

SEPTEMBER SENIOR NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- ✓ Start sending in those college applications!!
- ✓ Go online and submit your applications.
- ✓ Your transcript will need to be sent to each college you apply to. Inform Mrs. Bazen where you need your transcript sent.
- ✓ Some applications require recommendations from a teacher, principal or counselor.
- ✓ Apply to a number of colleges and make your final decision later.

TESTING

- ✓ If you want to take/retake the ACT, the next test dates are October 10, 17, and 24. The registration period is closed, but standby requests are accepted. The ACT will also be given on December 12. Registration is due November 6.
- ✓ If you want to retake the SAT, the next test date is November 7. Registration deadline is October 7.

FINANCIAL AID

- ✓ FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). All students intending to go to college should submit the application beginning October 1. Michigan has an application deadline of March 1. Apply as soon as possible at fafsa.ed.gov.
- ✓ CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE is another financial aid resource. Visit the website at collegeboard.org/college-search, click on "Pay for College" and then the CSS/Profile link. There is a fee for this service.
- ✓ Start applying for financial aid when you start applying to colleges. Ask each college exactly which forms you will need. Be sure to meet all deadlines. Late applications are considered only if there is money left over.
- ✓ For most if not all colleges, the financial aid process starts with the FAFSA. Some colleges ask for additional forms.
- ✓ If money is tight, still concentrate on your school work, volunteer activity, or ACT/SAT retests rather than working additional hours. The better GPA and test scores you have makes you a more desirable student and more likely to be eligible for scholarships.
- ✓ The best way to find private scholarships is to research them on the web. Also, ask college representative that come to PCH about financial aid at their college.
- ✓ When you register for the ACT or SAT, fill in the bubble that indicated you want to be placed on the mailing list for information about colleges and scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- ✓ American Legion Scholarship ~ michiganlegion.org ~ Deadlines vary depending on the scholarship.
- ✓ Equitable Excellence Scholarship ~ equitable.com ~ Deadline: December 15.
- ✓ Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation ~ coca-colascholarsfoundation.org ~ Deadline: October 31
- ✓ Horatio Alger Scholarship ~ scholars.horatioalger.org ~ Deadline: October 25

- ✓ Raise.me ~ Getting scholarships from colleges for your achievements in high school.
- ✓ SAE Engineering Scholarships ~ sae.org ~ Deadline: March 15
- ✓ Western Michigan University Medallion Scholarship Competition ~ wmich.edu ~ Deadline: apply to WMU by November 1.
- ✓ FASTWEB.COM ~ This website is highly recommended by various college representatives for finding scholarships, grants and loans to fund your college education.
- ✓ Check with individual colleges for specific scholarships they hand out.

COLLEGE INFORMATION

- ✓ VISIT COLLEGES – Examine the place you are going!! This is by far the best way to see what each college offers. Don't forget to fill out a prearranged absence prior to your visit.
- ✓ Grand Valley State University Laker Experience Days will be held virtually on Tuesday, October 6 at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 a.m., and Thursday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m. Representatives from academic departments and support services will be available to answer your questions. To make an online reservation visit gvsu.edu/visit.
- ✓ Calvin College is offering in-person visits on weekdays in September and October. They are also hosting live Open Houses on Tuesdays and Fridays through October. You must make a reservation for either event at least five days in advance. To register online, go to calvin.edu/visit.
- ✓ GRCC's Open House is virtual. For more information on this event go to grcc.edu/openhouse.

Questions????????????? Send me an email at vdevisser@plymouthchristian.us

Links for additional information:

https://www.fastweb.com/nfs/fastweb/static/PDFs/bulletins/Why%20College_2014.pdf

<https://www.fastweb.com/nfs/fastweb/static/PDFs/bulletins/Web-Resources-Guide-2016.pdf>

https://www.fastweb.com/nfs/fastweb/static/educators-2016/FAFSA_Step_by_Step_2016.pdf