

Volume 1, Issue 3
November 2015

Important Dates

11/17/15 – WorkKeys testing window opens

11/25 – 27/15 Thanksgiving Holidays

12/7 – 11/15 – Early grad WorkKeys testing

12/21/15 **Last round of purchase orders are due to Lori Hancock for this school year**

12/21/15 – 1/1/16 – Christmas break

1/8/16 – MOD Scores and Certification Scores Due

1/11 – 1/15/16 1st semester exams

1/18/16 – MLK Holiday

1/21/16 – 2nd semester begins

Did You Know?

- ... students sitting for their Nurse Aide I certification now take the certification test in 3 of our 4 high school Health Science labs? DMHS students use the MHS lab for certification. RHS and RCHS students test in the labs at their home schools.
- ... new online classes begin in January? Pharmacy Tech and eCommerce are 2 new CTE online courses being offered.

Rockingham County Schools CTE News

Rockingham County Schools CTE Web Site Ready to Go Live!



The new RCS CTE web site our Director, Ken Scott, has created is nearly ready for live, on-line viewing.

RCS CTE program area will be posted with news, courses, careers, resources, etc. Teachers are welcome to submit events that take place in your classrooms to be posted on the web site.

WHY Don't the Students Understand This—It's Easy!

Do you ever wonder WHY some students just do not grasp what you are teaching? "*Hitting Reset to Empathize with Student Experience*" (Sept. 29, 2015, *Edutopia*) suggests that teachers often forget what it was like to learn the material for the first time, as most of their students are doing. Read this 1-page article from *Edutopia* to find out what 1) Clearing your mind, 2) Doing it differently, and 3) Rejuvenating during the summer will do to help you help your students "get it." Go to: <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/hitting-reset-empathize-student-experience-brian-sztabnik>



New Testing Platform

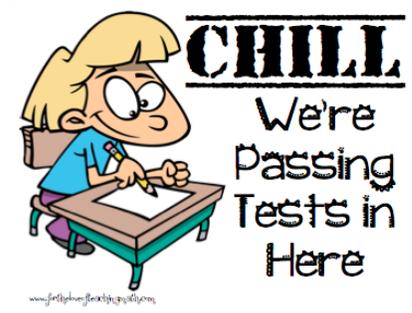
NCTest/TOPS/NC Education

Our new testing program has been called any of the 3 names above. Whichever name you prefer, here is news about the new testing platform DPI is implementing for CTE assessments:

- Testing will be via NC Education (TOPS) which is the same process we used for Spring 2015
- ALL CTE teachers MUST have an NC Ed account set up before exams begin. If you had a Falcon account from years ago, you may use it. If you have trouble setting up your account, contact your CDC, your IMC or the help desk at: [HELP \(ncdesk@ncsu.edu / \(919\) 515-1320\)](mailto:ncdesk@ncsu.edu). This account is also the same account you use to access the new Moodle location.
- RCS will test via paper/pencil for Fall 2015 post assessments. Sending answer sheets to be scanned will be more frequent this semester with a faster turnaround for grades.
- Teachers will be required to enter Met/NotMet for attaining proficiency or course requirements for the following: Advanced Studies courses (the 4 components), Co-op courses, Internships, Modified Tests for OCS students, LCO's and Pilot courses if the tests are teacher made, any alternate tests given as a result of an LEPand/or IEP, and all credentials except MSITA exams and Nurse Aide exams.
- Training will begin sometime in December – training materials and procedures have not yet

TESTING TIMELINE...

- Training: Dates for training are yet to be determined. The manuals and online training sites have not been released.
- Online training will be required at some point this year. Teachers must earn a certificate for the online training. (We hope be able to put the online training off until Spring semester since we will be testing paper/pencil for Fall.)
- Our testing window is 5 days this year. There will be no early testing for students who need accommodations, unless the student has a modified, teacher-made test and is on the OCS diploma track.
- Printing of tests will occur in December.
- Each school will have a written testing plan that must be followed. Changes have been made to our testing process – we will be more in line with what the EOC process is.





News from DPI...

MOODLE NEWS

DPI has decided not to move Moodle to Canvas as earlier predicted for the 2016-17 school year.

ACCOMMODATIONS

By this time everyone who teaches students with accommodations should have a list of the student's accommodations and have developed a modified blueprint for each student eligible for accommodations. Please see your CDC if you do not have that information. Please remember to ask about accommodations for newly enrolled students as they come to you.

TEST ITEM BANKS

State consultants in each program area are reviewing over 20,000 secure items to be posted for classroom use in the Spring of 2016.

Updates

ARE YOU USING THE CORRECT BLUEPRINT????

It is each teacher's responsibility to keep abreast of changes from DPI in their program area. The Moodle PLC is the most expedient method of receiving updates and news.

Join today!

Who Ya Gonna Call?

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For all the blessings You have bestowed upon us;

For all the days we have had together--and all the days to come;

For the joys and the sorrows that bind us ever closer;

For the trials we have overcome;

And for teaching us that we can do no great things--

Only small things through great love,

We thank You.



November Birthdays

Diane Thomas, 11/3
Larry Goodes, 11/18
Sarah Stewart, 11/21
Winnie Freeman, 11/23
Chris Higgs, 11/25

December Birthdays

Beth Smith, 12/5
Donna Holder, 12/7
Karen Setliff, 12/7
Sheila Thompson, 12/20
Robin Yeatts, 12/29