

# YOUR SCHOOL NAME

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January 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian,

On behalf of the French Department (your school name), I (or we) would like to extend an invitation to your child to participate in the Grand Concours, a national French contest on Saturday, March 14, 2009, at Crown Point High School. Bus transportation to and from (your school name) will be provided from (location). The bus will leave at (time) and will return at (time). If you wish to find out more about the contest, Le Grand Concours Web page is <http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours/>. The local winners on each level are recognized and receive prizes at the annual spring meeting and buffet of the Northwest Indiana Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Our students will take the Secondary Level exams. This exam is a multiple-choice test of 70 (60 items for levels 3, 4, and 5) items covering listening comprehension, vocabulary and grammar in context, as well as readings, all equivalent to that of our French curriculum. Prior to the test we may review one or two recent tests before school 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 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 sign and return the form below with the (\$) in cash in a sealed envelope on or before Wednesday, January 17, so that one check for the total amount can be sent to our Contest Administrator. (A continental breakfast is included in the exam fee.)

Sincerely,

(your name and title)

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\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the 2009 French National Contest. Enclosed is \$ [amount due].

Current year of French (circle one) 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>

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Parent/Guardian

**This is the only time that students may register for the March Concours.**

Please note any prior French language experience: