisiana is a different test, a PARCC-like test but not the same test. You won’t be able to use it to compare us with others. In any case, we already have the ACT test to compare us to others.” Fralick said, “The tests are on average two years ahead of grade level and are setting us up for failure. The ‘solution’ will be a national curriculum imposed on us all.”

Dr. Meyers was interviewed on WAFB-TV about his opposition to PARCC.

Evans has been critical of PARCC on Facebook.

Thank You to Volunteers at CIS Book Fair

The Faculty and Staff at Central Intermediate School would like to give a great big “shout out” and thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this year’s Scholastic book fair a huge success.

The money raised will be used to purchase Accelerated Reader prizes for students and to purchase Scholastic magazines for the classes. Ms. Cindy Blanchard, the CIS Librarian, said, “Because of our amazing parents and volunteers, we had a great book fair!”

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Central Intermediate Students Enjoyed Louisiana Day



Central Intermediate students learned more about their State of Louisiana during Louisiana Day. There was Mardi Gras, Cajun dancing, and Miss Louisiana.

CENTRAL - Central Intermediate School 3rd graders recently enjoyed Louisiana Day. Students traveled through many stations learning about Louisiana alligators, tasting authentic Louisiana foods, and talking with Miss Louisiana, Sara Comiskey.

Special activities included Cajun dance lessons and a Mardi Gras parade through the halls of CIS led by the Central High School Jazz Band. Thanks to all of our volunteers and local businesses for their support!

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Bellingrath Students Learn to Be Leaders



HABIT 5 — Laton Weng, Amari Roberts, Aden Bourgeois, Cannon Harvey, Kendall Turner, Rowen Nydegger, and Makenzie Adams were good examples to fellow students.

Students Study Sean Covey's Seven Habits of Happy Kids

CENTRAL — The students at Bellingrath Hills Elementary are learning to be leaders! Each month, our students focus on one of *The Seven Habits of Happy Kids* by Sean Covey.

This version of the *Leader in Me* program is designed specifically for our district's youngest leaders. It teaches them about the power of living according to positive principles such as: being responsible,

planning ahead, teamwork, balance, and respect. Each month a breakfast is held to honor students who demonstrate a particular habit exceptionally well. These students were our winners for the month of February: Laton Weng, Amari Roberts, Aden Bourgeois, Cannon Harvey, Kendall Turner, Rowen Nydegger, and Makenzie Adams. This was for Habit 5 – Seek first to understand, then to be understood.



BELLINGRATH VOLUNTEERS— Sharon Browning, Tricia Pourciau, Mary Kay Bertaut, Meg Bertaut, Joy Albright and Pat Bordelon were honored for their service.

Bellingrath Elementary School Faculty, Staff Honor Volunteers

CENTRAL — The Bellingrath Hills Elementary faculty and staff honored volunteers March 4 with a spring-themed breakfast. BHE truly thanks the many parents, grandparents and community members who contribute so much to the learning and growing experiences at the school. Each day various helpers are seen coming and going, performing tasks from making copies and assisting students, to

making it possible to have tons of fun while learning!

One such project was making pretend snowflakes in Mrs. Hannah Schmidt's class. Emerson Cahill, a student in Mrs. Schmidt's room, said, "It's good to have other grown-ups to help in my class. One time we got to cut up and put glitter on paper to make snowflakes and it was like making real snowflakes. It's was so much fun!"

CIS 4th Grade Students Make Ice Cream, Study Science



Kamrin Pitcher, Landon Denson, Alexis Debetaz, and Mr. Nall make ice cream.



Mrs. Strother helps Cadence Ilgenfritz measure ingredients

CENTRAL — Mrs. Beth Strother's 4th grade classes at Central Intermediate School recently studied forms of energy. As a culminating activity, they each made ice cream. This activity showed students a hands-on demonstration of how heat energy always moves from a warmer object to a cooler object. The students enjoyed this fun way to learn science!

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Dual Enrollment Program at Central High

CENTRAL - Central High School senior Tierney Rowe will enter college this fall as a sophomore with 36 hours of college credit.

Tierney is not alone. This year, almost 200 CHS juniors and seniors will have earned college credit while still enrolled in high school through the Dual Enrollment (DE) program.

CHS students can earn college credit in Advanced Math, Biology, Freshman English, Physics, Western Civilization, and more.

CHS assistant principal Nathan Corley said, "Central's kids have a head start on other kids. They can take all their freshman core classes while still in school."

