

July 8, 2011

To the Students and Parents of the Class of 2014:

Greetings! I hope this past school year was a productive and challenging one for you. So as you rest up over the summer, it's always a good idea to have a sneak preview of what is to come. This letter contains some important information concerning the class of 2014. Please read through all the following information carefully.

**PLAN testing** – The PLAN test is a guidance resource that helps measure a student's academic development, and explores various career options. It also predicts how well the student will perform on the ACT, which is one of the two major college entrance exams. All 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are encouraged to take it. The PLAN will be given on **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to approximately 11:30pm**. The registration fee is **\$11.25**. To register your child, please complete the accompanying form and return it to Student Services with your payment. Please make all checks payable to Grace Brethren Christian School. You will also have the opportunity to register your child at our annual Back-to-School night on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration will conclude on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. To ensure the timely and accurate delivery of testing materials, we may not be able to register students after this date. An information bulletin about the PLAN will be given to each student in homeroom prior to testing. Please take time to review the information together. Additional information about the PLAN can be obtained online, at [www.actstudent.org/plan](http://www.actstudent.org/plan). Once the test is concluded and the results are in, we will be scheduling appointments with all the students who took it to discuss the results. Any parent who wishes to be included in that conference, or has any additional questions regarding the PLAN is encouraged to contact us at their earliest convenience.

**Service Hours** – All students **must** complete a minimum of 75 hours of community service before graduation. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students should have their minimum of 15 service hours by this time. They will need to complete a minimum of 20 service hours before the end of each year for the next 3 years. Some of the students have already met the requirement or are well on their way. Unfortunately, many have not even started. Summer is a great time to work on the service hour requirement and there are various ways to earn them, such as community activities, church-related activities, missions trips, and so on. Please check with your guidance counselors if you are unsure of how many hours you currently have completed and recorded, so you can plan accordingly. Be aware that any student who performs 200 or more hours will earn a special community service award, which will be recognized both at graduation and on their final transcript. Also be aware that any student who does not have the minimum requirements completed by the end of finals in their sophomore year (35 hours) and/or their junior year (55 hours) may have their final report cards held until the requirement is met. In the same manner, if the requirement for senior year (75 hours) is not met by the end of finals (regardless of whether the students attend the senior trip), the student will not be allowed to turn them in until after graduation, and therefore cannot receive their diploma or have their final transcripts sent out until it is met.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any additional questions. Have a great summer, and we look forward to working with you again next year!

Sincerely,

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