

Senior Newsletter

SENIOR NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER, 2009

VOLUME VII, 1ST EDITION

YOU'RE OFF AND RUNNING!



Welcome back to the members of the class of 2010! What a great start to your senior year! Hopefully, the transition from your junior year to your senior year has been successful and uneventful. By this time you should be in full swing of class studies and senior activities. You should also be contemplating your post-secondary plans. Whether your plans include college, military, technical school or employment, there is no time like the present to begin your preparations. In order to help you with college or vocational planning, each month we will be providing timely information to help in the transition to post-secondary education, vocational education, military and/or the work place. If you follow the guidelines given each month, you will be on target in reaching your goals for the future. There are several articles in this month's newsletter to assist you with college planning.

The top priority for every senior at this point in time is to make sure you are registered in the required classes for graduation. Those of you working to receive any of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarships, contact your counselor if you have any questions. Many of you are beginning to think about the college admissions and

application processes. Our school web site, NicevilleHighSchool.org, offers many links to assist you with the college application process.

WHO IS MY COUNSELOR?

Senior Counselor assignments for the 2009-2010 school year.

Last names beginning with:

A thru G **Mr. Willie Biggs**

H thru O **Mrs. Toby Ford**

P thru Z **Dr. Sharon Richardson**

TIME MANAGEMENT AND SENIOR RESPONSIBILITIES

As you will notice, your senior year will fly by. Before you know it, graduation will be around the corner. Time management will be a very important tool to keep you on track. Use your student agenda/planner, this newsletter, the Niceville High School website, and the NHS Email Notification System to stay updated.



If you are a senior who is not always on campus (class out, dual enrollment, online classes), occasionally stop by the Guidance Department for updates. Remember: you are responsible for all important dates and events. Check out the "Important Dates and Events" section in this newsletter.

One other important reminder: if you attend an activity that takes you out of class(es), such as college visits, senior portraits, school-sponsored trips, etc., it is your responsibility to make-up any class work missed. Stay ahead of the game; ask for assignments before missing class.

COLLEGE PREP WORKSHOP

There will be a college prep workshop Thursday, September 10th in the NHS auditorium from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. This workshop will offer information concerning transcripts, Florida Bright



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*Futures, Senior Resumes, College Applications, Financial Aid, Scholarships, FACTS.org, etc. Due to the amount of preparation required for this workshop, seniors who wish to attend MUST register in the Guidance Department. Deadline to register is Wednesday, September 9th for the September 10th workshop. This deadline will be strictly enforced. **Parents: You are welcomed to attend this workshop!** We look forward to seeing you there!*



VISITING COLLEGES

A representative from the following colleges will be available during the specified time. Each session will last approximately 30 minutes. Seniors must come by Guidance to sign-up for the colleges they are interested. Passes will be given to seniors upon registering for the visit. Seniors must have their pass signed by their teacher to be admitted to each session. Remember to sign-in so your attendance can be verified.

DATE	TIME	COLLEGE
09/16/09	9:00 a.m.	Birmingham Southern
09/16/09	10:00 a.m.	University of Tampa
09/16/09	11:00 a.m.	Stetson University
09/16/09	11:30 a.m.	Mercer University
09/16/09	12:00 p.m.	University of North Florida
09/16/09	12:30 p.m.	Florida Atlantic University.
09/16/09	1:00 p.m.	Lynn University
09/17/09	8:00 a.m.	Florida Institute Technology
09/17/09	8:30 a.m.	FAU Honors College
09/17/09	9:00 a.m.	Samford University
09/17/09	9:30 a.m.	Florida State University
09/17/09	10:00 a.m.	Jacksonville University
09/30/09	8:00 a.m.	University of Florida
10/07/09	9:00 a.m.	Univ. of Central Florida
10/20/09	8:00 a.m.	Emery College/Oxford Univ.
10/20/09	1:30 p.m.	Washington Univ./St. Louis

