

# THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

### FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS AND PARENTS

Welcome to the fourth installment of our monthly newsletter. We are finishing the 2019 calendar year on a high note in the Counseling Office. Each month, we will be updating events and happenings that students and parents should be aware of what is taking place.

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#### POST SECONDARY PLANNING

*Do your best academically.* We want students to feel both challenged and balanced. Grades and GPA matter a lot, but not at the expense of health and wellness. Everyone will have strengths and challenges in different areas. Do your best, work with your strengths and seek resources for areas of challenge. At the same time, take classes seriously, as 4-year colleges will look most at classes taken and grades earned in their admissions decisions.

**Career Interest Profiler:** On Thursday, November 14th, counselors shared with 9<sup>th</sup> graders to continue with their curriculum through Naviance on career interests. Students were informed about Career options and assigned to complete the Career Interest Profiler through Naviance. More information: [Career Interest Profiler](#) Students should NOW have a better understanding of who they are and their likes and dislikes in regards to many occupations.

**Get back on to your Naviance account.** This is the counseling department's one-stop shop for all information for students in regards to the college planning process. For example, starting in second semester, if students place a name of a college they are interested into "Colleges I Am Thinking About" (within the "Colleges" tab), students will receive an e-mail reminder when that school visits Edina High School.

More information: <https://connection.naviance.com/edina>

**New Resources for Homework Help :** Edina High School students have access to the [Learning Express Library](#), an online resource with a whole host of test prep materials, including the Accuplacer, ACT and SAT. There are sample tests students can take and receive feedback on their answers. It also has review materials for core high school subjects including math, English, social studies and science, as well as prep materials for a handful of AP tests.

- ✓ There's a [direction sheet](#) on how to access the program as well as a link to the [Learning Express Library](#) on the [school media center web site](#)
- ✓ If students have questions or would like help, please ask them to stop by the EHS Media Center.

## **HORNET MENTOR/ ADVISORY**

On Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, Hornet Mentor's met with 9<sup>th</sup> graders to discuss leadership and how it can be incorporated in daily life.

### *Academic Check-ins*

- ✓ A check-in with your advisory teacher will be happening this month (December 19) and again prior to the end of first semester in January.
  - These check-ins are to see how the year is going academically, as well as setting goals for the semester

## **EHS Hosts Community Service Fair November 19, 11am - 1:30pm**

Students interested in volunteering in the community were invited to attend EHS's Service Fair on Thursday, November 19 during all 3 lunches in the Upper Gym. Over 25 local agencies were eager to enlist high school volunteers to help meet community needs.

Agencies from the community met with EHS students and looked for student volunteers at this event. This was a great way to find volunteer opportunities if you plan to letter in community service!

Some examples of agencies at the Service Fair:

- Presbyterian Homes - bring joy to residents by helping with I.T. questions, reading to a resident, or to sharing your talents, such as singing or playing an instrument.
- Inner-city Tennis - use your tennis skills to help with their Super Saturdays tennis activities.
- GiGi's Playhouse - engage with children with Down Syndrome.
- Highland Hills Ski and Snowboard - bring the joys of skiing and snowboarding to deaf and hard of hearing students.



**Ms. Schmidt, along with her fellow counseling colleagues discuss with the 9<sup>th</sup> graders upcoming events that pertain to their futures.**



**Mr. Johnson, Counselor (Eo-Hok) talks to his students during Advisory about “Getting to Know Yourself” and how it relates to students’ futures.**



**It is appropriate during the holiday season to offer thanks for those in your life who have made a meaningful impact. In that spirit, we would like to thank all of those 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who have worked so diligently within the Edina community. You, too, should take the time to thank those around you who have helped to make this year a positive one. Take time to thank your parents for their guidance and support. Lastly, enjoy the holiday break with family and friends. Happy New Year and see you in 2020!**

For more information on the school Counseling Department, visit us [online](#)

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