

Brink Junior High

December 9, 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This year I would like to offer to my students the possibility of participating in the National French Contest to be held Tuesday, March 9th after school. Last year there were over 50 public and private schools in Oklahoma who participated in this annual *Concours* sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Over 1,500 students in Grades 1-12 participated in the FLES elementary level or on the secondary levels 01-5.

Our 8th graders choosing to participate in this year's *Concours* will take the Level 1 exam. This exam is a multiple-choice test of 70 items covering listening comprehension, vocabulary and grammar in context, as well as readings, all equivalent to that of a first-year French curriculum. Prior to the test we will review one or two recent Level 1 tests so that students are familiar with the format and expectations. I will also share with them the language specifications expected of them.

The *Grand Concours* tests are developed annually by the American Association of Teachers of French as a motivational, extracurricular activity/contest for students of French. The *Grand Concours* is on the list of approved tests published by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) <http://www.principals.org/>.

I encourage all my students to experience this test. It is but the first of many similar written examinations that they will face in the future, and the experience alone of participating, I think, has merit. There is no failure nor are there negative consequences to the test. There are prizes for those earning National and Chapter recognition as well as certificates for those scoring in the top 50% and the top 20%. Those whose scores represent the top scores nationally are considered Lauréats Nationaux and as such receive a certificate and a prestigious National award.

Please note that I must have my list of students and money compiled by Friday, December 18th in order to meet the required January postmark. This time of year is very busy for us all but unfortunately; it is at this time that the AATF has its deadline for submitting the names of participants and the test fee. I would appreciate your prompt return of the registration slip found below if you would like your son or daughter to participate in the Grand Concours 2010.

Please sign and return this form along with the **\$ 5 payment** in a sealed envelope. This serves as your official registration. **Checks should be made out to Whitney Stafford.**

Sincerely,

Ms. Stafford

_____ has my permission to participate in the 2010 French National Contest. Enclosed is a check for \$ 5 made out to Whitney Stafford or \$5 cash.

Parent/Guardian

Please note: This is the only time that students may register for the March Concours. Students who are unable to take the test on March 9th cannot be reimbursed so please plan accordingly.