

SENIOR NOTES

September 26, 2011

Volume 1

This is the first edition of Senior Notes for the year. This edition is being distributed to you through English class and will also be posted on the school website. Please share your copy with your parents. These notes will give you important information concerning upcoming events and will also list for you in chart form any current scholarship opportunities which have been sent to the school, or of which I am aware. This first edition contains several very useful websites that you can consult for college selection and scholarship opportunities. The upcoming Senior Notes will be posted to the school website and you will be notified when a new edition has been posted. Check out each new edition for important announcements for seniors and their parents and for information on opportunities for seniors.

SENIOR CONFERENCES

I will be scheduling individual conferences with each senior beginning October 3. You will be given an appointment slip through your English class at the beginning of the week in which your appointment is scheduled. Your parents are invited to join you for this conference. This will be a time for us to go over your transcript and talk about your post secondary plans. If you have any applications on which you are working or have any questions, please bring them to the conference along with your activity sheet and the blue folder you have been given. A few of you have already sent applications. Way to go! Be sure to let us know when you hear from the school by signing up in the guidance office with your name and the college/s to which you have been accepted. We want to list you on the College Acceptance Board.

SAT AND ACT REGISTRATION MATERIALS

In addition to submitting applications and a copy of your transcript, you will also need to have a SAT or ACT score in order to be considered for admission at any junior or four year colleges/universities. We will discuss the range of scores that are required by the school/s you are considering when we conference together. If you do not yet have a score or need to improve the score you have, it is very important that you register now for these exams. It usually takes at least three administrations of the test to get your best score. The SAT will be given SAT (walk-on registration will be required now) and the ACT will be given Saturday, October 22 (late registration fee will be required at this time). Both are also given in December and throughout second semester. Check the Senior Tidbits you were given in your blue folder for the registration websites for both of these tests and registration deadlines for each test.

COUNTY WIDE COLLEGE FAIR

All high school juniors and seniors are invited to attend the Cabarrus County College Night presentation on Tuesday, September 27 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Boys and Girls Club in Concord. Students and parents will be able to speak with admissions representatives at public and private colleges and universities in North Carolina as well as some from surrounding states. This is a great opportunity to get more information about a school in which you are interested.

COLLEGE PLANNING WORKSHOP

There will be an informational workshop on college planning for parents and students on Monday evening, October 3 at 7:00 P.M. in the Resource Room. This workshop is for parents of underclassmen as well as parents of seniors. A timeline will be shared that can be followed throughout high school in preparing for college. Ideas will be shared as to ways parents can help their student decide to which school they will apply. Participants will be given an overview of what colleges are looking for in the application process. The application process will be discussed along with the important role that parents can play in this process. Information will also be shared regarding the guidelines for qualifying for NCAA Eligibility and the requirements for Division I and Division II athletic participation. This workshop will be repeated on Thursday morning, October 6 at 10:00 A.M.

ORDERING CAPS AND GOWN

A representative from Herff Jones will present information to seniors about ordering caps and gowns and graduation materials during 2nd block on Tuesday, October 2. All information and ordering materials will be sent home with seniors after the presentation. The representative will return on Tuesday, October 16 to collect the orders and the deposits.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE ON CAMPUS

A representative from Liberty University will be on campus on Tuesday, October 11 to present information to interested juniors and seniors. They will be presenting the information during the 2nd block study hall. Interested students will have an opportunity to register to attend through their English class.

SENIOR BONDING DAY

Seniors will be participating in the annual Senior Bonding Day on Wednesday, October 12. The class will be spending the day at the Cedar Grove Retreat Center. More information will be coming about that during the week. Don't forget that the first Off Campus Lunch Day is this Thursday and that your permission forms must be returned before you can participate.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY FOR COLLEGE

If you are interested in participating in sports during college, the NCAA Clearinghouse must certify you. The application for this process is completed and submitted online at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Requirements for certifying will be discussed at the College Planning Workshop on October 3 and 6.

FINANCIAL AID/PROFILE FORMS

Although you cannot apply for federal financial aid until January, there are several schools that use the PROFILE application to help them award nonfederal student aid funds. These are the monies that the colleges themselves have to award. The PROFILE applications will be available online and it is suggested that it be completed as soon as possible. Check with the schools you are considering to see if they require the completion of the PROFILE to receive financial aid at their school. The following schools are some of the schools that do require the PROFILE: Davidson, Duke, Elon, Guilford, Meredith, NC State, Salem College, UNC-Chapel Hill, or Wake Forest.

OPEN HOUSES/INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR COLLEGES

One of the best things you can do during the application process is to visit the college/s you are considering if you have not already done so. The college websites that you can access through the cfnc.org site (for NC schools) or at the website for the college which will be the college name or abbreviation.edu will list the Open House dates and give you an opportunity to register to attend. Remember that you have two college days that you may use this year. If you have not yet visited the colleges to which you are applying, I would strongly suggest that you do there before making a college decision.

USEFUL INTERNET SITES

There are several internet sites which provide a wealth of information regarding college profiles and majors. These include:

1. www.100hot.com.college

2. www.collegeedge.com
3. www.collegenet.com
4. www.collegeview.com
5. www.kaplan.com
6. www.petersons.com
7. www.ncmentor.org

Sites which provide information regarding sources of scholarship and financial aid are:

1. www.fastweb.com
2. www.finaid.org
3. www.scholarships.com
4. www.schoolsoup.com
5. www.studentaid2.ed.gov
6. www.meritaid.com

An excellent site which offers one-stop and toll-free telephone service for all you need to plan, apply, and pay for college is: www.cfnc.org. If you haven't already, check the other websites listed in your blue folder.

