

Counselor News for Week of May 5, 2008

ALL:

Girls & Boys Town National Hotline: A crisis, resource and referral number for children & parents for whatever the problem, whenever it happens, there's help at 1-800-448-3000. The Hotline is toll free and Spanish-speaking counselors and translation services for more than 100 languages are available 24 hours a day. The TTY line (1-800-448-1833) services the speech and hearing-impaired. Hotline counselors can refer parents and students.

WAIT (Why Am I Tempted): Shelly Donahue's email: sheldonahue@slbbi.com

Resume 101: What if you don't have tons of work experience to list on a resume? Any part-time or summer work experience should definitely be included, but other activities can be listed as substitutes. For example, if you're seeking a summer camp counselor position, child-care experience can be highlighted if you have looked after sibling. From Lindsey Pollak, author of *Getting from College to Career: 90 Things to Do Before You Join the Real World*.

SENIORS:

Check out sheets: The last day of class, be sure to pick up a checkout form to take around to all your teachers on your last day of school. Once your checkout sheet is signed off, put it in the box marked "Senior Check-out Sheets" in the Guidance Office. TA's: You'll need to turn in your TA badges as part of your check-out process.

College Courtesy: As a courtesy to the colleges and the fellow graduates around the nation, be sure to contact the colleges you have applied to, but have decided NOT to attend, to let them know you are not planning to attend that school. This way, any financial aid monies that would have been given to you as part of a financial aid package are put back into the pool and redistributed to students attending the school.

Final Transcript Requests: Post-graduate schools seniors plan to attend require a final transcript after 2nd semester grades are in. So, pick up and complete a final transcript request from the Guidance Office before graduation in order for transcripts to be sent.

Tips to Succeed in College: Tip 7 – Do everything in moderation. Balance your social life with your studies. If you spend too much time at parties and social events, your studies will suffer. However, if you spend all of your time studying, then you could burn out quickly. From: *Tips from a Prof* by Clark Bennett, Math Instructor at the University of South Dakota.

SENIORS, JUNIORS & SOPHOMORES:

ACT/SAT Registration Deadlines:

ACT: On-line registration available at www.act.org. Basic Registration Fee: \$30; with optional Writing Test: \$44.50; if late registration: add \$19; if standby registration: add \$39.50.

ACT Registration Deadline for June 14 Test Date is: May 9, 2008

SAT: On-line registration available at www.collegeboard.com. Fee for SAT Reasoning Test is \$43; if late registration: add \$22; if standby registration: add \$37. **SAT Registration Deadline for June 7 Test Date is: May 6, 2008**

SENIORS, JUNIORS & SOPHOMORES: continued

Other Test Prep Options: *The Assistance League of Omaha* offers ACT, SAT Review Sessions at Westside High School. Forms are near Senior mailboxes.

The Assistance League of Omaha Sponsored Test Prep 07-08: For ACT Test Date: June 14, 2008

Option 1 (w/o Writing) Fee: \$30

Class 1: Meets June 9 or 10 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Class 2: Meets June 11 or 12 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Westside HS

Option 2 with Writing Fee: \$40

Class 1: Meets June 9 or 10 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Class 2: Meets June 11 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Class 3: Meets June 12 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Westside HS

College Representative Visits/Fairs: (updated 5/2/08)

May 7 NE Army Guard Noon-1p.m. HS Cafeteria

May 9 Midland Registration Day.

May 30 & 31 Ft Omaha Film Conference. Entry form due Apr. 15.

June 13 Midland Registration Day.

JUNIORS

Testing: Juniors who take the ACT in the spring of 2008 (April or June test dates) will NOT be required to participate in the ASSET/COMPASS testing in the fall as seniors. Juniors who do not take the ACT in the spring of 2008, will be required to participate in ASSET/COMPASS testing in Sept/October. Deadline for the April test date is March 7th.

JUNIORS & SOPHOMORES:

Post-Graduate Summer Planning:

Planning for College Helpful Advice from

eCampusTours.com: College Selection: Step 6—Decide

Which School to Attend. If you are accepted to more than one school, you still have to make a final decision of which one to attend. If you qualify for financial aid, you will receive award letters from potential schools around March or April of your senior year. These letters will let you know if you have received any financial aid. You should compare the award offers from each school, which may help you make a final decision. The amount you are awarded at each school will vary depending on the cost of attendance. Go over all the factors and the make a final decision. Be sure to send a letter declining admission to schools you will not be attending. If you have questions or are confused about your acceptance information, call your contact at that school. S/He will be happy to help clarify.

SOPHOMORES & FRESHMEN:

Pre-registration for PSAT/NMSQT Test: Students in the Classes of 2010 and 2011 interested in taking the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, pre-SAT)/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) need to pre-register in the Guidance Office by June 1st. Fees for the test will be determined and due in September.