

JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT

Parents of juniors, come meet your child's counselor and hear more about college planning on September 22nd from 6:30-7:30. Counselors will discuss what students should be doing right now to prepare for college. The discussion will be geared for parents; however, students are welcome to attend.

SENIOR PARENT NIGHT

On Thursday, November 18 from 7-8:30, there will be a meeting in the Pius XI Chapel regarding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms that college bound students need to fill out beginning January 1, 2011. Please join Pius XI Counseling Center staff and a financial aid representative from a local college to learn about the ins and outs of the FAFSA and to have any of your other financial aid questions answered.

ACT PREP AT UWM

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is offering an ACT preparation class and ACT test taking experience for students in grades 10-12. Classes meet for seven consecutive Saturdays beginning on October 9th. The course costs \$175 with scholarships available to those in need. Students engage in 20 hours of intense classroom instruction and review. See your counselor to register. Space is limited. A GPA of 2.0 is required.

KNOW HOW TO GO

For helpful information related to college preparation for all grade levels, interest inventories, and free ACT prep, visit: knowhow2gowisconsin.org.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to check the website monthly for an updated college scholarship list compiled by the counseling center. This scholarship list can also be viewed on the bulletin board located outside room 220 and in TAC.

ACT/SAT FOR SENIORS

Most colleges in the U.S. require that students submit scores from either the ACT or the SAT as part of their application packages. If you have not yet taken either of these tests and are planning on going to college next year, you must register now. Fee waivers are available in the counseling center for those who qualify. Visit www.act.org to register online for the ACT or pick-up a registration packet in room 222. Visit www.collegeboard.org to register for the SAT.

2010 ACT Test Dates

October 23 - register by Sept. 17
December 11 - register by Nov. 5

2010 SAT Test Dates

November 16 - register by Oct. 8

PSAT TEST FOR JUNIORS

The PSAT is a National Merit Scholarship qualifying test. It measures critical reading, math problem-solving, and writing skills. This test will give you feedback about critical academic skills, help you prepare for college entrance exams, and allow you to enter scholarship competitions. The test will be held at Pius XI during the school day on October 13. All juniors are strongly encouraged to take this test. Sign-up forms will be available in TAC beginning September 15. Cost is \$13 and fee waivers are available for those in need.

EXPLORE/PLAN TEST FOR FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES

All Freshman will take the EXPLORE test and all Sophomores will take the PLAN test at Pius XI free of charge on October 13. Students are required to take these tests, as they are extremely beneficial. The tests will help students identify their strengths and weaknesses in English, Math, Reading, and Science and prepare for the ACT. Students can expect to get their results towards the end of January.

PIUS XI GOES ON A COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS

Have you been on a college visit yet? Would you like to see what really happens on a college campus? On October 18th a bus will be taking all interested juniors and seniors to Cardinal Stritch University. On November 8th, a bus will go to Marquette University. Both days are Star Days, with the campus visits scheduled for the afternoon, so the students will miss a minimum of school time. Space is limited to 50 students for each visit. Pick up permission slips in the Counseling Center. These colleges do not have to be your schools of choice. These opportunities are designed to give all students a sneak peak into college life.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to check the website monthly for an updated college scholarship list compiled by the counseling center. This scholarship list can also be viewed on the bulletin board located outside room 222.

COUNSELING CENTER STAFF

Know who to talk to. We are here to help! Come see us in room 222. Find your TAC below and you will know who your assigned counselor is.

Tim Doherty: Department Chair

- 119, 206, 207, 301, 320, 322, 406, 407, 413, 416, 426, 507, 520

Brian Anderson

- 110, 200, 215, 300, 312, 316, 318, 322, 402, 417, 420, 422, 434, 604, 610, 613

Suzanne Lovinus

- 204, 307, 315, 404, 408, 410, 415, 430, 506, 510, 512, 515, 518, 609

Lisa Youngvorst

- 74, 101, 201, 306, 314, 326, 400, 415

Sue Linski: Administrative Assistant

SENIOR HANDBOOKS

All seniors should have received a senior handbook in August when they met with their counselor during TAC. If you did not receive a handbook, please pick one up in the counseling center. These handbooks provide very helpful information related to post-secondary planning.

