

March/April 2010

Important Dates

March 2nd-5th

Sophomore Career Unit
Sophomore Speech classes

March 1st-April 30th

Junior Interviews

March 4th- 4:30-7

Guidance Open House

March 11th-7pm

Special Education College Night

Thurs, Mar. 18- 7:00 pm

Junior College Info. Night

Sat, April 10th-

ACT Test (at Addison Trail)

Sat, April 17-College Visit for Parents (Elmhurst College)

Wed, April 28th-29th

Prairie State Exams

Sat, May 8th

College Visit for Parents and Students-DePaul University

Message

regarding the

PSAE ACT

While some colleges will accept the ACT score from the PSAE test taken on April 25th, many private colleges will not. Also, the NCAA will not accept these scores. All juniors are encouraged to take an ACT on one of the national test dates listed on page 3. Call Mrs. Connolly with any questions at 628-3323

Guidance News

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Attention Parents of Juniors

The Addison Trail Guidance Department will be hosting our annual

**COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT
THURSDAY, MARCH 18th—7:00 P.M.
STUDENT CAFETERIA**

Topics will include the following: junior interviews, graduation requirements, college entrance requirements, senior year course selections, the college application process, transcript requests and letters of recommendation, college & scholarship search, college fairs and college visits, and financial aid. We hope our juniors and their parents will join us for a very informative evening.

Financial Aid Forms or FAFSA

FAFSA stands for “Free Application for Federal Student Aid.” Effective financial aid planning requires a knowledge of the elements which determine a student’s aid eligibility. The government form used to determine financial aid is called the FAFSA form. These forms are available in the guidance office. The form can be submitted after January 1st and each family will receive an SAR (Student Aid Report) about four weeks after filing their financial aid form. Using this SAR, your prospective college will send an award letter breaking down your financial aid package. Your financial need is equal to your COA (Cost of Attendance) *less* your EFC or Expected Family Contribution.

One thing to keep in mind—waiting to file your financial aid form until after you file your income tax may cause a student to miss some aid deadlines. You may submit the FAFSA form using an estimation based on last year’s tax return. Also, forms improperly completed or sent with mistakes may disqualify, reduce or delay the SAR report.

Questions - Call Mrs. Sadler at: 628-3321

Or for more information go to: www.fafsa.ed.gov

College, Testing, and Scholarship Web Sites:

www.google.com
www.hsf.net
www.isac-online.org
www.act.org
www.collegeboard.com
www.petersons.com
www.ncaa.org
www.fastweb.com
www.fafsa.ed.gov

Career Website:

www.careercruising.com

User name:

addisontrailhs

Password: *Careers*

www.learntest.com/
librarycard

Select "New User"

Type in 60101 followed by your student I.D. number and the last two digits of your year of graduation.

SAMPLE: 60601305999905

Create your own password



Guidance Parent Information Nights

THURSDAY NIGHTS

MARCH 11TH
Special Education College Night

Alison Nix-Special Education Counselor

MARCH 18th
College Information Night for Juniors

MARCH 4TH-OPEN HOUSE FOR REGISTRAION

ON MARCH 4TH WE WILL BE HAVING AN OPEN HOUSE FOR REGISTRATION FROM **4:30-7 PM**. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S COURSE REQUESTS OR ANY QUESTIONS ON REGISTRATION, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DROP IN AND SPEAK WITH A COUNSELOR. APPOINTMENTS ARE NOT NECESSARY BUT CAN BE MADE BY CALLING US AT 630-638-3318

ADVANCED PLACEMENT NEWS!!!

Spring means AP testing!!! Sign up for Advanced Placement exams will take place in the bookstore from March 23th through March 27th. The cost of the each exam this year is \$83, and payment can be made with cash, check, or Visa/Mastercard. The exams will take place during the weeks of Tuesday, May 3rd through Friday, May 14th. If you have any questions please call Mr. Cole at 628-3322.

Junior Interviews



Starting in March counselors will be meeting with all juniors for a one-on-one interview. These interviews will focus on credit status, course selections, and college/career plans. A mailing will go out with the junior interview parent letter, College Information Night Flyer and a Transcript Release and Recommendation Form. This form must be returned to the guidance office as soon as possible in order for the counselors to process any transcript requests for colleges and scholarships.

Parents and students are reminded to please return the Transcript Release Authorization Form . This form will be mailed home along with the junior interview parent letter and is necessary in order for us to process any transcript requests for colleges and scholarships.

SPRING COLLEGE VISITS!!!!

ELMHURST COLLEGE-April 17, 2010-LEAVE Addison Trail at **9** Back at **12**.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY-MAY 8, 2010-LEAVE Addison Trail at **8:00 a.m.** Back at **12:30**

All visits will include an informational meeting with an Admissions specialist and a tour of the college. The DePaul visit will also include a panel discussion with current DePaul students.Visits are open to all students and parents. Please RSVP with the guidance office at 630-628-3318.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS

** Be alert of scholarship scams. You should never have to pay for a scholarship or financial assistance. Be aware and don't be fooled by an "official sounding name." Words like "National," "Foundations" or "Administration" in the title, doesn't mean it is a legitimate operation.

Protecting Yourself from Scholarship Scams

This advice can help you avoid becoming the victim of a scholarship scam.

1. If you must pay money to get money, it might be a scam.
2. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
3. Spend the time, not the money.
4. Never invest more than a postage stamp to get information about scholarships. +
6. Legitimate scholarship foundations do not charge application fees.
7. If you're suspicious of an offer, it's usually with good reason.

All scholarships received in the guidance office are accessible to parents and students:

On the Addison Trail website:

- *www.dupage88.net.
- *click on Addison Trail
- *click on academics
- *click on Guidance Counselors
- *under Guidance News click on AT Scholarship Bulletin

Applications are available to students on our scholarship pedestal in the guidance office.

Parents can also obtain information on hundreds of scholarships from universities and other national sources by searching the following websites:

www.google.com www.hsf.net www.fastweb.com

Be aware: parents should *never* have to pay a fee for scholarship information.

Please call Mrs. Grady in the guidance office for more scholarship information: 628-2613

ACT Test

Register at:

www.actstudent.org

Test—April 10th

Registration deadline—March 5th
Late Reg. deadline— March 19th*

Test — June 12th

Registration deadline—May 7th
Late Reg. Deadline— May 21st*

*-Late fee

SAT Test

Register at :

www.collegeboard.com

Test— March 13th**

Registration deadline— Feb 10th

Test— May 1st

Registration deadline— March 31st

Test— June 5th

Registration deadline— May 5th

**SAT ONLY (No Subject Tests)

Ten Tips for Taking a Standardized Exam

1. Get plenty of sleep the night before the test.
2. If you feel nervous, try to relax by taking a few deep breaths.
3. Maintain confidence in your abilities and plan to do your best.
4. Listen carefully to all instructions and ask questions if you hear something you don't understand.
5. Focus your attention on your work
6. Position your answer sheet next to your test booklet
7. Read each question completely before answering.
8. Choose the answer you think is best and go on to the next question. Be sure to answer every question. There is no penalty for guessing.
9. Pace yourself throughout the test by occasionally checking the time.
10. If you complete the test before your time is up, reread the questions and check your answers.

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