

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

FOR JUNIORS 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.

THE EHS COUNSELING TEAM:

Ms. Nikki Plafcan, A-Br	848-3184	Natalie.golberg@edinaschools.org
Ms. Angela Kieffer, Bu-Ec	848-3122	Angela.kieffer@edinaschools.org
Mr. Taylor Johnson, Ed-Hau	848-3142	Taylor.johnson@edinaschools.org
Mr. Dylan Hackbarth, Hav-Lan	848-3125	Dylan.hackbarth@edinaschools.org
Ms. Lisa Burnham, Lao-Mor	848-3126	Lisa.burnham@edinaschools.org
Ms. Sandy Schmidt, Mos-Rol	848-3128	Sandra.schmidt@edinaschools.org
Ms. Julie Block, Rom-Swa	848-3188	Julie.block@edinaschools.org
Ms. Robin Dayneko, Swb-Z	848-3189	Robin.dayneko@edinaschools.org
Mr. Bill Hicks, College Counselor	848-3127	William.hicks@edinaschools.org

College Search

Start your post-high school planning in earnest - A good first step is to make sure you are following the Counseling curriculum through your advisory. In late October, early November, juniors met with their counselors during advisory. The discussion was on setting up a game plan for the next two years. Attached is a copy of the power point that was presented to the students: [Game Plan Presentation](#).

On November 15th, juniors were presented with the materials on [Strategies to Explore and Discover your Fit](#).

- ✓ Students are **required** to go into their Naviance account (through their portal) and complete The Game Plan in their assigned tasks before the next meeting in December.

College Visits

Start thinking about visiting colleges. Actually we are blessed to have such a variety of schools within a two hour drive. This is the best way to see a school and consider whether it may be a fit for you. It's easy to schedule a visit online at any school's admissions page. Also, search for a college on Naviance and click on the "learn more" tab to get information about visiting campus.

Testing

PSAT Results: For the 300+ juniors who took the PSAT back in October, your results will be sent to you via e-mail from College Board anytime from December 9-11. A copy of those results will stay in the students file at the school if you ever need them. These results are not sent out to any school as they are just for your benefit. [PSAT Results 2019](#)

Resources for ACT/SAT Test Prep and 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.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS: As we end the calendar year and get closer to the end of the semester, all students should be focusing on performing at a high level in every class. *Grades in classes are looked at very closely by colleges, especially during the junior year. After we get back from break, there are only two weeks left in the semester. Stay up to date in your classroom work!*

PARENT PROGRAM: On Wednesday, December 11th, parents have the opportunity to attend the Junior Parent Workshop. Five different presentations will be offered from Financial Aid, Standardized Testing, Navigating College Applications and the Role of the Counselor, Student and Parent in the College Application Process. If you are unable to attend and would like the information from the power point presentations, check the Counseling webpage following the presentation and everything you need is right at your fingertips.

Wednesday December 11th

Introduction 6:30-6:40 (FICK AUDITORIUM)

Sessions: 6:45 – 8:20 p.m.

List of Sessions

Navigating College Applications

Financial Aid – How to Get Started/What should you be doing now?

The role of Counselors, Students and Parents in the College Process

Student Athletes and the NCAA Clearinghouse

Standardized Testing – 2020 and Beyond

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.

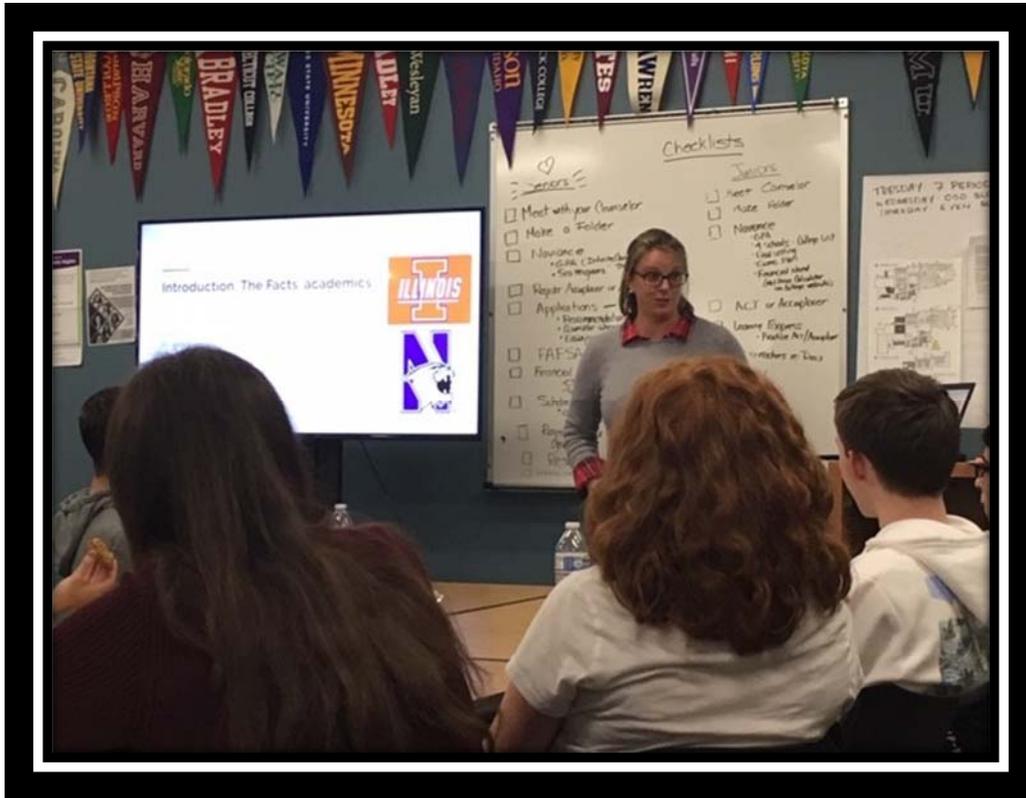
Agencies from the community met with EHS students and looked for student volunteers at this event. This was a great way to find volunteer opportunities if you plan to letter in community service!

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 Saturday's 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.

Career Conversation

Each month, the College and Career Center offers an opportunity for Edina High School students to listen to a guest speaker talk about their career and how it relates to the 21st century. These sessions are held in the College and Career Center the last Wednesday of each month at 3:30 pm. So far, the topics have been; Physical Therapy, Big Data, and Marketing and Business. Please check your Schoology posts to find out who is coming in December and future dates.



Jasmine Hoedeman, small business owner talks to students about her experience in corporate and private business during Career Conversations in November.

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 juniors 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](#).
Follow us on Twitter to stay in touch with what is going on in the Counseling Office at EHS
@edinacounselor