APPLYING TO COLLEGE

Most colleges prefer that students apply for admission online. All UW System schools use the same application, which may be accessed at: uhelp.wisconsin.edu. Additionally, almost 400 public and private colleges use what is called The Common Application. For more information, visit: www.commonapp.org. It is a good idea to begin with a school search to find out about each individual school's admissions process.

An official transcript must be sent to each college that you apply to. Pius utilizes electronic transcripts, which are preferred by colleges over paper transcripts. Transcripts can be ordered by going to docufide.com, and following the directions on the last page of your Senior Handbook. The cost is \$4 for each transcript, payable by debit/credit at the time of ordering. See your counselor for assistance.

APPLICATION REMINDERS

1. Email addresses should be appropriate and professional
2. If you give a phone number, make sure the outgoing message will make a good impression.
3. Do not leave any fields empty on an application
4. Take time to write a great personal statement or essay
5. Be aware of deadlines and plan ahead.

COLLEGE REPS VISIT PIUS XI

As many as fifty colleges send representatives to Pius XI each fall to meet with students during the school day and tell them more about the school they represent. Below is a sneak preview of some of the schools coming to Pius XI this fall. More schools are added to this list on a regular basis. Check the bulletin board across from 218 or stop in to the counseling center for the most up-to-date list of schools, times and locations.

- Northwestern: September 22
- Silver Lake: September 23
- MSOE: September 23
- Beloit College: September 23
- Carroll University: September 29
- Ripon College: September 30
- Cardinal Stritch: October 5
- UW-Platteville: October 7
- Cornell University (Iowa): October 14
- St. Louis University: October 19
- Loras College: October 19
- Drake University: October 20
- St. Mary College: October 20
- UW-Milwaukee: October 22
- Iona College: October 25
- University of Evansville: October 26
- Coe College: October 26
- Providence College: October 26
- University of Montana: October 26
- Ball State: October 29
- John Carroll University: October 29

COLLEGE VISIT TIPS

1. Pick a date. Are classes in session? Is there a campus preview day? Can you catch a game, concert or club activity?
2. Set up any appointments 2-3 weeks in advance. You may want to meet with people from the financial aid office and/or a particular academic department.
3. Make a list of the factors that are most important to you. What do you need from a campus? What would be good but isn't necessary? Develop a list of questions
4. While there, take a tour, talk to students (about the residence halls, food, etc.), take pictures, eat a meal in the cafeteria, drive or walk through surrounding neighborhoods and get a feel for the community.

NACAC COLLEGE FAIR

Attending a college fair is a great way to learn about individual college requirements, academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing, and more. The NACAC National College Fair is held once annually in Wisconsin at the Frontier Airlines Center. This year the fair is being held Sunday, October 24th from 12-3:30. Four thousand people are expected to attend so online registration is encouraged to avoid long lines. To register and for more information visit: www.nacacnet.org. This fair is free and open to the public.

WEF COLLEGE FAIRS

Approximately 100 professional admission representatives from all over the region will be at the following three Wisconsin Education Fairs in the Milwaukee area. These fairs begin at 6:30pm and end at 8:30pm. For more information visit: www.wefs.org

- Arrowhead High School: October 12
- Franklin High School: October 13
- New Berlin West HS: October 14

NATIONAL HISPANIC COLLEGE FAIR

Pulaski High School will be hosting Milwaukee's annual Hispanic College Fair during the school day on Tuesday, October 5th. Over 50 colleges will be in attendance. This opportunity is free to students and transportation will be provided. Students will only be at the fair for one hour, so they will not miss a full day of school. Please see Ms. Orlich in room 332 to sign up as soon as possible.

ART COLLEGES VISIT PIUS

All students and parents interested in learning about career opportunities in the arts are encouraged to attend presentations given by college art departments from across the country on October 21 and/or 22. Presentations begin at 8:30am both days and end at 3pm. All are invited!