



Principal Bob Howard, front row, center, is shown with members of the senior class who scored 21 or higher on the spring 2011 ACT exam while juniors at HCHS. A total of 47 students scored at least a 21 and above. *Several students were not available for the photo.*

## **2011 HCHS ACT Scores Show Tremendous Improvement**

**Top 50 Students Post an Average ACT Score of 23.52!**

**Top 100 Students Post an Average ACT Score of 21.01!**

The 2011 ACT scores showed a tremendous improvement, especially in the number of higher scores. "The increase in the number of higher scores validates our belief that quality instruction is being delivered daily at HCHS. The students who are receptive to this instruction are doing very well on the ACT," said Superintendent Timothy Saylor.

With the recent release of the 2011 ACT scores, HCHS parents can rest assured that the education their children are receiving will prepare them to face the challenges of higher education. Superintendent Saylor stated, "The 2011 ACT scores confirm to both parents and students that the quality of instruction being delivered at HCHS is more than adequate to prepare any motivated student for success in college."

This year's improvement on the ACT did not come as a shock to school administration or staff. Increased attention to ACT performance and college and career readiness is and will continue to be a primary focus at HCHS. During the 2010/11 school year teachers who deliver instruction in the ACT assessed areas were challenged to strive to better meet the needs of their college bound students by focusing on the skills assessed by the ACT. Reference materials such as the Barron's ACT Prep books were purchased and utilized. On-line ACT preparatory programs such as ACT Learning Express and ACT PrepMe were made available to teachers and students to enhance instruction. HCHS staff members were sent to ACT training workshops to improve their knowledge of ACT standards and requirements. Workshops were offered through the FRYSC & 21<sup>st</sup> Century programs to help

students prepare for the ACT. Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College also brought all of their department heads to HCHS just prior to the administration of the ACT for a presentation aimed at showing the importance of the ACT. With these and many other efforts in place the expectation for raising ACT scores has been laid and will continue to be built upon in future years at HCHS.

The following facts about this years' HCHS ACT scores should help to reassure parents that HCHS is equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary to perform very well on the ACT:

**The top 100 HCHS students posted an average composite score of 21.01!**

**The top 50 HCHS students posted an average composite score of 23.52!**

**The top 5 HCHS students posted an average ACT composite score of 29.6!**

**59 HCHS students posted composite scores of 20 or above!**

**20 HCHS students posted composite scores of 24 or above with highest being a 33!**

**The top 20% of HCHS students posted an average composite score of 23.56!**

**The overall average score at HCHS improved .9 to 17.3.**



Six Harlan County High School students recently were awarded Kindles from the school as a result of their ACT scores. Students scoring 27 and above each received the wireless reading device. Making the presentation to students was Principal Bob Howard. Receiving the Kindles were, from the left, Skyler Ison, Ariel Hyatt, Emily Wills, Josh Madison, Jordan Smith and Braxton Fields. Twenty Harlan County High School students posted composite scores of 24 and above, with the highest being a 33. The top 100 students at HCHS posted an average composite score of 21.01, while the top 50 posted an average composite of 23.52.