

Dear Butler Junior High Families,

The West Suburban Conference for Academic Excellence is poised to begin the new school year prepared to maximize the benefits of our participation in the Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS). There are several testing dates and locations available for students to take EXPLORE, ACT, or SAT through NUMATS. **Hauser Junior High will be hosting the SAT this year for students in WSCAE districts on December 7, 2019. Gower Middle School will be hosting the ACT this year for students in WSCAE districts on February 8, 2020.**

Through our unique consortium, we can provide a **private**, age-appropriate testing environment for our students who participate in the ACT and SAT, address specific questions from our students and their parents, and recognize and celebrate the achievements of our students who earned high scores on these tests. Should you have further questions or need any assistance please contact NUMATS at numats@ctd.northwestern.edu.

Please review these criteria aspects of our participation in the NUMATS program. Students who are most likely to benefit from NUMATS are those who meet at least one of the criteria listed below:

- Participation in a school gifted program or advanced academic services
- Recommendation from a parent or teacher because they demonstrate advanced aptitude in verbal or mathematical reasoning, demonstrate a high level of performance on academically demanding course work, or request more challenging experiences
- Receive a score at the 90th percentile or above on either verbal/reasoning or math on a nationally normed achievement, ability, or aptitude test or score at the advanced level on a state achievement test
- Previously participated in Talent Search (NUMATS or similar program)
- **NUMATS ID Number- Butler Junior High (8001629)**
- The WSCAE is committed to participating in the SAT and ACT assessments for junior high students, focusing specifically on the junior high/middle school grades 6 to 8. The SAT includes three sections (reading, math and writing). Our students who register for the SAT will take all three sections. The ACT consists of four multiple-choice tests: English, mathematics, reading, and science. Students may also select to add writing as an option.
- Families choosing to participate will be responsible for covering any fees and expenses.
 - Seating at the Hauser and Gower sites are limited. We cannot guarantee that families will get their first-choice testing site. Families should register as soon as possible for the best opportunity to test at their preferred location. When parents register, they will be asked to provide alternate testing sites as their second and third choices. We recommend site #14117 (Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora) as one alternative for the SAT and site #173540 (JS Morton High School West) as one alternative for the ACT. If families do not select a second choice

testing site, one will randomly be assigned.

- The Center for Talent Development strongly encourages online registration, available at <http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/>. **Although the deadline to register is October 30, 2019 for the SAT and January 8, 2020 for the ACT, please encourage your students to register ASAP to secure a seat at our testing centers. We cannot accommodate additional students once the center is at capacity.**
- The WSCAE will have an award ceremony in late spring for the top performers on NUMATS SAT tests taken on or before December 7, 2019, and NUMATS ACT tests taken on or before February 8, 2020.

If your child registers for testing, please review the links included in this email about the test sites. These links includes important information such as: food/drink policies, start and end times, cell phone policies, etc.

- SPECIAL NOTE: We *encourage* students to bring cell phones in order to coordinate pick up after testing. (This is contrary to what is stated about cell phones at test centers)
- SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT SAT: Our past practice suggests that test takers generally don't finish until about 1:00 pm. (The NUMATS and CollegeBoard SAT websites indicate that testing concludes at 12:15. Please clarify this point for your families, as well!)