

# COUNSELING and CAREER CENTER NOTES

October  
2009

## Parent Portal Access—Call 356-8302 to sign up!

Did you know that you can now stay up-to-date with your child's *assignments, grades, attendance and discipline* during each quarter? Be knowledgeable about specific projects, homework and tests. Grades will be updated in a timely fashion, but please remember that it may take several days for information to be posted. Keep copies of the class syllabus to refer to for grading policies and call/email teachers with questions. If there is an overall concern that effort/grades are not improving even with this improved communication between you, your student and the teachers, call your child's counselor at 356-8322 to discuss the option of a teacher/student/parent conference.

### SUNY CANTON Instant Admit Day

October 21

### ST ROSE Instant Admit Day

October 26th

### HVCC Instant Admit Day

October 27

in the Counseling and Career Center. Sign up NOW. Students will interview with college representatives and be given an admissions decision on the spot! Bring the completed application to the interview with you.

### Scholarship Information

#### **Check with the following:**

- ~Scholarship board in Counseling & Career Center
- ~Guidance link on Mohonasen.org
- ~On CHOICES software at school or [www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com) and [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com)
- ~Through parent unions, affiliations, credit unions and employers
- ~Ask your potential colleges

### College Visits for the Month of October

*Listen to morning announcements, check the Counseling & Career Center or the Guidance Website to see which colleges are visiting!*

SUNY Delhi  
SUNY Canton  
Clarkson  
SAGE College of Albany  
Russell Sage College  
SUNY Brockport  
University of Rochester  
Hofstra University  
Seton Hall  
Hartwick College  
SUNY Potsdam  
Roberts Wesleyan College  
Alfred University  
Pace University  
Niagara University  
Rochester Inst. of Tech

\* Sign up in the Counseling and Career Center and get a pass.

### **HS Guidance webpages: Information Central!!**

**[mohonasen.org/HS/counselingcareercenter](http://mohonasen.org/HS/counselingcareercenter)**

- √ Colleges visiting
- √ Scholarships that are posted in the C&CC
- √ Career and College Planning Guide—including answers to many questions about the college search and application process!
  - √ Information for college bound students
    - √ Course of Study Guide
    - √ Schedule of current conferences
- √ Regents phase-in requirements and retake requirements
- √ AM announcements are on the HS page on the right

## ***Course Registration for Next Year—research options now!***

Selection for next year's courses (Course Registration) will take place November 16-19. Current teachers will present students with their options for next year on the 16th and 17th. Counselors will then facilitate the completion of the course registration sheet and collect them on the 18th and 19th in social studies classes.

Parents and students can access the Mohonasen Course of Study Guide online at <http://www.mohonasen.org/HS/counselingcareercenter/PDFs/MohonCourseStudy.pdf>. This is a good way to see what a course is about and projects included in the curriculum. Several of the elective courses have video/powerpoint presentations linked to their descriptions so that you are able to see the students in action and/or view samples of their work. Parents should discuss student course selections with their child(ren) prior to Wednesday Nov. 18th.

When registering for courses please keep in mind that starting this year all honors and AP courses will be weighted. Honors courses (including College Comp, Intro to Lit and Philosophy through SCC) receive a weight of 2.5% and AP courses receive a weight of 5.0%.

### ***\*\*New National Honor Society Timeline!!\*\****

As you may already be aware there is a new timeline for National Honor Society selection and induction. This process has traditionally taken place in the spring, but has moved to the fall for the first time this year. Eligible students have already been invited to apply and are in the process of completing their applications.

## **Financial Aid Forms**

### **CSS/Financial Aid Profile Form**

Some schools require this form in addition to the FAFSA. Check online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to see if the colleges you are applying to require the CSS Profile. These are due **NOW !** Do not wait!!

### **FAFSA**

It is highly recommended that parents file the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Parents can register for a PIN & look at worksheets **NOW** online. These should be mailed or submitted online after January 1, 2010 but before February 1, 2010. There will be a "**Filling Out the FAFSA**" Workshop **January 6th at 7 PM** in the LGI at the high school; snow date: January 7th. Your tax returns do not need to be completed to do this process. You can estimate your taxes.

### **SOPHOMORES**

The PLAN, a practice test for the ACT college entrance exam, will be held on Saturday, October 31st. Registration will run from October 20th-27th. The fee is \$16 for regular registration and \$20 for late registration, which is October 26th and 27th. A flyer was mailed home with all of the PLAN information.

After Thanksgiving, counselors will begin meeting individually with each 10th grader to discuss course selections for next year, career and college info, and progress this year. Conferences are scheduled to begin in late November and run through January.

Handouts are given to the students to share with parents. Parents who would like to attend should call the Counseling and Career Center by November 1st.

### **JUNIORS**

Students who took the PSAT on Saturday, October 17th should expect to receive results before Christmas break.

We will hold a lunch time session to help explain and interpret your results.

## **PARENTS OF SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS AND SENIORS**

There is a **FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR COLLEGE INFO NIGHT** on **Nov. 18th**.

It is most helpful to attend this **before** you are a junior! This is also critical for parents of seniors and juniors if you have not attended previously.

**The process of applying for Financial Aid is covered.**  
**November 18th at 7 PM** in the HS Farnsworth Technology Center (LGI).