

HAMMOND

College Counseling Junior Bulletin

May-August

2008

Awards Day Change....Mark Your Calendars

Upper School Awards Day has been rescheduled for May 23 at 9:30 am in the Upper School Gym. Although all senior parents traditionally attend, junior parents are invited as well.

1. ***First and foremost:*** It is imperative that juniors finish the academic year on a strong note. Preparation for exams (including AP, honors, and regular) should be focused and thorough.
2. Preliminary college lists were due Friday, April 25. Lists should be typed and should include student name. Please give your list to Ms. Easler in the Office of College Counseling if you have not already done so.
3. Due to unforeseen circumstances in the English department, Mrs. Bickley will be taking over the ***college essay*** process for students in ***AP Language and Composition*** (B period), ***Honors British Literature*** (A period and C period), and ***British Literature*** (E period). ***She will be meeting with juniors enrolled in these courses at some point during the next two weeks to discuss plans for essay/draft development.*** Stay tuned for details.
4. Before you leave school for the summer, ask two teachers if they would be willing to write ***recommendations*** to be used with the college and scholarship applications you will submit next fall. By asking now, you allow writers unencumbered time to speak on your behalf. When making this request, it is helpful if you can provide a resume' (even a rough one). Remind teachers that recommendations should be addressed "To Whom It May Concern." ***It is your responsibility to follow up with teachers when school begins next year.***
5. If you are completing PreCal or an AP (other than European History) in May and wish to take the SAT II's, you will need to register for the June 7 SAT II's with College Board. SAT II'S are one hour in length and you can take up to three in one day. ***Remember: It is your responsibility to understand SAT II requirements at the schools to which you will apply.***
6. Take the SAT June 7 if you did not take it in April and again in May. Registration deadline for the June 7 SAT/SAT II's is May 6. In addition you should plan to take

the SAT in October of your senior year. Summer offers an excellent opportunity to invest effort and energy in individual SAT preparation.

7. ***Hammond's school code is 410533.*** You must enter the Hammond School code or we do not receive your SAT scores.
8. Make plans to ***visit colleges*** over the summer. Call for an appointment. Take advantage of both information sessions and campus tours. Ask to speak with an individual admissions rep following your tour and use that time to ask questions. Refer to your ***Hammond College Guidebook*** for suggestions concerning a successful college visit.
9. Continue to ***explore colleges*** using the internet. The Hammond School College Counseling website has excellent links to a variety of search engines as well as individual college/program websites. Check admission requirements against the academic preparation you have made. Make use of College Board's ***My College Quick Start*** feature especially designed for juniors as you move through the college search process.
10. See Mrs. Bickley individually to discuss ***course choices*** for next year if you have not already done so.
11. Touch base with Mrs. Bickley before school gets out to discuss your ***preliminary college list*** if you need to do so.
12. Junior families should call Ms. Easler to set an August/early September ***appointment*** to meet with Mrs. Bickley to kick-off fall application season. Junior students and at least one parent are required to attend.
13. Several web resources you and your parents might find helpful are listed below:
 - ***Princeton Review Parents Podcast Series*** has been a popular source of information on the college admission process. Families are encouraged to visit www.PrincetonReview.com/podcasts/parents.asp.
 - ***College Visits*** (based in Charleston) enjoys an excellent national reputation as a leader in organized college tours for high school students. Information on their ***2008 USA College Tours*** is available at www.college-visits.com.
 - ***FastWeb*** is an excellent financial aid/scholarship information website. Access ***FastWeb*** at www.fastweb.com.