

SOME OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED IN GUIDANCE:

- Academic Counseling and Support
- College/Career/Vocational Planning ~ Setting Long Term Goals
- Emotional/Personal counseling including assistance with issues with friends, family, and school
- Referrals to community resources

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Welcome Back from the Guidance Department

With summer behind us, and winter quickly approaching, the guidance department of HHS has been keeping busy with our many fall activities.

Guidance started off the year spending some time in our new Freshman Academy. The counselors went into the Freshman Seminar classrooms and did a welcome presentation to our new 9th graders. During this presentation, the 9th graders learned about the role of the high school guidance counselor, as well as the many opportunities available to them now that they are high

school students.

We have also been conducting Senior Seminars as well as individual senior meetings. This year more than ever, we are seeing a large number of students applying EARLY ACTION to college. Many seniors want to get their admission decision before Christmas so they can put the stress of applying to college behind them.

With report cards just around the corner, counselors will also be available to discuss academic options such as tutoring and after school help for those stu-

dents who may be struggling.

The high school journey can be a busy and stressful time for any student. The HHS guidance department is here to offer support and assistance to every student on this journey. We work alongside every student to determine which path is the best. At any time, please do not hesitate to contact the guidance department and let us know of any questions or concerns you may have.

We are looking forward to another successful year at HHS!

October Mini College Fairs



This October, Haverhill High School, in conjunction with Triton Regional High School and Pentucket Regional High School, is hosting FOUR mini college fairs.

These fairs take place every Tuesday in the HHS Library from 12:30—2pm. Each session has 25-30 colleges on site to talk to interested students about admis-

sions, athletics, financial aid, interviewing, campus activities, and much more.

So far, these fairs have been well attended and successful! The students seem to enjoy meeting the reps and finding out more about opportunities beyond high school.

Students are invited to obtain a pass from the guidance office in

order to attend. Guidance counselors stress to the students the importance of making a good impression...most of these reps will eventually be reading their admissions applications!

HHS Guidance is excited to offer this great opportunity to our students. Please plan to stop by and take a look!

CSS Financial Aid Profile ~ The other financial aid form

WHAT is the PROFILE?

The **PROFILE** is an online application that collects information used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to award institutional aid funds. (**All federal funds** are awarded based on the **FAFSA**, available after Jan. 1 at www.fafsa.ed.gov.) Some colleges may require additional information, such as tax returns or an institutional application. If your parents are divorced, some colleges will also require your noncustodial parent to complete the Noncustodial PROFILE.

WHEN do I file the PROFILE?

You may file the **PROFILE** as early as Oct. 1, 2010. However, you should file no later than two weeks before the **EARLIEST** priority filing date specified by your colleges or programs.

WHO must file the PROFILE?

Check your colleges'/programs' information to determine whether they require the PROFILE. A list of colleges that require the PROFILE from at least some of their applicants is found on the back of this page. The most up-to-date list, including search capabilities and additional information, can be found by clicking on "list of colleges, universities, and scholarship programs" on the PROFILE Index Page.

HOW do I file the PROFILE?

You file the PROFILE online at www.collegeboard.com by selecting "CSS/PROFILE" under "Pay for College." If you do not have a computer at home, register for PROFILE at your high school or local library, print the Pre-Application Worksheet and Instructions, and review them with your parents. Return to your high school or library and enter the information

by logging back in to your application using your secure username and password.

WHAT does the PROFILE cost?

The fee for the initial application and one college or program report is **\$25**. Additional reports are **\$16**. Payment may be made via credit card, debit card (Visa or MC) or online check. A limited number of **fee waivers** are granted automatically — based on the information entered on the PROFILE application — to students who are first-time college applicants and are from families with very low incomes and assets. International students are not eligible for fee waivers. This waiver covers the application fee and the reporting fees for up to six colleges or scholarship programs.

**Questions? Contact customer support at 305-829-9793
Or e-mail help@cssprofile.org.**

Financial Aid Night at HHS

November 17, 2011 @ 6:30pm in the HHS Auditorium

Parents and students of all grades are invited to attend a **FREE** presentation on College Financing. The seminar will be held on Thursday, November 17th at 6:30pm in the HHS Auditorium.

This presentation is offered through MEFA (Massachusetts Edu-



ational Financing Authority), which is the Commonwealth's resource on planning, saving, and paying for college.

An experienced MEFA representative will provide an overview of the financial aid process including types of financial aid, how to apply, and determining financial options for

your family. Families will receive a seminar handout for taking notes and to learn about additional free resources from MEFA that provide continued support through the college enrollment process.

It is never too early to start planning for college financing. All are welcome to attend!

**Visit mefa.org /
gameplan for
access to
additional
resources and
to download the
FREE College
Financing
eBook.**



Seniors Information Page

REQUESTING TRANSCRIPTS

**** ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE DATE ****

1. Complete and submit (to your counselor) the PINK Request/Authorization To Release Student Records form as soon as possible.
2. Let your counselor know which colleges you are applying to, and which applications are being completed ONLINE.
3. Complete a YELLOW Transcript Request Form for EACH college you are applying to. *This form MUST be submitted TWO WEEKS PRIOR to your deadline.*

Guidance cannot be responsible for transcripts/recommendations received LATE by a college if the YELLOW form was not submitted two weeks before the deadline. See your counselor anytime if you have questions! All forms are available at the HHS Guidance webpage or in the guidance office.

Sending your SAT/ACT Scores

Most colleges will no longer accept SAT/ACT scores that are sent from the Guidance Office. Therefore, the HHS Guidance Department will no longer be responsible for sending out any score reports for students. These scores must be sent directly from the College Board. **There are TWO ways to do this:**

1. DURING REGISTRATION

You receive four free score reports every time you register for the SAT. We highly recommend that you take advantage of these reports, as additional reports are subject to a fee. If you select to report scores from any prior SAT test sitting, they will be reported once scores from your registration are available.

