

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

FOR 11TH GRADERS AND PARENTS

Welcome to the sixth installment of our monthly newsletter. We finished up first semester 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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REGISTRATION PLANNING

February marks the beginning of Course Registration 2020-21. Again, this year, registration will take place in *Advisories*. Materials were distributed out on Thursday, February 6th along with instructions and screencast students will view. Students will be able to register for courses for 2020-21 at any time until **February 20th**. If students are unable to complete it on their own time, counselors ask that they use Advisory time on February 6th or February 13th to finish. In addition, Counselors will be available on February 11th 14th, and 19th from 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 in Student Services. Also, counselors will be available on February 13 during Flex Block. **Online registration is DUE on February 20th as on-line registration closes at 4:00 pm.**

If you have further questions, please review over the Counselors webpage at <https://www.edinaschools.org/Page/1889>

College and Career Considerations for Registration:

Thoughts and Ideas – As far as 4-year colleges and universities are concerned, English, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language are college preparatory courses. Admissions offices want to know that you take classes that challenge you and that you do well in those specific classes. Make sure you are enrolled in courses that meet graduation requirements as well as prepare you for your future. Talk to your parents, teachers, counselors about classes that fit you best and consider adding electives that not only challenge you, but interest you as well. Be mindful of having college preparatory coursework with balance.

Being used again is MYAP (Multi-Year Academic Planner) which **must** be completed with registration. This tool requires you to map out all 4 years of the courses you will be taking. It will help you make sure you meet graduation requirement while also putting coursework to help you look at future interests. This planner can be changed each year so that as student's likes and dislikes change, MYAP can be changed.

PSEO – Students interested in Post-Secondary Enrollment Options which is a program that allows juniors and seniors to take college classes and have them also count for high school credit will have an opportunity during **Flex time on Thursday, February 13th** to hear more information from guest speakers from Normandale Community College and the University of Minnesota explain their specific programs. ***(Below is a picture of the event last year)*** The cost of the classes are covered by the state. These programs require an outside application. When registering for classes, students should register as if they were planning to be at the high school next year and simultaneously apply to the PSEO program of their choice. If you would like additional information, please stop by the Counseling office to pick up registration materials.



2 Year College Fair: The ACCESS group within the Counseling Department is hosting its First Annual Two-Year College & Career Fair on Wednesday, February 5, from 11:30-1:30 in the Commons. Two-year college is the second most popular option for EHS students after the U of M, so we are bringing together 9 local and regional two-year colleges as well as the Job Corps, a program for high school graduates in St. Paul in which students are given housing and training to learn a trade at no cost to the student/family.

Representatives from the following schools will be at the Fair: Normandale, MCTC, St. Thomas' Dougherty Family College, Hennepin Technical Eden Prairie, Dunwoody, Saint Paul College, St. Cloud Technical Community College, and North Dakota State College of Science. Some of these schools may be free for students who meet the income criteria via the FAFSA.

Students who start at a two-year college and then transfer to a four-year college will not only can save a lot of money but often get accepted to a much better four-year college than they could have gotten into after high school. Or, students can obtain a certificate, or learn a trade, and get a well-paying job within a year after graduating from EHS!

We hope to see you there!

Minnesota Business Venture – This week-long, residential summer program for 9-12 grade students learn about leadership, business, financial literacy and career options. Resident business leaders, speakers, mock interviewers and other volunteers mentor and guide student through the week's activities, including creating a business plan. Students can attend at the University of St. Thomas (July 12-17) or St. John's University (July 26-31). Online applications are available at www.bestprep.org/mbvapp. If you want more information, please stop by and see Mr. Hicks in the Counseling Office.

Prepare for the ACT: Students registered for the school-based ACT test will be taking it on April 7th. Remember the ACT is one test on one day. What matters most to 4-year colleges is how you do every day in your college prep classes. More and more 4 year colleges are becoming test optional meaning you do not need to submit an ACT or SAT score. For a complete list of test optional schools, go to www.fairtest.org That said, it is a good idea to familiarize yourself with ACT prior to taking it for the first time. Edina High School students have access to the [Learning Express Library](#), an online resource with a whole host of test prep materials, including ACT. There are sample tests students can take and receive feedback on their answers. Please take time prior to the exam and look this over.

ADVISORY

The entire month of February will be focused on Registration for senior year.

Academic Check-ins

- ✓ A check-in with your advisory teacher will be happening at the end of this month.
 - These check-ins are to see how the year is going academically, as well as setting goals for the semester

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://www.edinaschools.org/Page/1875>

Attend College Visits in the CCC: Many college are starting to schedule a visit to talk with students in the spring. Stop by the College and Career Center to find out who is coming to EHS.

Lastly, remember that there is nothing more important than keeping up with your academic goals and the grades in each of the courses you are enrolled. You are making your future at the present time. You hold the key. The actions you take every day shape your future

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

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