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA APPLICATION DEADLINES

The University of Florida will have a single application deadline of 12:00 a.m. (midnight), **(11:00 p.m. central time)**, November 1 and a decision release date sometime in early February. The application must be completed online at: www.ufl.edu. Supporting materials such as transcripts and test scores can arrive later, but the application must be

on time for priority consideration. Applications received after November 1st will be reviewed on a "space available" basis and will have a decision between March and May.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY APPLICATION DEADLINES

Florida State University will have two application deadlines for the Fall of 2010 freshmen. The first application deadline is October 14th with a December 9th notification date. The second and final application deadline is January 20th for a March 17th notification date. Prospective applicants are encouraged to apply early! The online application can be found at: www.fsu.edu.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS TO ASK A COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE

COUNSELOR'S CANVAS FALL 2005 vol. X Issue 1
Washington University in St. Louis

Fall is the time for admissions officers to make high school visits, attend college fairs, and conduct group presentations around the globe! It's also an excellent opportunity for high school students to learn more about a college before deciding if they wish to visit campus. Having a prepared list of questions for college representatives can enhance a student's knowledge of the different schools he or she may be considering. Following are some examples of the type of questions that can be helpful in the college search:



- Do you offer a wide variety of majors, and can students easily change their course of study? How many students double major?
- What is the composition of the student body (e.g. from what states,
- How many undergraduates/graduates, male/female, ratio, commuter vs. residential, racial and cultural backgrounds)?
- What percentage of students live on campus? Is housing guaranteed for freshman?
- What percentage of students returns for sophomore year? What percentage graduates in four years?
- What is the academic advising system like?
- Do faculty members teach courses? What is the average class size?
- What courses are required? Can I get credit for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or college courses I have taken in high school?
- Are there opportunities for research, independent study, internships, and study abroad?
- What choices do students have for their extracurricular activities?

- *What is the neighborhood surrounding the campus like?*
- *How do the students get involved in the local community?*
- *Do you offer academic scholarships? What is the application process for scholarships?*
- *What are the characteristics of this school that make it unique?*

WHAT COLLEGES ARE LOOKING FOR

Are you overwhelmed by the amount of information available for the college application process? The Making It Count organization has simplified the process with their list of C-R-I-T-E-R-I-A most colleges are looking for in their applicants:

C-ourse selection. *Did you take academically challenging courses in high school?*

R-ank in class. *How do you rank amongst your fellow classmates?*

I-nterests. *Do you have interests the college will be interested in? What do you have to offer the college?*

T-est scores. *Did you take a college entrance exam (ACT of SAT)? How competitive are your scores?*

E-ssays. *Essays can make or break your application. Did you have a parent or teacher proof your essay?*

R-ecommendations. *Did you include letters of recommendation, even if they were not required?*

I-nterviews. *Did you have an interview? Did you consider a college visit?*

A-cademic performance. *How is your overall high school academic performance? Have you considered retaking a course you didn't do that well?*

ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF TRANSCRIPTS

You can apply directly to any of the Florida public four-year colleges and universities on-line. To complete your application process you must order transcripts to be sent to the college(s) you have applied. If you have applied to one of the state public colleges or universities, your transcripts can be sent electronically. For in-state private colleges, out-of-state colleges or scholarships, hard copy transcripts will be printed by Mrs. Rankin, but it is the student's responsibility to mail the transcripts to the colleges/universities or scholarship organizations.

You can request transcripts to be sent to your college(s) of choice from Mrs. Rankin in the Guidance Department by completing a Transcript Request Form. Mrs. Rankin, our registrar, will either send your transcripts electronically or print a hard cop for the student to mail.

Electronic transcripts are sent with no charge to the student. If a hard-copy transcript is requested, the first two will be at

no charge, but every transcript requested after the first two will be charged \$1.00 each.

Don't forget your application deadlines. Mrs. Rankin must have 48 hours notice to send or print transcripts. Also, electronic transcripts can take as long as three - four business days to be received electronically by the college/university.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION MATERIALS: HOW AND WHEN TO SUBMIT THEM

COUNSELOR'S CANVAS FALL 2005 vol. X Issue 1

Washington University in St. Louis

It's the fall of senior year, and the flurry of college applications has begun. Amid the multiple forms that applicants are required to submit to colleges, students may also wonder if there are other items they can send to make their application stand out.

