Winter 2027

Counseling and Guidance Department News

Course Selection for 2027-28 School Year

Beginning in February, students in grades 9-11 will meet with their guidance counselor to discuss courses for the 2027-28 school year. To ensure that students are in the appropriate courses that align with their pathway and meet the New York State graduation requirements, it is important that students attend their meeting and take an active role in the process. If a student is unable to attend their scheduled meeting, he/she should reach out to guidance to reschedule.

The 2027-28 Course Guide will be shared with students and their families prior to the meetings with guidance counselors. We recommend and strongly encourage students to review the guide prior to their meeting to review course offerings and plan which courses they are interested in taking.

January 2027 Regents Examination Letters/Retake Letters

Students and families will receive in the mail notification letters indicating that a student is scheduled to retake one or more New York State Regents Exams in January 2027. These are exams that a student has previously taken but was not successful in passing with a minimum grade of 65 or better. The letter does not include exams that a student may need to take for courses that they are currently enrolled in for the Fall 2026 Semester. Only students that need to retake an exam will receive a retake letter.

If a student is currently in a course in the Fall of 2026 that culminates with a Regents examination in January, a notification letter will be mailed separately from a retake letter.

January 26 Tuesday	January 27 Wednesday	January 28 Thursday	January 29 Friday
8:15 AM	8:15 AM	8:15 AM	8:15 AM
English Language Arts	U.S. History & Government	Global History & Geography II	Life Science: Biology Algebra II
11:45	11:45 AM	11:45 AM	
Earth & Space Sciences Physical Science: Chemistry Physical Setting/Chemistry	Algebra I Physical Science: Physics Physical Setting/Physics	Geometry	

GST BOCES CTE (Career and Technical Programs)

Waverly High School will be hosting a **GST BOCES Career and Technical Education presentation on Tuesday, January 19, 2027 in the auditorium**. Students may attend this session to learn more about the CTE programs available at the GST BOCES campus for students in grades 11 and 12.

To be eligble for a BOCES CTE program, students must be in good academic standing and have good attendance.

GST BOCES Programs:

- Animal Science
- Audio Media Design
- Automotive Technology
- Building Construction
- Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology
- Conservation
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts
- Dental Assisting
- Diesel Equipment Technology, Maintenance and Repair
- Digital Media Arts
- Early Childhood
- Fashion Design, Merchandising and Marketing
- Nurse Assisting
- Precision Machining
- Professional Business Financial Technology
- Welding and Metal Fabrication

A CTE Exploration Night will be held on **Tuesday, February 9, 2027 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the GST BOCES Bush Campus**. Classrooms will be open for students to explore and faculty will be available to discuss the programs.

Students interested in applying for one of the CTE programs should speak with his/her guidance counselor.

A course catalog can be found at *https://files-backend.assets.thrillshare.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2750/Gst_Boces/2cd6f9d1-c514-47cc-b415-b55058d4e705/2027-28-CTE-Catalog.pdf?disposition=inline*

Additional CTE program information is available at *https://www.gstboces.org/page/career-and-technical-education-programs*.

New Visions Academy Information

A **New Visions Exploration Night** will be held on **Wednesday, February 10 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Elmira College.** Eligible juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend this event to explore the opportunities offered by the New Visions Honors Academy.

With accelerated courses, the New Visions programs are demanding and extremely rewarding for highly motivated, mature and academically capable college-bound seniors. Classroom time is supplemented with many different on-site rotations, giving students valuable real-world experience in the field.

Students and families can visit https://www.gstboces.org/page/new-visions to learn more about New Visions programs. The application period is January 1 through Mid-March and students will be notified of acceptance mid-May.

The course catalog can be found here: https://files-backend.assets.thrillshare.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2750/Gst_Boces/1a941958-69cf-4204-99c6-1fc6132cbfbb/27-28-New-Visions-Catalog.pdf?disposition=inline.

New Visions Programs:

Health Careers Exploration helps students recognize an articulate the relationship between their academic subjects and career aspirations in the health field. Students choose from more than 80 rotation sites in area hospitals, medical offices and clinics and experience 50 different rotation opportunities throughout the year.

