

PTA Counseling Update – February, 2018

Parents of seniors are reminded that they can contact the College Planning Center (1-877-272-4692) for assistance in filling out their FAFSA form, which is the need-based financial aid application required by colleges in order to award grants, loans, and work study. It needs to be submitted by a school's priority deadline for optimum consideration.

Seniors need to be researching scholarships. Many of the scholarships have a February 28th deadline. The counseling web site and its link to the Fastweb are two good ways to gather scholarship possibilities. A third resource is each college to which a student has applied. Families should check their place of work for any scholarship offers as well.

Just a reminder, spring break runs from March 12th to March 16th.

Registration for next year's courses should be finished at the end of next week. We brought all students to a computer lab to learn about classes and then put their choices into the system. We are registering at the middle schools this week to register 8th graders. Parents can see their students' selections on-line. All registration information, including the PowerPoints that we used, are online and can be accessed through the Washington Counselor website

March 9th is the deadline to register for the April 14th ACT test. This is the most common date for juniors across the nation to take the ACT but many will do the June 9th test as well (deadline of May 4th). There is also a test on July 14 (deadline of June 15th). The May 5th SAT has a registration deadline of April 6th. Check your calendars for conflicts for the dates on which you plan to test.

The counselors have combined to process 328 transcripts to colleges sent to 40 different states. The number of transcripts is down slightly from last year, but the number of states they are being sent to is up from last year. We will soon be calling in seniors that have not sent a transcript anywhere to see what we can do to be of assistance.

All students will be required to take the K-Navigator interest inventory and skills assessment this spring. We are still in the planning stages of we administer these assessments, but we should have a plan soon. The K-Navigator will be a great resource for students as they search for information about careers and colleges.