For many involved young people, having a separate resume of activities is now the norm. Additionally, students often have other ways of showing their accomplishments-through articles they've written or in which they've been featured, research papers they've published, or music they've performed. Many applicants have more than one adult in their lives who can recommend them, and wish to include letters from employers, coaches, clergy, and others. Before taking the time to create and organize supplemental materials, it is vital for the student to contact the university and confirm that such additions to the application will be accepted. Some schools will be happy to receive supplemental pieces of information, while others may not.

Students should also consider the best format for their submissions, keeping in mind the volume of mail that a typical college receives. Rather than supply separate copies of each certificate or award they've earned, it can be equally effective to consolidate such pieces in the form of a detailed list on one sheet of paper. All items submitted should also be clearly marked with the student's full name and address, high school, or student identification number. This will ensure that supplements sent separately from the application make their way to the correct file.

FINAL SENIOR PORTRAIT SITTING

*The final senior portrait sitting will be Wednesday, September 9th during the school day. Any senior who has not had their senior portrait taken MUST see Susan Campbell in the Guidance Department ASAP! **REMEMBER: You MUST have your formal photo taken by Bill Miller Photography in order to be in the 2009-2010 NHS Aquila yearbook.***



SENIOR PORTRAIT ORDERS

Bill Miller Photography will be on campus taking senior portrait orders Tuesday, September 15th. They will be located in the Attendance Office hallway from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Please bring your order packet and portfolio.

CLASS OF 2010 PANORAMIC PHOTO

Bob Knight Photography will be on campus Friday, September 25th. Seniors will report to the gym at 8:00 a.m. Dual Enrollment and online seniors will need to report to the gym at this time also if you wish to participate. There will be a formal and spirit photo taken. Teams, clubs, groups of friends may wear uniforms or decorated t-shirts for this photo. All attire must follow the school dress code. Decorated t-shirts must be approved by Mrs. DeAngelo or an administrator. Order instructions will be given during the Panoramic photo session. More information will follow during SOAR and through the e-mail notification system.

HOMECOMING 2009 ACTIVITIES

This year's homecoming is going to be a week of fantasy and excitement! The theme is "Disney Magic" and begins on Sunday, September 20th with a hall decorating contest with the theme of "Disney Cinema". The week continues with the following activities:

Monday, September 21st - Annual Powder Puff Football Game

The Senior & Sophomore girls combine against the Junior & Freshmen girls for a flag-football showdown in the Niceville High School Stadium. Tickets are \$1, and all proceeds go to the **Senior Class of 2010**. Both teams are supported by all-male cheerleading squads, coached by the NHS Varsity Cheerleaders. Gate opens at 5:30 and game starts at 6:00!

Thursday, September 24th - NHS Night Pep Rally: Eagle Fantasia

All NHS students are invited to show their spirit for Eagles' Football at this once-in-a-lifetime event! Students can purchase glow-in-the-dark jewelry and glow-sticks, and they will be dazzled by the performances by our own Eagle Pride Pep Band, cheerleaders, dance team, and step-team . . . not to mention, plenty of fantastic surprises! Students should bring two canned goods for admission to be donated to Sharing and Caring!

Friday, September 25th - Homecoming Parade and Game
The parade begins at 6:00 p.m., so get a seat early. All of the classes and clubs will march with banners and ride on floats to this year's parade theme "Disney's Villains and Princesses"!

Saturday, September 26th - Homecoming Dance

The homecoming dance will be held in NWF State College's Bldg. "K" from 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Students and alumnae of Niceville High School are invited to attend. **During these difficult economic times, students are discouraged from wearing formal attire and using limousines for transportation.** The dress code for the dance is dressy, **NOT FORMAL**. Dresses and dress shoes or dress sandals are recommended for the ladies, and suits or dress shirts, dress pants, tie and dress shoes for the gentlemen. No denim, khakis, t-shirts, flip-flops or tennis shoes allowed.

Tickets will go on sale Monday, September 21st - Friday, September 25th in the NHS cafeteria during lunch. Cost per ticket: \$10.00.

