

HAMMOND

College Counseling Junior Bulletin
April 2008

During the next few months it is important for juniors to be in an R&R mode....Reflection and research are the keys to completing a thorough college search. Make use of the Hammond School College Counseling website and your college guidebook. Log on to www.collegeboard.com and take advantage of the My College Quick Start and the My Road features available through College Board.

1. Juniors should be especially mindful of doing well in classes this semester. Many colleges *heavily* consider junior year coursework in the admissions process and exams are just around the corner.
2. Juniors should be reviewing for the SAT in earnest. There is no excuse for good preparation. Make good use of your *PSAT Score Report* by evaluating your strengths and weaknesses and tailoring your SAT review to meet your individual needs. College Board offers excellent SAT prep resources online and in local bookstores.
3. Juniors should have taken the SAT on March 1 and should plan to take the SAT again on May 3. Registration deadline for the May 3 SAT was April 1. The late registration deadline is April 10. Be sure to use the Hammond School code (410533) when you register. Register for the question/answer service when available. This is a wonderful resource and review tool.
4. If you are completing an AP in May (other than European History) and wish to take the SAT II in that subject, you will need to register for the June 7 SAT II's no later than May 6. SAT II's are one hour long, and you can take up to three in one day. Check individual schools to which you plan to apply for SAT II requirements.
5. If you have not already done so, juniors should plan and schedule college visits during the next six months. Spring is a wonderful time on most campuses. Contact individual schools for tour and information session times. Don't discount the possibility of summer visits. Most schools run summer sessions and welcome visitors year round. Ask to meet professors in majors in which you are interested. Make arrangements to attend a class or two while on campus as well.
6. Juniors will be writing *college essays* as a part of the junior English curriculum. Mrs. Bickley will meet with junior English classes on Monday, April 7, to introduce the topic of *college essays*. Your essay will be a graded assignment in your junior English class. Take it seriously for that reason, but understand that your serious approach will lessen your stress next fall when you are preparing applications. As final drafts are completed, you will need to give Mrs. Bickley a copy.
7. Juniors will begin registering for senior year courses within the next few weeks. Make a point to speak with your teachers concerning course recommendations for next year. Honors and AP placement require teacher recommendation. Juniors might also want to consider scheduling an appointment with Mrs. Bickley to discuss course choices *after* speaking with individual teachers.

Important Dates:

Preliminary College List due in Mrs. Bickley's office

Friday, April 25

AP Exams

May 6-16

Awards Day

*Friday, May 16th 10:00 in the US Gym
Junior parents are invited to attend.*