

HAMMOND

College Counseling Junior Bulletin
October 2007

As stated during the Junior College Counseling Kickoff meeting, communication is key during the college process. Juniors should make a habit of checking the Daily Announcements, the Hammond School College Counseling website, and the College Counseling Bulletin Board on a regular basis. The website was especially designed for Hammond students as you move through the college search and admission process. Please take the time to explore the site and make it one of your FAVORITES. It will be an invaluable tool throughout the college application process. Go to www.hammondschool.org and follow the College Counseling link.

1. Juniors will be involved in a *PSAT Prep* seminar, Wednesday, October 10 from 8-12 in the Lecture Hall. Students should bring paper, pencils, and calculators to the session. The cost of the seminar is \$25.00. *If you have not already done so, checks should be made payable to Hammond and be submitted to Ms. Easler.*
2. *PSAT Student Bulletins* will be distributed during the prep session. Juniors are reminded to make use of these materials in preparation for the PSAT on Wednesday, October 17.
3. *Annual College Tours*: (November 13-15) Information about the in-state and the out-of-state tours will be mailed soon. Juniors are required to participate in one of the two tours.
4. College reps continue to visit campus. Check the College Counseling website, the Daily Announcements, and/or the College Counseling bulletin board for a list of upcoming visits. Juniors are encouraged to attend sessions of interest. Rep visits are an excellent opportunity for Hammond juniors to explore college options face to face. Please remember: You must get permission from your classroom teacher prior to attending an info session and you are responsible for any work missed.
5. Mrs. Bickley will begin conducting one-on-one *Junior Fall Conferences* shortly after first quarter report cards are issued. Watch the *Daily Announcements* for information concerning conferences. During these conferences juniors will:
 - a. Review individual transcripts
 - b. Review goals set during sophomore year and evaluate success rate
 - c. Evaluate first nine week grades
 - d. Set year-end grade goals for each class
 - e. Discuss what study habits will be necessary to achieve those goals
 - f. Determine how those goals will affect GPA.
 - g. Discuss SAT plans and potential college interests
6. *Financial Aid Meeting*: Tuesday, November 27, 5:00 pm in the Lecture Hall. This meeting is primarily designed for parents of seniors, but junior parents are welcome to attend.

7. It's not too early to begin a few *college visits*... especially if you happen to be in the area. Call individual colleges for tour and info session times. Following your tour, ask to speak informally with an admissions counselor while you are on campus. Make note of that person's name. Write a thank you note when you get back home. (*Remember: Although it is acceptable for a parent to inquire about tours and info sessions, the prospective student should take the initiative once on campus.*)
8. Take time to read the enclosed article, *Junior Jump Start*, provided by Washington University in St. Louis. It provides some helpful information as you begin the *research and reflection* phase of the college admission process.

HELPFUL HINT

Senior parents have suggested that juniors should purchase *extra school pictures* and put them aside for use on college applications next fall...just in case senior pictures aren't back in time.

Great college search websites:

http://www.hammondschool.org/college_counseling.php
<http://www.college-scholarships.com/>

<http://www.act.org>
<http://www.collegebound.net/>

<http://www.collegeboard.com>
<http://www.admissiontests.org>

<http://www.collegexpress.com/>
<http://www.collegeguides.com/>

<http://www.hillel.org/>
<http://www.smart.net/~pope/hbcu/hbculist.htm>

<http://www.ajcunet.edu>
<http://mapping-your-future.org/>

<http://www.nacacnet.org>
<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/>