

FEBRUARY 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The HHS counseling office will be posting a monthly newsletter on the HHS website that will hopefully help inform parents of happenings in the counseling office. With pre-enrollment starting this month, this year's process will be a little different than in the past. Students will be using Career Cruising to choose their courses for next year and planning out their core classes for their remaining high school years. Similar to last year, your son/daughter will receive their credit check during seminar (Thursday, February 8) which will help them choose their courses for next year. The counselor's will begin meeting individually with each student on February 21 – March 15 during their GPS period. After meeting with their counselor, students will be given a printed copy of their requested courses and alternates. Students will have a parent/guardian sign the paper and return it to their seminar teacher no later than March 16. Students will also need to number their alternates in order of preference.

On **March 6th from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria & March 7th from 1:15 to 5:15 p.m. in seminar teachers' classrooms**, HHS will be having their first ever **Student-Led Conferences**. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will need to schedule a time with a parent/guardian on March 6th or March 7th during the designated times. During the appointment, the student will lead the dialogue in discussing the results of their matchmaker and course selections for next year. Seminar teachers have been working with their students and will prepare them to lead the discussion. In the event a parent/guardian is unable to attend, the student is expected to schedule an appointment with another adult to fill in for the parent/guardian. The student's counselor or an administrator can replace the parent/guardian in the conference if necessary, but parent/guardian participation is far more valuable.

College-bound juniors will want to consider taking the ACT and/or SAT exam. Although it is not required, the counselors encourage juniors to take the exam before their senior year. To be eligible for the Dane Hansen Scholarship exam, a student must have a 21 or higher ACT composite score and a 3.5 cumulative GPA. If your son/daughter plans to take concurrent credit classes their junior/senior year, there may be a minimum ACT score required. The ACT/SAT testing dates and registration links are listed at:

<http://www.hayshighindians.com/Staff/Counselors/Testing.html> .

Juniors should be checking their digital footprint. Colleges and scholarship committees do check social media websites to screen applicants. Scholarships and college admissions can be revoked if a student posts an inappropriate picture or statement.

On February 28, Barton Community College will be hosting a Career Fair on their campus. Careers featured at the fair include: Adult Healthcare, Agriculture, Automotive, Business, Criminal Justice, Dietary Manager/Pre-Dietetics, Early Childhood, Emergency Medical Services, Information Technology, Medical Support Programs, Medical Laboratory Technology, Phlebotomy, and Music. There will also be a special session on Essential Skills in the Workplace. HHS will provide transportation, but space is limited. Deadline for students to sign up is February 21 in the counseling office. This is an all-day event and lunch is provided.

Students interested in applying to a military academy should be requesting information on the application process. The deadlines for these applications are early. Also, if a student is interested in being a college athlete, they will need to register with a clearinghouse to check eligibility. For Division I or II schools, go to www.ncaa.org for NAIA schools, go to www.playnaia.org.

Be sure to check the event and opportunities on the HHS website at:

<http://www.hayshighindians.com/Staff/Counselors/Opportunities/Postsecondary%20Events%20&%20Opportunities.pdf>. It is updated weekly. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the counseling office at 785-623-2608 or email your son/daughter's counselor.

JANUARY-FEBRUARY TIMELINE

- Work with your counselor to set your next year's schedule. Enroll in the most challenging courses. Rigorous courses are the best way to prepare for the ACT/SAT.
- Register for a spring ACT and/or SAT.
- Plan on attending spring open houses or schedule individual college visit to explore the campus and programs of study.
- Explore summer opportunities on college campuses—a great way to find out what college life is all about.
- Look for ways to volunteer in the community—these experiences will enhance your resume.