

THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER FOR SENIORS AND PARENTS

Welcome back to school CLASS OF 2019! Things are in full swing in the Counseling Office. Each month, the Counseling Department will be updating events and happenings that students and parents should be aware of what is taking place.

THE EHS COUNSELING TEAM



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On Get Connected Day and Thursday, September 6th, seniors gathered with their respective counselor and were informed about the following events:

Planning for the Future Guidebook: Everything you want to know about the college application process is included in this manual made specifically for seniors. Please refer to this often. [Senior College Planning Booklet](#)

Standardized Testing:

Students register online: If your student needs to take a standardized test, for 4-year colleges, students register online. There are now over 1,000 test optional schools. Check out www.fairtest.org

- For ACT – www.act.org
- For SAT – www.collegeboard.org

Dates for 2018-2019 School Year

| Test | Test Dates | Register By |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| ACT | October 27 | September 28 |
| ACT | December 8 | November 2 |
| ACT | February 19 | January 11 |
| ACT | April 13 | March 8 |
| SAT & Subject Tests | October 6 | September 7 |
| SAT & Subject Tests | November 3 | October 5 |
| SAT & Subject Tests | December 1 | November 2 |
| SAT (only) | *March 9 | February 8 |

School Code: The school code (for all tests) for Edina High School is **240-708**.

- ACT tests (except July 2019) are offered at Edina High School. The ACT Test Center Code for Edina High School is 178400.
- SAT and SAT Subject tests (except March 2019) are offered at Edina High School. The SAT Test Center Code for Edina High School is 24-130.

Sending Scores to Colleges

- Most colleges require *you to send score reports directly from the testing companies* (College Board for SAT, or ACT program). Test scores are **NOT** sent from Edina High School; they must be requested directly from the testing center.
- If you requested test scores when you originally filled out the testing registration, it is not necessary to do so again unless you have taken additional tests.

Financial Aid:

- **FAFSA Update:** Seniors will be submitting their FAFSA applications beginning on October 1st. This will allow students to see their financial aid award letters earlier to help them make better choices for college enrollment. In addition, some colleges require students and families to fill out the **CSS PROFILE**. The CSS Profile is an online application that collects information used by nearly 400 colleges and scholarship programs to award non-federal aid. .Specific information can be found at the following website: <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/> Check college specific websites for financial aid deadlines, institutional scholarships and processes. Lastly, a financial aid workshop will be upcoming and notification will be sent out in the October newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

- **Wednesday, September 12, Senior Parent Program at 7 PM in EPAC.** Heidi Meyer, Executive Director of Admissions at the University of Minnesota- Twin Cities and Brian Lindeman, Director of Financial Aid at Macalester College in St. Paul will offer updates in regards to the application process as well as information regarding financial aid. All senior parents are invited
- Attend the **National College Fair** at the Minneapolis Convention Center on October 24th and 25th. There is a Wednesday evening session for students who do not want to miss school. If students do attend the day sessions on Wednesday or Thursday, they must have parent verification *prior* to attending. Students will need to preregister before attending. More information: <https://www.gotomyncf.com/Registration/EventSelectForState?stateName=minnesota>
- Over 250 plus colleges will be visiting Edina High School in the upcoming two months. Students are encouraged to stop in the College Career Center and listen and learn about these schools. It is the student's responsibility to get a pass from their teacher to attend these visits. More information: <https://www.edinaschools.org//site/Default.aspx?PageID=1842>

Naviance:

- 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, if students place a name of a college they are interested in – Click on “Colleges” and “Colleges I Am Thinking About”; students will receive an e-mail reminder when that school visits Edina High School. More information: <https://student.naviance.com/edina>

Counselor:

- Continue your post-high school planning in earnest. A good first step is to make sure you are following the Counseling curriculum through your advisory. Each month, seniors will be working with the counseling curriculum through their advisory to update, guide and track their post-secondary plans and college applications. Attached is a copy of the [programming for all 9th-12th grade](#) students and the goal for students each grade.

College Visits:

- Start thinking about MEA break and visiting colleges. These visits can help with your decisions about what you want in a school. It's easy to schedule a visit online at any school's admissions page or you can call their admissions office. Colleges in Minnesota and Wisconsin tend to fill up early, so book now!

Senior Checklist:

Seniors should check this section of our newsletter each month to see if they are on track this year. Here are a few things to do NOW which will help you start off to a great September.

- **Begin to review your college list.** You should aim for 6-8 colleges with some safety, target and reach schools
- **Begin the Common Application.** Adding schools, fill out the FERPA form and match your Naviance account
- **Review your testing status.** IF you need to sign up for another ACT or SAT, now is the time.
- **Begin/finalize drafts of college essays and personal statements.** Check which schools require an essay.
- **Additional support is available through the ACCESS program located in the College and Career Center.** Please contact your counselor if you are interested.
- If you are *not* planning on attending college, check in with your counselor for the things that you need to do to for opportunities such as military, employment, gap year, etc.

NEW THIS YEAR:

- ***COFFEE WITH THE COUNSELORS*** – Parents are invited to join two members of the Counseling Department for an intimate discussion of relevant topics. These sessions are for parents only and is limited to the first 50 respondents. Sessions are held in the Media Center beginning at 7:30 am and concluding at 8:30 a.m. Bring your questions. More information will be sent via email in the upcoming days on how to register.

- | <u>Grade 12</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| | <i>September 17</i> | <i>Application Process: Nuts and Bolts</i> |

- ***FLEX BLOCK SEMINARS*** – Students are invited to join the Counseling Department to receive relevant information on topics pertaining to post-secondary planning, academic and personal issues. Flex blocks are held during the last period of the day (2:18-3:16 pm) on even days (Thursday).

- | <u>Grade 12</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| | <i>September 27</i> | <i>Everything You Need to Know About the Common Application</i> |

- Another great resource for students and parents from the Counseling Department is online at <https://tinyurl.com/SeniorMeeting2019Edina>
- For more information on the school Counseling Department, visit us at <https://www.edinaschools.org/ehscounseling>
- Lastly, follow us on Twitter to stay in touch with what is going on in the Counseling Office at EHS :@edinacounselors

