

Wahlert Catholic News

February 12, 2021

Upcoming Dates:

- **February 11-24:** ACT Test Prep Seminars (Sophomores-Seniors)*
- **February 15:** Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.
- **February 17:** Ash Wednesday
- **February 22:** Payment deadline for March ACT exam at Wahlert*
- **February 24:** Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.
- **February 25:** Parent/Teacher Conferences, 11:00 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.
- **February 25:** No School | Professional Development
- **February 26:** No School
- **March 2:** District ACT exam hosted at Wahlert*
- **March 15-19:** Spring Break
- **April 2:** No School | Good Friday
- **April 17:** National ACT exam hosted at Wahlert*

** Additional information found in the Guidance News Corner found below.*

Parent/Teacher Virtual Conferences

Wahlert Catholic High School will be offering Parent/Teacher virtual Conferences on the following dates:

- **Monday, February 15, 4:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, February 24, 4:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.**
- **Thursday, February 25, 11:00 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.**

These conferences will be **virtual only via video conference**. Starting Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., parents are encouraged to **follow these instructions** to schedule their video conferences for their student(s). Parents can print off their conference schedule once their video conferences are scheduled for their student(s).

Please contact Wahlert Catholic High School's main office at (563) 583-9771 with any questions.

Reserve your copy of the 2020–2021 Yearbook!

Don't forget to order your 2020-2021 yearbook!

- Books can be ordered and paid for online at wahlertyearbooks.com
- Not sure if you've purchased a book? **Email Ms. Gaul** and she can check.

Congratulations!

Scholastic Writing Award Recipients

Kudos to three excellent authors for earning top recognition from Scholastic for their writing skills. Wahlert senior Catherine earned a Silver Key for her individual submission and a Gold Key for her portfolio; Kenna, a sophomore, earned a Gold Key; and Zoey, a junior, earned a Gold Key and also the American Voices Award. Congratulations, ladies – we're proud of your great work!

Wahlert Band Instructor David Bechard

Mr. Bechard has been named to **Yamaha's 40 Under 40 List**. When he started at Wahlert Catholic, the band had 13 members. After relentless recruiting for 18 months, the band grew to 52 members — a growth of 400%! “My plan was to make band fun and create a sense of ownership for the students,” Bechard said. “I focused on building their sense of community and pride.”

Mr. Bechard was selected out of over 450 nomination letters from across the country. Yamaha honors 40 Under 40 educators for the positive impact they have on their students, school, and wider musical community.

Congratulations, Mr. Bechard, and thanks for all you do for Wahlert students to encourage a love of music!

Wahlert Swimming and Diving Coach Emily Snyder

Coach Snyder was recognized by the National Federation of State High School Associations as the **19-20 Iowa Girls Swimming and Diving Coach of the Year!** Honorees were selected based on their coaching performance, lifetime community involvement, school involvement and philosophy of coaching. State associations recommend coaches for this national recognition that are leading their sport, shaping their athletes, and contributing in a positive way to their community.

Congratulations, Coach Snyder! We're so grateful for the gifts you share with our student athletes and the Wahlert community!

Driver's Education Opportunities

Parents are asked to directly contact any of the three local driving academies listed below if interested in registering their student(s) for driver's education.

A-Tri State Driving School

Kent Paca, Instructor
(563) 583-3003

Dubuque Driving Academy

Susie Quinn, Instructor
dbqdrivingacademy.com

4BES Driving School, LLC

Craig Forbes, Instructor
(563) 599-2934; (563) 583-7368

Wahlert Counseling News Corner:

Registration Now Open | ACT District Exam, March 2

In an effort to ensure that our sophomores, juniors, and seniors have an opportunity to take the ACT exam this academic year, Wahlert is now a district testing site for the spring ACT exam (with writing). This means that Wahlert will administer the ACT exam (with writing) during the school day at Wahlert on Tuesday, March 2, for our sophomores, juniors, and seniors who are interested in and registered for this particular exam. Additional details regarding what to expect on test day will be communicated to parents and students in the upcoming weeks.

PLEASE NOTE...

- Payment for the March 2nd ACT exam **must** be submitted (either via eFunds or by check) no later than Monday, February 22.
- Payments after Monday, February 22, will **not** be accepted as Wahlert's Counseling Office will be working with registered students to complete portions of the non-test sections in the week leading up to exam day.
- If you have issues with submitting a payment via eFunds, please contact dlensen@holyfamilydbq.org as soon as possible. Otherwise, please submit payment by check to Wahlert's Counseling Office by the February 22nd deadline.

Spring ACT District Exam

Exam Day: Tuesday, March 2

Cost: \$59.50 per student

Registration Deadline: Monday, February 22

Who can take the exam? This exam is available to our sophomores, juniors,

and seniors. (If you have questions about if your sophomore should take the ACT exam in March, please contact our school counselors at klenart@holyfamilydbq.org or dbuddebandy@holyfamilydbq.org.