Many students, like junior Kaety Finn, plan on taking DE courses instead of Advanced Placement classes. "It's easier to get college credit by doing the work than by taking an AP test and hoping you get the credit," Kaety said.

The work load is more difficult, but, for seniors with room in their schedules, DE courses can make senior year about more than making memories. Students can be laying the foundation for their future.

In these days of rising tuition costs, taking advantage of the DE program makes economic sense, especially since the district currently pays for the first two DE classes. Parents have to pay tuition for any subsequent DE classes, but the cost is usually minimal compared to classes on college campuses. Students pay an additional \$17 for Biology lab, for example.

In the 2011-2012 school year,

only 40 Central High students took DE courses, but with more course offerings on campus, participation has grown exponentially. Students can now take courses through partnerships with LSU, Baton Rouge Community College, and Louisiana Tech.

A number of CHS teachers have been certified as BRCC instructors, so students can take more advanced DE courses with teachers they already know.

Mary Whisnant teaches Biology 120 and 121, Lynn Younger teaches English 101 and 102, and Wiley Iverstine teaches Physics 201 and 210.

Credits transfer between Louisiana state institutions, and interested parents and students can check the Board of Regents Articulation Matrix online for the equivalent course numbers at different institutions. For example, students taking Ms. Whisnant's Biology courses will receive credit for LSU's Biology 1201, 1202, 1208, and 1209.

Qualifying for DE courses is based on ACT scores. Students must score an 18 on the ACT English portion to take English courses, and a 19 on the math portion to take math or science courses. The March ACT will give juniors a chance to qualify, but current 10th graders who want to take DE courses as juniors should plan on signing up for the April or June ACT tests.

College partnerships and new DE courses are important to giving CHS students a head start. The newest DE course is Powerlifting, offered through Louisiana Tech. "Only four students are enrolled now, but it's a great start," CHS principal David Prescott said.

Anyone interested in the DE program should contact the counselors at Central High.



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A Note from Central Principal, Mr. Prescott

A big thank you to everyone who helped with our AdvancEd accreditation. From the parent and community interviewees to the students to the staff, everyone came together and helped show what a great place CHS really is. The school received full accreditation and was commended for several areas including community involvement and technology integration. Thanks again for your continued hard work and support.

— David Prescott



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Tanglewood Students Stand Together



HANNAH DILLARD (center) suffers from congenital heart problems, but her classmates are helping out! Shown are (left photo) Brady Black, Belkis Pineda, Genesis Reyes-Molina, Cade Starns, Ayden Fontenot, Wyatt Allday, and Mackenzie Broussard. Shown at right are Ryan Smith, Addison Moore, Alaysia Proctor, Madox Blanton, Camille Jackson, Adam Cullen, and Yeimy Moran.

CENTRAL - On the outside, Hannah Dillard appears to be a happy, healthy, giggly 2nd grader at Tanglewood in Mrs. Ensminger's class. However, there is so much more going in that sweet little heart of hers. Hannah was diagnosed with 2:1 Atrio Ventricular Block, Torsades de Pointes, and Long QT

Syndrome the day she was born. She had her very first surgery with a pacemaker implanted at only two days old. Along with daily medication, her conditions and symptoms are managed with follow up doctor appointments every three months. Hannah is scheduled to have her

next surgery in two years. She will have a defibrillator added and her pacemaker replaced.

Founded in 2001, the Louisiana Pediatric Cardiology Foundation (LPCF) provides grants to families across south central Louisiana to assist with travel and living expenses during their child's inpatient cardiac surgeries and procedures.

In 2014, 73 local families received financial assistance, totaling over \$50,000, and the needs continue to grow each year. On Feb. 12, Tanglewood participated in a Dollar Donation Heart Day. They collected and donated \$530 to LPFC. Go Tanglewood!

Signing Day For Standout CHS Athletes

CENTRAL - Two outstanding players from the 2014 Central Wildcat football team signed commitments to the colleges of their choice Wednesday, March 18 in ceremonies held in the Wildcat weight room at Central High School. Both are offensive linemen.

Hyatt Harris will attend New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM, where he is likely to play tackle. Harris is a two-year starter for the Wildcats. Jace Bragg will attend Murray State University in Murray, KY. Jace started his senior year and improved during the season. Coach Frank Fresina congratulated both athletes for their character and hard work.



Hyatt Harris
NM Military



Jace Bragg
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