## "New College Readiness Testing System Set to Launch at BCHS"

Students graduating high school in the twenty-first century are facing the most challenging times in our nation's history. Over the last several years, the business community has worked hard to become more effective and efficient in an effort to maximize profit margins in a challenging economy. Therefore, business and industry leaders need employees who have acquired valuable skills. The changing landscape of the American economy has placed a higher demand on students graduating high school to have acquired career or college readiness skills in order to compete for the best future employment skills. Students attending high school with the intent of graduating and entering the workforce have many opportunities to enter career pathways and earn valuable industry certifications that will provide gainful employment. Students wishing to enter career fields that require college or technical school training must acquire the necessary skills to successfully complete the required training.

Breckinridge County High School is set to launch a new college readiness tracking system that students will engage in throughout their high school experiences in an effort to ensure all students meet ACT benchmarks and graduate ready to attend a college or technical school if desired. Students at the high school will be administered a College Equipped Readiness Test (CERT) three times a year for the purpose of training to meet all ACT benchmarks and graduate college ready. CERT was developed in 2013 for the purpose of providing school staff, students, and parents with information needed to maximize career and college opportunities for students. CERT will provide students the opportunity to take an ACT like assessment under ACT conditions and provide students and staff with scoring data. Once a student takes a CERT assessment, the program will build an individual program for each student to work through in order to improve his or her ACT score and meet college ready benchmarks. Anyone interested in learning more about CERT can do so by visiting <a href="https://certforschools.com/">https://certforschools.com/</a>. Staff at Breckinridge County High School are thoroughly excited to introduce students to this new and innovative program geared towards helping all students reach their goals.