- **Registration for the March 2nd ACT exam at Wahlert is not completed on ACT's website.**
Students are to submit their exam payment using their family's online Holy Family eFunds account by February 22nd to register. [Click here](#) to log in to your eFunds account, select or add your student, select "Pay for Optional Fees", and select "ACT March 2, 2021" to submit payment. [Click here](#) for a step-by-step guide to using e-Funds if this is a new program for your family.
- **Families may submit payment via check if they prefer not to submit payment online.**
Checks may be made payable to Wahlert Catholic High School; please indicate in the memo portion of the check your student's name and if they plan to take the writing portion of the exam on March 2).
- **Wahlert is only offering the ACT exam with writing for the March district exam. Students are encouraged to participate in writing portion of the exam; however, this is portion of the exam is optional.**
IMPORTANT: Parents/students are to indicate in the field provided on eFunds if their student plans to take/not take the writing portion of the exam. If your family is paying for this exam by check, please indicate this in the memo portion along with your student's name.
- **We have reserved enough exams for our students to take on March 2nd, so students do not need to worry about registration being a first-come-first-serve basis.** However, payment is due no later than Monday, February 22, to the Guidance Office as we try to limit classroom sizes due to COVID-19.

Please contact Wahlert Catholic High School's Counseling Office at (563) 583-9771 with any questions regarding the spring district exam hosted at Wahlert on March 2nd.

Virtual Medical Career Presentation | NICC & Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services have partnered to offer our students an opportunity to learn more about careers in the medical field, including nursing, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) careers.

Virtual Medical Career Presentation

Wednesday, February 17, 3:30 p.m.

*** Zoom link information provided upon request.**

Please contact dlensen@holyfamilydbq.org or klenart@holyfamilydbq.org for Zoom link information, or with any questions.

ACT Test Prep Seminar | February 11-24

Students who registered for the ZAPS ACT Test Prep Seminar, happening February 11th-24th at Wahlert, were recently emailed their classroom assignments and Zoom link information. Students are to report to their assigned classroom at the start of Mentor Hour (9:00 a.m.) each school day starting on February 11th. Virtual students are to log on at 9:00 a.m. from home using the Zoom link information sent to them.

Should we experience any weather-related school delays/cancellations between February 11th and February 24th, students registered for the seminar will follow the schedule below:

If we have a two hour delay any day between February 11th - 24th, we would start the ZAPS prep session an hour earlier. Instead of starting at

9:00am from school, students would be responsible to connect via Zoom from 8:00-8:40am from home. Students were emailed the Zoom link on Tuesday, February 9th.

If school is cancelled any day between February 11th-24th, students would still be required to connect that day via Zoom from 9-9:40am from home. Students were emailed the Zoom link on Tuesday, February 9th.

On February 17th, Ash Wednesday, the ZAPS prep session will run from 8:40 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Students will then attend Ash Wednesday service at 9:35 a.m.

Students and parents are asked to reach out to Katie Lenart, at (563) 583-9771 or klenart@hollyfamilydbq.org, with any questions.

Certified Nurses Aide Course Opportunities | NICC Summer Courses

NICC is once again offering Certified Nurses Aide (CNA), Dosage Calculations, Medical Terminology, and Nutrition courses over the summer, free of cost. Students who participate are required to receive high school credit for coursework.

The following courses will be offered...

- **HSC: 172 Nurse Aide**
(Students must be 16 years of age by time of clinicals; background checks and TB tests required. Students are not responsible for the registration and materials cost.)
- **PNN: 200 Dosage Calculations** (Online)
- **PNN: 270 Intro to Nutrition** (Online)
- **HSC: 114 Medical Terminology** (Online)

How do I register my student for this opportunity?

In order to register, your student must complete [this interest survey](#) by February 12. From there, NICC will contact you with further information and steps. Course registration is not guaranteed, but NICC will do their best to secure placement for all students. Courses will run between June and

August. Priority registration will be given based on survey completion date and time. The interest survey must be completed by February 12.

If you have any further questions, please contact Katie Lenart, (563) 583-9771, with Wahlert Catholic High School's Counseling Office.

Northeast Iowa Career Learning Link Opportunities | NICC

Northeast Iowa Career Learning Link (CLL) is a program through Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) that exposes students to high-demand career areas and sets them on the pathway to career and educational success beyond high school. The program provides work-based learning opportunities for students in partnership with local businesses.

This program allows students (and parents!) to save time and money by knowing the career path to follow after high school. Career coaches work with students to explore the right post-graduation plan, in addition to helping find job shadow, internship, and career mentoring opportunities. For a full list of upcoming virtual events and opportunities, [click here](#).

Double-check Your Student's AP Exam Order through AP Classroom

If you are a parent of a Wahlert student currently enrolled in an AP class this semester - your student's AP Classroom was updated with the AP exams they are enrolled in and scheduled to take in May. More information on registration and payment for this AP exam is to come.

Under the guidance of their AP teacher, your student has been asked to log in to their AP Classroom to ensure that the exams they are registered for are correct. **Please take a moment with your student this week to also log into their AP Classroom with them to ensure that their AP exams are listed correctly on their dashboard.**

You can do so by having your student log on to their AP Classroom and following the steps below...