Human Services and Education is designed for college-bound students interested in pursuing a career in the field of human services or education. This program provides an invaluable opportunity for students to obtain skills and understanding through participation in multiple rotations in various human service agencies and classrooms.

New Visions Innovation, Leadership and Business program includes team and project-based learning. Students work in small groups, where an exchange of ideas is the melting pot of innovative problem solving. In addition to classroom activities, students have eight weeks of "real world" rotations at not-for-profit/charitable agencies, small businesses, law offices, corporations and technology/engineering firms, where they explore a wide range of potential career choices. These hands-on and informational visits give ILB students a head start on their professional careers.

The **Engineering** program is a one year exciting and rigorous college preparatory program designed for highly motivated high school seniors who want to explore a future in engineering. Students extend their classroom learning as they engage in real-world learning to study the fundamentals of engineering in an industry and college setting. The program aims to prepare students for college while helping them explore engineering careers. Additionally, students will enhance both their technical and soft skills, enabling them to identify the engineering field they wish to pursue in college. By the end of the school year, students should have a clear understanding of the engineering discipline they want to major in college.

SAT and ACT Exam Information

The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is given seven times a year. Most students take this exam twice. Juniors usually take the SAT in the spring and seniors usually test in the fall. The exam takes approximately three hours and consists of two main parts: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math. The score ranges from 200-800 for each section. Additional information is available at *https://www.collegeboard.org/*.

The ACT (American College Testing Program) includes four curriculum-based tests that measure a student's educational development in English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning. The ACT, an allowable alternative to the SAT, is offered five times during the year: October, December, February, April and June. Most students take the ACT in June of their junior year. Students may register to take the ACT with or without the optional 40-minute writing component. The score ranges from 1-36 with an average score of 21 on each component. The total of the four subtests produces a composite score, which is your ACT score.

Please note: Waverly CSD is not a testing site for SAT orACT exams. Students may take the exam at a nearby school district. The CEEB code is 335845. You will need this code so we can receive scores.

Seniors should check with their potential college or university's admissions department. Some institutions continue to be test optional.

*If a student does not want SAT and/or ACT scores on his/her transcript, the Guidance Department will need written permission from a parent or guardian to remove them.

SAT Dates and Registration Deadlines

https://www.collegeboard.org

Test Date:	Registration Deadline:
March 6, 2027	February 19, 2027
May 1, 2027	April 16, 2027
June 5, 2027	May 21, 2027

ACT Dates and Registration Deadlines

https://www.act.org

Test Date:	Registration Deadline:
February 27, 2027	January 22, 2027
April 10, 2027	March 5, 2027
June 12, 2027	May 7, 2027
July 10, 2027	June 4, 20267

NCAA Informaton and FAQs

The **NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Clearinghouse** is an organization outside of the NCAA which performs academic record evaluations to determine if a prospective student-athlete is eligible to participate at an NCAA Division I or II college as a freshman student-athlete. Please see Division I Initial Eligibility Requirements for a breakdown of those minimum academic requirements.

Who needs to be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse? All college freshman and two-year college transfers who do not have an associate degree and would like to participate in any sport at an NCAA member institution (Division I or II) must register for the academic portion of the Clearinghouse.

Why do I need to be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse if I'm going to attend a junior college? Dependent upon your NCAA Clearinghouse qualification status (qualifier or non-qualifier), there are different two-year school transfer rules to be immediately eligible at the four-year institution you transfer to. Please refer to the Junior College Transfer Requirements for more information.

If I have never registered and/or never been certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse what is my NCAA qualification status? If you've never registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse or never certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse, you are considered to be a non-qualifier and must meet non-qualifier transfer requirements should you decide to attend a junior college.

How do I register with the NCAA Clearinghouse? Complete your registration online at *https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/* after your junior year. Visit the website, complete the Student Release Form (SRF) online and pay the registration fee ($50 for domestic and $75 for international students). Fees may be paid online by credit or debit card or by sending a check or money order to the clearinghouse. The clearinghouse website listed above has detailed payment instructions. To complete the registration process, print a copy of your completed registration form and both Copy 1 and Copy 2 of the transcript release form. Sign the transcript release forms and give both to your high school counselor. The *NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete,* which contains more detailed instructions of the clearinghouse registration process, is available at *http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Student_Resources/CBSA.pdf*.

