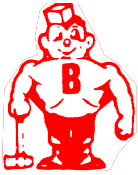


BBCHS

Counseling Department Senior Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 2

1st Quarter 2011-2012



**COUNSELING
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

October

10/22 ACT
10/24 2nd Quarter Begins
10/26 Early Dismissal

November

11/3 Late Arrival
11/3 & 11/8 Parent/Teacher
Conferences
11/4 Registration Deadline
For ACT
11/11 Veterans Day
No School
11/23-11/25 Thanksgiving Vacation
No School

Counselors

Mr. Wunder A - Col
Mr. Lamie Com - Goo
Mrs. Howard Gor - K
Mrs. Kashanitz L - N
Mr. Luhrsen O - SI
Mrs. Stover Sm - Z

Graduation is just around the corner...

During the first semester counselors will meet with each senior individually to discuss:

- Credits/requirements needed for graduation
- Post-Secondary Plans
- College Application Process
- Scholarship/Financial Aid Information

The student will be provided with information pertaining to his or her specific post-secondary goal, as well as GPA and class rank info.

Early in September counselors also mailed home credit letters for each senior. This tells you how many credits your student needs and which classes he or she must pass in order to graduate. Remember that any student enrolled in physical education must pass this class in order to graduate. Please look over this letter carefully as we use it to ensure that students will have the required credits for graduation. If you have any questions please call your students counselor.



College Application Process

Priority filing deadlines for colleges and universities start as early as November 1st. If they receive an application after this date it is typically subjected to higher admissions standards. Students should always check with the universities they are applying to and get their apps in early!

Most schools recommend on-line applications as the quickest and easiest way to apply. Some private schools will even waive the application fee if the student applies on-line.

Don't forget to request a transcript from the counseling office once your student has completed the on-line application. Completed paper applications should be given to their counselor and will be mailed with the transcript. It takes time to process the numerous requests we receive so please allow at least one week for the transcript to be sent. Remember, the best chance of admittance is to apply early so make sure your student plans ahead!

Did you know that you can see your "unofficial" transcript in Infinite Campus? Remember that this is for your information only. All official transcripts must be mailed from the counseling office.

ACT Testing
For those students interested in retaking the ACT, they will have test dates in December and February. Go online to www.actstudent.org to register. Remember, schools will only look at the highest score so retaking the test can never hurt a student!

SRAR (Self-Reported Academic Record)

New Application process for UIUC

- UIUC will longer accept transcripts from the high school for admission purposes. Students are responsible for reporting previous high school courses/grades and courses in progress.
- Students are also responsible for sending ACT with writing scores to UIUC. This can be done at www.actstudnet.org
- Only applies to the Champaign-Urbana campus
- More information can be found at: http://admissions.illinois.edu/apply/tips_freshman.html

Important DATE!

Parent/Teacher Conferences



Parent/Teacher Conferences will be November 3rd and 8th. Students will have late arrival on the 3rd and regular attendance on 8th. Conferences will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on both days. Just like last year, appointments with teachers will be scheduled through the school

website. If you do not have internet access, call 815-937-3707, extension 6600. If you have any concerns about your student's grades or classes, this is a great opportunity to talk with his or her teacher. If you have other concerns that you would like to talk with a counselor about, those ap-

pointments will need to be made through the Counseling Office at extension 6040. The Counseling Office will also have a table full of free information in the lobby so please stop by and check it out!

College Admissions Seminar

For students who are working through the process of applying to college, this can be a very stressful time. To help with this, the counseling department is offering a College Admissions Seminar during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday November 8th 2011 at 7 PM in the Auditorium. The seminar will focus on the admissions process from both the public and private schools' point of view. All college bound students are welcome to attend this forty-five minute presentation.

Representatives from Illinois State University and Millikin University will speak regarding the differences and similarities in applying to public and private schools. There will be discussion on the process of applying and what each type of school is looking for in an applicant. Because public schools and private schools can be so different, our goal is to help students learn about both. Hopefully we can help make this process a little less confusing.

Shopping around: An important step in selecting a college

With early decision deadlines quickly approaching, it's important that students take time to learn about the colleges he or she is interested in. The best way to do this is by visiting schools of interest. During the fall most colleges and universities have frequent open houses, giving the students an opportunity to see the campus and learn about the school's programs. This goal of this initial visit should be to help the student decide where to apply. Remember that although your student may have one school that stands out as a top choice, always apply for back-up choices as well.

get a more personalized experience by calling the school and setting up a visit. Some schools may invite the student to stay a couple days or to spend some time with current students majoring in the area of interest. The goal is to get more specific information about what the school has to offer before making that final decision.

Remember to keep organized, detailed information on each school so that you have everything you need when it's time to apply. Try sites like www.collegeboard.org to find helpful checklists on things to look for and questions to answer on your visits.

When it comes time to decide which school your student will call home, make sure that you

To find out when college representatives will be at BBCHS, check out the calendar at the Counseling Office website at <http://portal.bbchs.org/dept/Guidance/BBGuidindex.htm> or in "Upcoming Events" on the BBCHS home page

State University Open House schedule

<p>Eastern Illinois University: Friday, November 11, 2011 (Veteran's Day) **Check their website next semester for spring dates</p> <p>Illinois State University: Friday, November 11, 2011 (Veteran's Day) Monday, March 19, 2012 Monday, April 2, 2012</p> <p>Northern Illinois University: Friday, November 11, 2011 (Veteran's Day) **Check their website next semester for spring dates</p> <p>Southern Illinois University, Carbondale Saturday, November 5, 2011 Saturday, April 21, 2012 Friday, July 13, 2012</p> <p>Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville Friday, November 11, 2011 School of Engineering Open House, March 24, 2012</p>	<p>School of Education Open House, March 31, 2012 School of Business Open House, March 17, 2012 School of Nursing Open House, February 18, 2012 School of Pharmacy Open House, April 14, 2012</p> <p>The University of Illinois, Chicago Friday, November 11, 2011 (Veteran's Day)</p> <p>University of Illinois, Springfield Saturday, November 12, 2011 Saturday, January 28, 2012 Saturday, March 3, 2012 Saturday, April 21, 2012</p> <p>University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Orange & Blue Days: Special programs every Friday through November 11. Reserve your spot at www.illinois.edu</p> <p>Western Illinois University: Friday, November 11, 2011 Monday, February 20, 2012 Saturday, March 31, 2012</p>
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