1. Ask your student to log on to their AP classroom at myap.collegeboard.org.
2. Under the blue “AP Classroom” header, confirm that each AP class your student is enrolled in has an exam date showcased in the right column. If you do not see this for an exam you know you paid for/your student plans to take, please contact dlensen@holyfamilydbq.org right away.

If you see any discrepancies in the exams listed online for your student, please email dlensen@holyfamilydbq.org, or contact Wahlert Catholic High School’s Guidance Department directly at (563) 583-9771, as soon as possible

Meet Ms. Joni Knopp - Wahlert's NICC Success Coach

Northeast Iowa Community College’s Success Coaches assist students in finding work-based learning opportunities, schedule a campus visit, complete an application for admission, answer financial aid questions, and provide details on program requirements. **Ms. Joni Knopp is Wahlert Catholic High School’s Success Coach liaison.** Students can reach out to her via text, email, or phone to schedule a time to meet. Ms. Knopp can connect when it works best for your student, even before or after school, virtually via Zoom, by phone, or in person when possible.

Email: knoppj@nicc.edu

Call: 844.642.2338 ext. 2216

Text: 563.663.9082

College Admission COVID-19 Updates

Class of 2021 Parents - Check out the links listed below for area college admission COVID-19 updates. Check in with these links for your student(s) applying for Fall 2021 college admission next year. Additional schools will be added frequently, so check in weekly. If a school your student is interested in is not yet included in the list below, please visit that particular college/university's admissions office webpage for additional information.

- **Clarke University**
- **Coe College**
- **Cornell College (Mt. Vernon, IA)**
- **Creighton University**
- **Iowa State University**
- **Kirkwood Community College**
- **Loras College**
- **Luther College**
- **Mount Mercy University**

- **Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC)**
- **St. Ambrose University**
- **St. Louis University**
- **University of Dubuque**
- **University of Iowa (Admissions/Testing Updates; COVID-19 Updates)**
- **University of Northern Iowa**
- **University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN)**
- **University of Wisconsin - Platteville**
- **University of Wisconsin - Madison**

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Available October 1

ICAN Succeed's website is a great resource for additional information and details regarding the FAFSA. [Click here to check it out.](#)

[Click here](#) for tips and information from the Federal Student Aid Office on how best to approach the FAFSA process.

The beginning of October marks the time period that parents should be thinking about and working on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This form is used to apply for federal student aid such as loans, grants, and work-study at both two-year colleges as well as four-year colleges. The FAFSA is the first step to receiving financial aid and must be completed for each year of college. Students can use the myStudentAid app,

file online at fafsa.edu.gov, or request a printed form by calling 1-800-4-FEDAID. This form is very important for you and your child to complete together so that your child is able to receive student financial assistance. Contact Wahlert's Counseling Office with any questions or for additional information.

Upcoming FAFSA Ready Iowa Events

FAFSA Ready Iowa is ICAN's initiative to increase the FAFSA completion rate and help more students access financial aid. Each event offers free assistance for students and families to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). [Click here](#) for upcoming virtual events!

Iowa College Access Network (ICAN)| Career & College Planning Resources

ICAN Tip of the Week

Are you a junior or senior who wants more information on college and career planning? Sign up to get the Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) Tip of the Week and other college and career planning alerts! ICAN offers several forms of email communications to help you stay on top of the planning process for life after high school. [Click here](#) to register for the ICAN Tip of the Week, Class of 2021 Senior Alerts, Class of 2022 Alerts, or ICAN e-alerts. You can also check out the ICAN College and Career blog [here](#).

Upcoming ICAN Webinars

For many the school year is beginning, and others have another week or two. For some you're returning everyday, for others it's a few days each week and then learning online. ICAN is committed to helping students succeed in whatever environment learning presents itself this fall. ICAN will host **FREE** webinars throughout September on Wednesdays at 3pm and on select evenings at 7 pm. All live events will be recorded and available for viewing on both the ICAN Facebook page and the [ICAN website](#). You can stream these events live from any device and ask questions of ICAN student success advisors during the presentations.

Your Student's Scholarship Resources.

Scholarship Feature Friday

This week's featured scholarship:

Last Dollar Scholarship | Future Ready Iowa

Scholarship Feature Friday is a weekly email from Wahlert's Counseling Office designed specifically for **seniors** as a resource for them to learn more about available scholarship opportunities. Each Friday, the Counseling Office will highlight a new scholarship opportunity and email it directly to your student's Holy Family email address. Specific details regarding scholarship type, who should apply, how to start the application process, and scholarship amount will all be highlighted. Students will use these emails as a way to learn, discover, and apply for new scholarships each week as they plan their years after high school.

College Planning eBulletin Board

A great online resource for scholarship opportunities and college events.

Available on Wahlert's website, the **College Planning eBulletin Board** is a resource for students and parents to use when planning out scholarship opportunities. This online hub focuses on details regarding scholarship information - all of which are organized by topic, school, and/or career field. This page is frequently updated by the Counseling Office as we receive weekly scholarship information and college admission news (so check in weekly as the school year rolls on!). **Click here** for quick access to the eBulletin Board, or find it listed in the Quick Links section on **Wahlert's homepage**.