

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

FOR JUNIORS AND PARENTS

Welcome to the third installment of our monthly newsletter! Life has started to settle down a bit after Nov 1st in the Counseling Department. Each month, the counselors will be updating students and families about upcoming events and happenings taking place at EHS.

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College Search

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. Students log in through the Edina Portal

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

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. This coming Thursday, juniors will view a video on Strategies for students to Find Their Fit. Attached is the video that will be shown to the students during Advisory: [Strategies to Find Your Fit](#)

- ✓ Students are **required** to go into their Naviance account (through their portal) and complete **The Game Plan** (which was assigned to all juniors in the October advisory) in their assigned tasks before the next meeting on November 14.

Testing

ACT/SAT Testing: It's getting closer to that time of year when Juniors start thinking about standardized tests. While **ALL** juniors at EHS take the ACT, roughly 20% of our students elect to do the SAT as well. Students have the option of taking the December and/or February ACT prior to the optional test offered by the high school (in April). We recommend that students opt in for the writing component of the test when registering. If you have further questions, please contact your counselor.

New 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.

Flex Block Offerings for Juniors: Over the course of the semester, the Counseling Department offers information sessions to students on different topics pertaining to post-secondary opportunities. So far this year, the following topics have been presented; Selective College Admissions, The Common Application, Gap Year, Tips for College Interviewing and Campus Visits. Upcoming topics will include NCAA Student-Athlete, PSEO, Summer Opportunities and Military Academies. Students are informed through their Schoology accounts each week of the particular presentation or they can stop by the College and Career Center weekly.



JET COLLEGE TOUR: On Thursday, October 10, fifteen Jesuit colleges from throughout the country visited Edina High School students at a mini-college fair.



ACADEMIC SUCCESS: Lastly, but most importantly, 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.

UPCOMING PARENT PROGRAM: On Wednesday, December 11th, the Counseling Department will be offering an evening with experts from Admissions and Financial Aid offices. Look for the invitation in the upcoming weeks.

ADVISORY: All activities can be found on the student services website and clicking on their class or on their “my planner: tab on Naviance.

November Advisory Activities:

To follow up on the Game Plan the students finished on Naviance, students were given Strategies to Explore and Discover Their Right Fit for after high school.



Career Conversations

New this year, the Counseling Department is offering an opportunity for students to learn about different careers through professionals willing to talk to students about their jobs. Each last Wednesday of the month, a guest speaker comes to talk to interested students. Look for more information through Schoology and Join the Career Conversations Schoology course!
Access Code: H343-Z6P3-RTP7C

Mic O'Brien is talking to students about Big Data during Career Conversations which are held the last Wednesday of every month.

Lastly, in the spirit of Thanksgiving, consider thanking people in your life and be grateful for all that is good. They say that one of the secrets of living is giving. Utilize the Thanksgiving break by giving back and working on continually living a healthy, well-balanced life.

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

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