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KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

College and Career Ready Assessments replace HSGQE

Soldotna, September 17, 2014—Students no longer need to take and pass the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) to earn a high school diploma. In May, 2014, the Alaska State Legislature repealed the HSGQE requirement with the enactment of HB 278.

Students must now take a *College or Career Ready Assessment* in order to attain a high school diploma. The state determined the *career ready assessment* will be the WorkKeys job skills assessment system, and the *college ready assessment* portion will be a choice of either the American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

Action by October 15, 2014

The State of Alaska will pay for an eleventh grade student to take one of the three assessments. School counselors or principals will work with KPBSD juniors to support their test choice, and assist them through the registration process prior to October 15, 2015.

ACT and WorkKeys assessment during the school day

KPBSD district high schools will continue to administer WorkKeys, as they have for the past several years. KPBSD high schools will now also administer the ACT during the school day. School day administration of the WorkKeys and ACT at school sites will occur on these dates:

- WorkKeys assessments will be administered at schools during a testing window from November 10, 2014, to February 13, 2015
- ACT testing will occur at schools on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, with a make-up date of Tuesday, March 31, 2015

SAT assessment testing

Students can choose to take the SAT at a SAT approved national test center, and it will be paid with a state voucher. The SAT voucher administration will be on Saturday, January 24, 2015. These approved national testing centers will administer SAT and ACT:

- Kenai Peninsula College (both SAT and ACT)

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-FOUR DIVERSE SCHOOLS

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to develop productive, responsible citizens who are prepared to be successful in a dynamic world.

ANCHOR POINT COOPER LANDING HOMER HOPE KACHEMAK SELO KENAI MOOSE PASS NANWALEK NIKISKI NIKOLAEVSK NINILCHIK PORT GRAHAM RAZDOLNA SELDOVIA SEWARD SOLDOTNA STERLING TUSTUMENA TYONEK VOZNESENKA

- Seward High School (both SAT and ACT)
- Homer High School (both SAT and ACT)
- Ninilchik High School (SAT only)
- Susan B. English School in Seldovia (SAT only)

Students may continue to take both the SAT and ACT, and take them as many times as they choose at a national test center site. However, the State of Alaska will only pay for one test administration of either the WorkKeys, SAT, or ACT.

Questions?

Parents and students can contact their school counseling department or school principal.

Link

[HB 278](#)

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