YEARBOOKS AND SENIOR PERSONAL ADS

In the next few weeks you will receive order forms in the mail from the yearbook staff. Order forms to purchase a yearbook as well as order forms for Senior personal ads will be sent to your address that is on record with the school. This year the yearbook will feature coverage through the end of the school year – that means graduation night will be included as well as prom and many other events that are memorable to our senior class. If you would like to order your student's yearbook now you may do so by ordering online at the following website: www.yearbookavenue.com The deadline for yearbook orders is Dec 4. The basic cost of the book is \$85. Now is a great time to be choosing photos you may want to use to celebrate your student's graduation in his or her personal ad. The deadline for personal ads will also be December 4. Please watch for the order forms in the next few weeks.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS TO REMEMBER

September 9 - Final Senior Portrait Sitting; All Day; NHS auditorium.

September 10 - College Prep Workshop; 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.; NHS auditorium. Registration is required by September 9th.

September 15 - Senior Portrait Orders will be taken by Bill Miller Photography; 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Attendance Office hallway.

September 16 - College Night at Northwest Florida State College; 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.; College Mall (Bldg. K).

September 20 - 26 - Homecoming Week.

September 25 - Senior Panoramic Photo.

September 26 - Homecoming Dance; 8:00 p.m.-11:00



p.m.; NWF State College Bldg. "K".

November 2 - Graduation Announcement/Cap and Gown Presentation; 10:00 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.; NHS auditorium.

November 6 - Order Cap and Gown/Graduation Announcements during Social Studies Class in the Main Office hallway.

November 11 - Veteran's Day Holiday.

November 23 - November 27 - Thanksgiving Holidays.

December 9 - Make-up day for Cap and Gown/Announcement Orders.

December 10 - Financial Aid Workshop; 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; NHS auditorium.

December 18 - January 1 - Winter Break Holidays.

January 18 - Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Holiday.

February 9 - Cap and Gown photos during Social Studies Class; NHS auditorium.

February 15 - President's Day Holiday.

March 24 - Graduation Announcements Delivery Social

Studies Class; NHS auditorium.

March 29 - April 2 - Spring Break Holidays.

April 10 - Senior Prom; 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.; Destin Community Center; \$25 per ticket.

May 18 - Anne T. Mitchell District Honors Awards; NWF State College Mattie Kelly Arts Center; 5:00 Reception, 6:00 Awards Ceremony.

June 4 - Senior Day; Senior Walk; Cap and Gown Distribution; Senior Breakfast; Senior Awards Day. Time and location TBA.

June 8 - Baccalaureate; 7:00 p.m.; First Assembly of God Church.

June 9 - Graduation Practice; 11:30 a.m.; Seniors will report to their assigned 600 hallway classroom.

June 10 - Graduation Ceremony; Seniors are to report to their assigned 600 hallway classroom by 6:45 p.m. Ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIPS

NOTE: Shading In "Due Date" Block Indicates Applications MUST BE TURNED IN TO GUIDANCE.

NAME/AMOUNT	ELIGIBILITY	DUE DATE
WENDY'S HIGH SCHOOL HEISMAN AWARD	For the past fifteen years, Wendy's Restaurants have teamed up with the Heisman Memorial Trophy committee to create the Wendy's High School Heisman Award. The award honors both male and female high school students who excel in academics, athletics, and student leadership. Eligibility is limited exclusively to men and women entering their senior year in high school in the 2009-2010 academic year who have at least a "B" grade average and participate in at least one school-sponsored sport. Register and apply online at: www.wendysheisman.com .	Applications must be completed online by October 1, 2009.

