

PTA Counseling Update, March 2018

Parents and students should be finished with the process of filing for financial aid and should start receiving financial aid packages from their colleges. Parents needing assistance in filling in the federal financial need form (FAFSA) can schedule individual sessions with the College Planning Center (1-877-272-4692) on Boysen Rd. Pay attention to financial aid priority deadlines for each college. Do not hesitate to ask questions of the financial aid offices at each college from which you receive a financial aid letter. Family circumstances can change dramatically in the current financial climate. Communicate these changes to the financial aid offices at your college so they can consider adjustments. Scholarships are found through colleges and our web site.

We are still trying to round up a few students to get their requests in for next year. Once that is done Dr. Nyberg will start working on the master schedule. We hope to offer teacher choice for next year to students sometime around the third week in April.

Remember that the April ACT is the most common date for juniors across the nation to take the ACT. The registration deadline is March 9th for the April 14th test. You can register for the June 9th ACT test up to midnight on May 4th. The May 5th SAT test has a registration deadline of April 6th.

We have begun the selection process with sophomores for the Youth Leadership for Five Seasons. This is a leadership opportunity hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and consists of a series of programs highlighting various careers and programs in the Cedar Rapids area. It begins with a mandatory weekend retreat in August. Interested sophomores should sign up in the Counseling Office. We will invite the students who sign up to an informational meeting on March 27. Students who are still interested will receive an application at the meeting. We are restricted to selecting 5 students and two alternates. Applications are evaluated through a blind essay read and that process is the core of the selection process.

The counselors are nearly finished with senior college applications and they have now combined to process 399 transcripts to colleges in 40 different states. We are contacting seniors that have not sent a transcript anywhere, to offer assistance.

We are closer to finalizing a plan for all students to take the K-Navigator interest inventory and skills assessment this spring. The K-Navigator will be a great resource for students as they search for information about careers and colleges. Parents or students interested in checking it out can follow the instructions below.

[Kuder Navigator Log In Directions](#)

- [Washington High School home page \(crwash.org\)](http://crwash.org)
- [Click on Kuder Navigator \(located on the bar above the date and daily announcements\)](#)
- [Click on: Log in with Clever](#)
- **Washington High School Activation Code is: N3928974APR**