Also, using registration score reports ensures that test scores are sent to colleges as early as possible. Choosing your score recipients during the registration process ensures that colleges have the most complete set of your information to review for admission as well as scholarship awards, course placement, or selection to a specific program or major. In a recent survey, colleges said that receiving score reports is important to them because it shows which students are interested in their schools.

2. AFTER REGISTRATION

You can send score reports at any time from your "My SAT" account. The time frames for score delivery vary based upon each institution's method of receiving scores. Please remember that an additional week may be needed for the score recipients to process your scores once they receive them.

There is a fee for sending score reports after registration. However, if you are a fee-waiver-eligible student, you may have additional flexible score report credits.

The same process applies for the ACT.

Please visit www.actstudent.org for information about sending scores to college.

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

SAT/ACT TEST DATES

| <u>SAT Test Date</u> Register at: www.collegeboard.com | Registration Deadline | LATE REGISTRATION <i>(Late Fee Required)</i> |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| October 1, 2011 | September 9, 2011 | September 21, 2011 |
| November 5, 2011 | October 7, 2011 | October 21, 2011 |
| December 3, 2011 | November 8, 2011 | November 20, 2011 |
| January 28, 2012 | December 30, 2011 | January 13, 2012 |
| March 10, 2012 (SAT ONLY) | February 10, 2012 | February 24, 2012 |
| May 5, 2012 | April 6, 2012 | April 20, 2012 |
| June 2, 2012 | May 8, 2012 | May 22, 2012 |

| <u>ACT Test Date</u> Register at: www.actstudent.org | Registration Deadline | (Late Fee Required) |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| September 10, 2011 | August 12, 2011 | August 13 – 26, 2011 |
| October 22, 2011 | September 16, 2011 | September 17 – 30, 2011 |
| December 10, 2011 | November 4, 2011 | November 5 – 18, 2011 |
| February 11, 2012 | January 13, 2012 | January 14 – 20, 2012 |
| April 14, 2012 | March 9, 2012 | March 10 – 23, 2012 |
| June 9, 2012 | May 4, 2012 | May 5 – 18, 2012 |

Upcoming Guidance Events

| Date | Event | Time | Location |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Nov. 17 | College Financial Aid Night | 6:30pm | Auditorium |
| TBA | College Admissions Info Night | 6:30pm | Auditorium |
| March 2011 | Round Robin College Fair | 6:30pm | Mall/Cafeteria |
| April 2011 | College Acceptance Seminar | 6:30pm | TBA |

WHO'S YOUR COUNSELOR?

| | <i>Class of 2012</i> | <i>Class of 2013</i> | <i>Class of 2014</i> | <i>Class of 2015</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Bruce Powers, x. 1132</i> | A ~ CAN | A ~ COD | A ~ CHA | A ~ CASTILLO |
| <i>Heather Brunner x. 1136</i> | CAR ~ DO | COF ~ FU | CHE ~ FINN | CASTRO ~ DES |
| <i>Susan Beaudoin x.1106</i> | DR ~ HA | FULL ~ I | FIR ~ I | DeV ~ HER |
| <i>Kenya Farrar x. 1137</i> | HI ~ MAL | J ~ MOG | JAM ~ MILLS | HEY ~ McC |
| <i>Diane Landry x. 1107</i> | MAN ~ PH | MOJ ~ Q | MIT ~ PRE | McG ~ PARE |
| <i>Melinda Cripps x. 1135</i> | PI ~ SN | R ~ SM | PSE ~ STE | PARK ~ ROM |
| <i>Andy Alsup x. 1108</i> | SO ~ Z | SO ~ Z | STR ~ Z | ROS ~ Z |

Twenty Questions to Ask Your School Counselor

Your school counselor is one of your best resources as you plan for college and life after high school. Your counselor has information about admission tests, college preparation, and your education and career options. Here are some basic questions to help get your conversation started:

1. What courses do I need to take to be ready for college?
2. How should I plan my schedule so I'll complete them?
3. Which elective courses do you recommend?
4. Which AP[®] courses should I consider taking? What are the requirements for AP[®] and Honors courses?
5. How do I sign up for the PSAT/SAT/ACT? Are there fee waivers available if I qualify?
6. How should I study for the SAT[®], and is it given at this high school or do I need to go somewhere nearby?
7. Does this school offer the ASVAB? What is the ASVAB used for?
8. Do you have college handbooks or other guides that I can browse or borrow?
9. What activities can I do at home and over the summer to get ready for college?
10. What kinds of grades do different colleges require? Can I get into college even if I don't have straight A's?
11. Are there any college fairs at this school, or nearby?
12. How do I set up appointments for interviews, tours, etc?
13. Do you have any information about part time jobs? Community volunteer opportunities?
14. Can you put me in touch with recent grads who are going to the colleges on my wish list?
15. Do you have any information to help me start exploring careers?
16. If my colleges need a recommendation from you, how can I help you know me better, so it can be more personal?
17. Are there any special scholarships or awards that I should know about now, so I can work toward them?
18. Can I see my transcript as it stands now, to see if everything is as I think it should be?
19. What forms do I use to apply for financial aid and where I can find them online?
20. How does our school compare to others, in terms of test scores and reputation?

Reality Check

A lot of these questions seem focused on college, but they are really focused on helping you be the best student you can be. Long term planning, especially for life after high school, needs to start in your freshman year. Make an appointment and get to know your school counselor, they are your best resource for your future!