NAME/AMOUNT	ELIGIBILITY	DUE DATE
<p>HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION OF DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS, INC.</p> <p>Award ranges from \$2,500 to \$20,000</p>	<p>In keeping with the educational mission of the Horatio Alger Association, the scholarship programs provide financial assistance to students throughout the nation who have financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity.</p> <p>Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Graduate from high school in spring/summer 2009; -Commitment in pursuing a bachelors degree; -Be a United States citizenship (or in the process of citizenship). -Financial need. <p>Students must apply online at: www.horatioalger.com/scholarships</p>	<p>Applications must be submitted online before October 30, 2009.</p>
<p>COCA-COLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM</p> <p>50 @ \$20,000 ea. 200 @ \$10,000 ea.</p>	<p>Fifty students are chosen as national winners and receive \$20,000 scholarships, while 200 regional winners will receive \$10,000 scholarships.</p> <p>Applicants must be:</p> <p>Current high school seniors in the United States; Seniors with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (B) at the end of the junior year; Seniors planning to pursue a degree at an accredited post-secondary institution.</p> <p>Students must apply online at: http://www.coca-colascholars.org/apply</p>	<p>Applicants must apply online between Sept 1 and October 31, 2009.</p>
<p>RON BROWN SCHOLAR</p> <p>10-20 @ \$10,000 per year for 4 years (\$40,000 total)</p>	<p>Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Be African American. -Be a high school senior. -Be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident. <p>Applicants should demonstrate academic achievement, exhibit leadership ability, participate in community service activities and demonstrate financial need. This program has two deadlines for application. November 1, 2009-application will be considered for the Ron Brown Scholar Program and forwarded to a select and limited number of additional scholarship providers. January 9, 2010-final postmarked deadline in order to be considered for only the Ron Brown Scholar Program.</p> <p>Application may be downloaded at: www.ronbrown.org/apply/asp.</p>	<p>Applications must be postmarked by November 1, 2009 or January 9, 2010.</p>
<p>PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM</p> <p>State Honorees will receive \$1,000. National Honorees will receive \$5,000 in additional awards.</p>	<p>Eligibility requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Must be a student in grades 5-12 as of October 31, 2009, in any state, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico -Has engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least in part after September 1, 2008. -Completes an application and submits it to a school principal or the head of an officially designated local organization by November 2, 2009. <p>For more information and application: http://www.prudential.com/spirit or http://www.principals.org/prudential <i>Access Key: spirit</i></p>	<p>Applications must be completed online by November 2, 2009.</p>

NAME/AMOUNT	ELIGIBILITY	DUE DATE
2010 SAE ENGINEERING Amount varies per scholarship.	Applicant Must: -Be a high school senior at the date of application -Intend to earn a degree in engineering or a related science - Be a citizen of the U.S. at the time of application -Meet minimum requirements with regard to GPA, SAT and/or ACT scores as outlined in the individual requirements of each scholarship.	University sponsored applications must be postmarked by December 1, 2009; All others due By January 15, 2010.
2010 JOHN F. KENNEDY PROFILE IN COURAGE ESSAY CONTEST 1 st Prize-\$5,000 2 nd Prize-\$1,000 Up to five finalists receive \$500 each.	Eligibility: -U.S. high school students in grades nine through twelve attending public, private, parochial, or home school.; -U.S. students under the age of 20 enrolled in a high school correspondence/GED program. All students must register online. Essays can be submitted online (preferred) or via regular mail. For complete guidelines visit the Profile in Courage Award at: www.jfklibrary.org	Application deadline online or regular mail postmark January 10, 2010.
GATES MILLENIUM SCHOLARS AWARD TBA	Students are eligible to be considered for a GMS Scholarship if they: -are African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American. -are a citizen, national or legal permanent resident of the U.S. -have attained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (un-weighted) or have earned a GED. -will be enrolling for the first time at a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking, first-year student in fall, 2010. -have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities. -meet the federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria. -have completed and submitted all three required forms (Nominee Personal Information Form, Nominator Form, and Recommender Form) by the deadline. Students can complete the online application at www.gmsp.org .	Online applications must be submitted by January 11, 2010, 11:59 p.m. Paper applications must be postmarked by January 11, 2010.

Individual colleges offer scholarships to students who will be attending their institution. You will want to check in guidance often to see if the college to which you will be going has provided us with any information on scholarships available. This type of scholarship will not be advertised individually in this newsletter, but see Mrs. Campbell in guidance to check what your college may offer.

