

Hello Parents and Students,

As the Winter Break approaches I wanted to take a minute to say thank you for all each of you do to help support our goal of student success. While the education of our students in the classroom is the full responsibility of our teachers, I do believe that there has to be a partnership between home and school to ensure high levels of student success. Thank you parents for trusting us to help your child succeed in school and learn the needed skills for success after high school. Thank you students for your commitment and loyalty to our Bulldog Nation, I truly believe there is no better place to get your high school education.

I also wanted to remind parents and students that our school office will be closed throughout the Winter Break. This time of year we have many students that are requesting a Verification of Enrollment to complete their application for a Texas Driver's License. Please remember that we ask for at least 24 hours to prepare the VOE. Parents, if your child has a driving test schedule during the break please request the VOE no later than Tuesday, December 19th. Students, every House Office has a QR code posted outside of the House Office door where you can sign up to get your VOE. Again, please be sure to make all requests for VOEs needed over the break no later than December, 19th.

After the break in November, we had multiple students returning with laptop issues. Most of these issues were due to students failing to keep their laptop charged while away from school. Students, please remember to keep your laptop charged so it will be fully functioning when you return in January. We also know that the Winter Break is a time of travel for many families. Every year we have students that leave their laptop at the home of family or friends they visited over the break. Parents, please be sure that any laptops that go on the road with your child come back home with them. It is important that students bring their laptops to school with them everyday.

As you will remember, our campus administered the PSAT back in October. Student scores came out recently. Our counselor team has been working with our Sophomores to help them understand their scores and to make sure they know how to link their PSAT account to Khan Academy. Linking PSAT with Khan Academy will help students identify areas where they need to improve performance on the PSAT and develop sets of practice problems that support growth in those areas. Parents, if you would like to view the presentation and the information provided to students please use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/yeytx85a>

The McKinney North Site Based Committee Meeting will be held soon. If you are interested in participating on this committee please contact me through email at [jgaskill@mckinnevisd.net](mailto:jgaskill@mckinnevisd.net) . Each campus can have up to four parents participate on the committee.

Final grades for the 1st Semester will not be viewable in HAC until after we return from Winter Break. However, all current grades and averages can be viewed by both parents and teachers at this time. We do not administer exams early. If your child misses their final exam for the 1st semester they may make the exam up after school once we return from the break.

As a reminder, students are encouraged to review HAC for the second semester schedules prior to returning to campus on January 9th. There are always possible changes to the student schedule due to class changes or adjustments in teacher schedules.

I wish each of you and your family a safe and restful Winter Break. Safe travels to those of you that may be leaving the McKinney area to be with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Jae Gaskill  
Principal