## TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL

# Senior Newsletter

October 2010







 Monday—November 8, 2010— Financial Aid Night HCC Auditorium—6:00pm

Learn important information about financial aid and the FAFSA. The FAFSA will be based on 2010 tax income information so learn how to be prepared for filling out the application!

## October To Do List

- Make a final decision about the colleges you wish to apply to and make sure you are aware of the application deadlines.
- If you have received a fee waiver for SAT, fee waivers are available for college application fees. Please see me if needed.
- Begin working on admissions essays and **please** have someone proofread your work! This may be the first impression that a college has of you so make a good one!
- Think about who you will ask to complete recommendation letters. See the 2nd page for tips.
- Look at colleges of interest and their websites for information about possible scholarships requiring a separate application other than the admission application.



#### **College Application Day**



#### Wednesday—November 17, 2010

Each English class will report to the Media Center and we encourage each student to fill out one application online through the CFNC website (this includes 2-year and 4-year schools in NC). We will have college representatives from area colleges to help with the event. However, if there are parents that would like to help—we would be glad to have you! Some colleges will waive their application fees on this day—and we will receive a list of these soon! Please let me know if you have any questions!



#### Open House Events

Most colleges will have open house events in the Fall for seniors! If available, these are great events to attend! Here are some things to check out!

- Eat in the cafeteria!
- See a dorm room where you might be living!
- Check out a football game or other sporting event!
- Talk with an admissions counselor about programs, majors offered, and scholarships!



#### Apply Online to College through CFNC.org and Simplify Your Life

When you think about applying to college, you probably imagine piles of papers, college catalogs and file folders strewn across your desk or dining room table. What happens if you spill food on your sparkling clean application form? Or what if you make a mistake and have to start all over?

With CFNC.org, you can apply online to most colleges in North Carolina. Even better, you can save your work as you progress through the applications. And if you want to apply to several schools, you won't have to enter all the same information again. College admissions officers like to receive applications online through CFNC.org because they are neat and easy to read. You can even research and tour prospective colleges be fore you apply, research scholarships and grants and find other financial aid resources, like low-cost loans.

This article is provided by College Foundation of North Carolina, helping you plan, apply and pay for college. Visit our website at CFNC.org or call toll-free 1-866-866-CFNC. © 2008 Pathways, College Foundation, Inc., and State Education Assistance Authority (CFNC)

#### **Recommendation Letters**

- Pick references that know you well!
- Colleges state that they do not want a list of adjectives but rather a closer look at behavior. They want examples of your character, why you are a strong student, and to better understand why they want you at their institution.
- Give the person writing your recommendation approximately 1-2 weeks notice prior to your deadline!
- Provide your reference with a list of your activities, awards, and accomplishments so they can speak to your abilities!

**CFNC.org** is a great resource for planning, applying and paying for college!





<u>www.collegeboard.com</u> (scholarship search) <u>www.offtocollege.com</u> (college planning) <u>www.nextstepu.com</u> (college planning) <u>www.fastweb.com</u> (scholarship search) <u>www.mappingyourfuture.org</u> (college planning) <u>www.college-scholarships.com</u> (scholarship search) <u>www.matchcollege.com</u> (college planning) <u>www.campusexplorer.com</u> (college planning) <u>www.scholarships.com</u> (scholarship search)

### When Choosing Colleges...

- Think about your values & what is important to you!
- Do your research! Make sure the college has activities, majors, programs, location, etc. that fit your values!
- Talk to a current student if possible & find out what they like about the school!
- Don't rule out a college because of price until you've completed the financial aid process!
- Visit your top three choices!
- Do <u>not</u> choose a college just because your friends are going there!

#### Student Opportunities

- **Performing & Visual Arts College Fair** Atlanta, GA—Wednesday—October 6, 2010
- Bridgewater College— Fall Open House—October 23 & November 13, 2010 www.bridgewater.edu/Admissions
- North Carolina State University Fall Open House—Saturday—October 16, 2010 www.ncsu.edu/openhouse
- Savannah College of Art & Design
  Informational Session—October 23, 2010—Atlanta, GA
  www.scad.edu/visit