How can I find out if I am enrolled in approved core-courses which will meet NCAA eligibility requirements? You may view your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses by visiting *https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/* and selecting List of Approved Core Courses on the General Information page or by asking your high school counselor for the list.

How can I arrange for my test scores to be sent directly from the SAT or ACT testing agency to the NCAA Clearinghouse? When you register to take the ACT or SAT, mark code 9999 so that the testing agency will send your scores to the clearinghouse. Test scores must be reported to the clearinghouse directly from SAT or ACT. The clearinghouse will not accept test scores reported on high school transcripts.

Once certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse, what is the difference between a qualifier and a non-qualifier?

Qualifier: Eligible for athletically related financial aid, practice and competition during your first year of enrollment at a NCAA member institution. You have five years to play five seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility year to year.

Non-qualifier: Ineligible for athletically related financial aid, practice and competition during your first year at a NCAA member institution. You have four years to play three seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility year to year. *Non-qualifiers can gain back a year of eligibility if they complete at least 80 percent of their degree prior beginning their fifth year of college.

Financial Aid Information

Important dates for 2027-28 financial aid

- October 1, 2026: The FAFSA form available
- June 30, 2027: The federal deadline to submit the FAFSA for the 2027-28 academic year

*States and individual colleges often have their own earlier deadlines for financial aid. You will need to check with your state's student aid agency and the financial aid office at each school you are applying to.

Online Application:

The fastest and easiest way to apply for federal student aid is by completing the FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form online at *https://studentaid.gov*. To qualify for federal student aid for the 2027–28 academic year (July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028), you must use the 2027–28 FAFSA® form available at the **FAFSA® website**: *https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa*.

Your studentaid.gov account username and password (your **FSA ID**), is a set of log-in credentials that you create in order to gain access to the U.S. Department of Education's online systems. All contributors must create their own account to access and complete their portion of the FAFSA® form.

Your credentials also can serve as your legal signature when completing electronic documents. You'll need your Social Security number (SSN) and your own email address to create an account.

Financial Aid Information (continued)

FSA ID website:

https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/article/fsa-id

FAFSA Initiative

Last spring, Governor Kathy Hochul announced a plan to require school districts to ensure every high school senior completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or sign a waiver. This is being done as an attempt to decrease the $200 million in federal aid that is not used. Students who are NOT going to file the FAFSA must fill out the Waiver Form available at *Waverly FAFSA Waiver Form* and return it to the Main Office or Guidance Office.

Important Financial Aid Links

Visit *https://www.hesc.ny.gov/find-aid-you-need* to learn about how financial aid helps to pay for college costs.

Grants, scholarships and loan program information is available at *https://www.hesc.ny.gov/find-aid/nys-grants-scholarships*.

Information on how colleges award financial aid can be found at: *https://www.hesc.ny.gov/find-aid-you-need/federal-grants-work-study*.

The **FAFSA Application** can be completed online at: *https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa*.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

December

14: TC3 Online Winter Courses Begin
15: New Visions Presentation for Eligible Juniors

January

19: Career & Technical Education Presentation - WHS
29: Marking Period 2 Ends

February

9: Career & Technical Education Exploration Night, 4:30-6:30 p.m. - GST BOCES Bush Campus
10: New Visions Exploration Night, 4:30-6:30 p.m. - Elmira College

March

23: National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony, GST BOCES, 6:30 p.m.

April

6: Marking Period 3 Ends

May

12: National Honor Society Induction and Junior Awards Ceremony, High School Auditorium

June

9: GST BOCES Recognition Ceremony - Bush Campus
15: Senior Awards Night - Auditorium, 6 p.m.
18: Waverly Graduation - Memorial Stadium, 7 p.m.
15-24: Regents Exams
25: Marking Period 4 Ends

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Counseling and Guidance Department

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