

Board Report

Jim Knott – Principal

Douglas County West High School

December 11, 2023

With winter break approaching, the end of the first semester will soon be upon us. Final exams/projects will take place for high school students on Monday and Tuesday, December 18th and 19th. Periods will be lengthened to approximately 90 minutes to accommodate longer comprehensive final exams and projects. Periods 2, 4, 6 & 8 will be held on Monday, December 18, while periods 1, 3, 5, & 7 will be held on Tuesday, December 19.

John Baylor Test Prep classes will begin in January again this year. John and his associates will hold five ACT prep sessions during the school day in January and the first week of February to help students prepare for the March 26 ACT test. On average, DC West students have improved by two points on the ACT with Baylor Test Prep. We have also created an incentive program for all juniors in order to ensure they are as prepared as possible and give their best effort. The incentive states that students will have the opportunity to opt out of all, non-Metro final exams at the end of the second semester (May 2024) if they 1) agree to enroll and participate in John Baylor Test Prep at DC West, and 2) reach or exceed their ACT composite score goal, based on their previous PreACT performance. Baylor Test Prep is free for DC West junior students.

As the fall 2023 semester draws to a close, I have spent some time reflecting on how far we have come as a district and as a high school in my 12 years at DC West. For example, in January of 2012, DC West High School enrollment was 189 students. Today, our high school enrollment has grown to 335 students. Along the way, remodeling of our current buildings as well as construction and the addition of new facilities has become the norm. Progressive planning in this area has allowed us to have some of the best facilities in the area. I also think back to all of the great students, teachers, and administrators I have had the honor to work with over the years. These people are truly what makes DC West a special place!

In conclusion, I would like to wish a Happy Holiday Season to the entire DC West family!