There is a user-friendly, internet college search engine that also awards scholarships. It is www.anycollege.net. Scholarships are given away randomly to college bound students on this site regardless of GPA or test scores. To enter go to www.anycollege.net and click on the "Win a Scholarship" button. This site contains a number of documents that can be printed.

SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Most schools offer merit scholarships to students with the most outstanding academic records. Some of these opportunities are mailed directly to the guidance office and will be listed in the Scholarship Scoop in each issue of Senior Notes. Other schools include their opportunities with the materials for application or email the applications to the qualified students. Other schools enter merit scholarship eligible students automatically in scholarship application by using the application for admission. Check the websites for the colleges to which you are applying to see how the application process for their merit scholarships is handled.

Division I and Division II schools offer athletic scholarships. In order to qualify you must be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse. If you have not already done so and plan to play college athletics above the intramural level, you need to apply for certification at the www.eligibilitycenter.org website.

There are several local stores, which sponsor scholarship contests and award several substantial scholarships. Check these opportunities at chain stores that you might visit and take advantage of the opportunities offered.

Check with your parents' employers as well as your own if you are part-time employed to see if they award any scholarship opportunities to families of their employees.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Although you can research a great many scholarship opportunities on the different college website, the scholarship opportunities which are sent to me will be announced using the table format which follows. It lists the name of the scholarship, the amount offered, the school/s at which you may use the scholarship, the deadline for submitting the application, and the minimum requirements needed to apply for the scholarship. Many of the scholarships list a website where you can access the application. Those scholarships for which a website is not given will have applications in the file cabinet in my office.

SCHOLARSHIP SCOOP

SCHOLARSHIP	AMOUNT	SCHOOL ACCEPTING	DEADLINE TO SUBMIT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS		
				SAT	GPA	OTHER
Morehead-Cain Scholarship	Full tuition, renewable; overseas study	UNC- Chapel Hill	Sat., Oct. 1			Competitive scholarship awarded to students who are academic achievers, have high morals, are involved in athletics, and take an active role in the community; applicants must submit completed scholarship application by Oct. 1 and a completed application for admission by Nov. 1; finalist will be invited to interview on campus; online application available at unc.edu
Levine Scholarship	Full tuition, renewable, laptop, 4 summer experiences including overseas study	UNC- Charlotte	Sat., Oct. 15	1800 – 2400	3.8 – 4.0 unwt.	Awarded to students who excel academically, demonstrate a commitment to community service, reflect a passion for knowledge and possess a capacity for ethical leadership; see Mrs. Caudill to be endorsed for this award by Oct. 1; students will complete application after they have been endorsed
Park Scholarship	Full tuition, renewable, personal computer, overseas study	NC State	Tues., Nov .1			Competitive scholarship awarded to students based on four criteria: scholarship, leadership, service and character; students may apply using their Wolf Paw account; see Mrs. Caudill if you are interested in being one of the two school nominees; students may also self-nominate
Centennial Scholarship	Up to 10 @ \$11,500 each	NC State	Thurs., Dec. 1			Awarded to outstanding academic students who plan to major in some area of engineering, including engineering, business

SCHOLARSHIP	AMOUNT	SCHOOL ACCEPTING	DEADLINE TO SUBMIT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS		
				SAT	GPA	OTHER
						management, chemistry, polymer chemistry, forensics, design, apparel, or retail; FACS can submit two nominees; see Mrs. Caudill by Oct. 15 to be considered as one of the nominees
Wendy's High School Heisman Award		Any School	Sun., Oct 2		3.0	Recognizes male and female high school students who excel in academics, athletics and student leadership; to apply go to www.wendyheisman.com complete and submit the application; the school will then be notified to review and confirm the accuracy of the data you provide; apply at www.wendysheisman.com
Thomas Wolfe Scholarship	Full undergrad support	UNC-CH	Tues., Nov. 1			Awarded to student writers; full information and application available at http://english.unc/creative/tws
Prudential Spirit of Community Awards	Varying amts.	Any School	Tues., Nov. 1			Awarded to 7 th -12 th graders who have made a difference through their volunteering; school may nominate one student; see Mrs. Caudill for direction sheet for applying for award
Principal's Leadership Award	100@ \$1,000 - \$12,000	Any School	Fri., Dec. 2			One nominee will be submitted based on leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences, employment experience, and academic record; see Mrs. Caudill to be considered
King's College Scholarship	4 @ \$5,000	King's College Charlotte	Sat., Jan. 7			Scholarships awarded to four high scorers on a general knowledge exam; test to be given on Sat., Jan 7 on King's College campus; contact King's College to register for test

SCHOLARSHIP	AMOUNT	SCHOOL ACCEPTING	DEADLINE TO SUBMIT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS		
				SAT	GPA	OTHER
Michael A. DeMayo Scholarship	15 @ \$2,500	Any School	Mon., Feb.27, 2012		3.0+	Awarded to students who submit most compelling presentation that encourages fellow abstain from underage drinking