

Dear Parents,

On January 24, 2009, Canyon Hills Junior High will be offering ACT's College Readiness Program for 8th graders called the EXPLORE test. The EXPLORE program is designed to help 8th-9th grade students explore the world of possibilities open to them, help them plan for high school, and guide them as they start thinking about future educational and career opportunities.

The EXPLORE test includes:

- Tests in English, math, reading, and science.
- A career section that shows which careers match students' current interests.
- A guide explaining what the scores mean and how students can use them.

The EXPLORE test is the point of entry into ACT's Educational Planning and Assessment System. EXPLORE can provide baseline information from which academic growth in high school can be assessed and evaluated. Scores on the EXPLORE are norm-referenced and will be compared to student scores at our school, as well as within the district and state.

The academic portion of the test is 120 minutes plus an optional break = 128 minutes.

English: 40 items, 30 minutes

Math: 30 items, 30 minutes

Reading: 30 items, 30 minutes

Science: 28 items, 30 minutes

The student information section (Non-Cognitive Components) takes approximately 45 minutes and consists of the **UNIACT Interest Inventory** (72 items), **Needs Assessment**, **Plans**, and **Background Information**.

The cost for the exam is \$7.00. The students will receive a complete score report with guidance information.

If you have any questions and would like to learn more about the EXPLORE test or see some sample test questions, go to WWW.explorestudent.org

If you would like to have your 8th grade son/daughter take this test, please return the lower portion with a payment of \$7.00 (cash only) no later than January 23rd, 2009.

The test will run from 8:00am – 11:15am on Saturday, January 24th. Make sure you drop your child off no later than 7:45am to allow for appropriate test preparations.

Sincerely,

Student's

Name _____

Parent's

Signature _____