

Tuscola High School Junior Newsletter

September 2010

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Juniors: Time to Take Care of Business

It is your junior year, and by now you can probably see the finish-line. You're closing in on college and you know it, so this is not the time to slow down. Take these next few months very seriously. It is extremely important to maintain good grades in your junior year! Study hard! This is the last full year of grades that most college admission officers will see before deciding if you can "make the grade".

This is also the time to start the college planning process. Gathering more information now will make for a less stressful senior year for students and parents. College websites are a great way to find out about entrance requirements and programs.

I am very excited to be your counselor this year. Please feel free to call me anytime at 456-2408 ext 6014, or email me at jsollie@haywood.k12.nc.us
Joy Sollie



The Student-Athlete & College Recruiting

**September 14th,
7:30 pm in the
THS Auditorium**

This nationally-acclaimed program SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT about college athletics and the recruiting process! ALL athletes in grades 8-12, and their parents, should attend this POWERFUL program.

Learn how to get recruited and receive scholarship offers and much, much more.

Mark Your Calendars

Take the PSAT.

- The PSAT is offered at Tuscola on October 13th. The PSAT is required for several national scholarships and is especially important for National Merit Scholarships. Sign up in the Counseling Center. The cost of the test is \$13.

Start your college search.

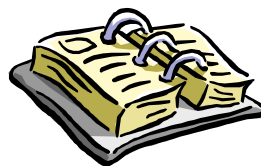
- Make lists of your abilities, preferences, and personal qualities. List things you may want to study and do in college. **Attend Haywood Community College's College Night on September 20th at 6 P.M.**
- Attend College Planning Night at Tuscola on Tuesday, November 30th at 6 P.M.**
- A representative from Catawba College will be in the Counseling Center on September 8th.
- Treat your school selection process like a research paper. Make a file and gather information about schools, financial aid, and campus life.
- Do your top college choices require essays or recommendations? Now is the time to begin planning your essays and choosing whom you'd like to ask for recommendations.

Start thinking about financial aid.

- Continue saving for college and researching financial aid opportunities. Haywood Community College will be holding a Financial Aid night sometime in November.

Plan your spring testing schedule.

- Tuscola is giving the ASVAB to all juniors on September 29th. (This is a free career assessment that will help clarify options after high school.)
- The SAT is offered at Tuscola on October 9th, November 6th, and June 4th.
- The SAT is offered at Pisgah on May 7th.
- The ACT is offered at Tuscola on February 12th.



ASVAB

No matter what a student is planning to do after high school, the ASVAB test is a great opportunity! The US Military does administer the exam; however, there are no obligations to talk with military recruiters or join the military. This is a WONDERFUL career assessment for students who are unsure of what careers they may be interest in.



ATTENTION JUNIORS!

If you would like to be considered for National Merit Scholarships, you MUST take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 13th, 2010.

You can register for the PSAT through the Counseling Center with Diana Chambers. The cost is \$13, and checks must be payable to Tuscola High School. You must sign up before Friday, October 1st.



When Do We Take the SAT?

- We recommend that students take the SAT during their junior year.
- The SAT combines the best overall score; therefore it is to the student's advantage to take the SAT more than once.
- The SAT is offered at PHS on May 7th and at Tuscola on Oct. 9th, Nov. 6th, and June 4th.
- By waiting until later in the junior year, students have the opportunity to learn more English and Math skills which will benefit them on the test. However, juniors are eligible to take the SAT at any time during their junior year.
- To register for the SAT, visit www.collegeboard.com. Our school code is 344-214. You must list our school code in order for us to get your scores.
- Students that need to receive accommodations on the SAT need to stop by the Counseling Center.

WNC Success at Testing Prep Services

WNC SAT Test Prep Services is dedicated to providing excellence in SAT preparation. The teachers have over 33 years of combined SAT teaching experience. Their solid statistics confirm substantial improvement in scores. Classes will consist of six consecutive Sunday afternoons from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Haywood Christian Academy's Senior School Campus. Call Susan Kingshill at 828.421.4862 for more information.

Opportunities From MAHEC

For any opportunities at MAHEC—call 828-257-4479 or email Jacquelyn Hallum at jacquelyn.hallum@mahec.net.

- **College Planning: Real Solutions and Strategies for Everyone:** September 16 from 6 to 7 pm at MAHEC. Workshop will include: academic preparation, career exploration and planning, searching for the right college, and financial aid.
- **How to Research Colleges:** October 14 from 6 to 7 pm. This full potential college planning presentation will include: where do I start, what college resources are legitimate and useful, and how can I tell the difference between colleges?
- **Finding Financial Aid for College:** November 11th at MAHEC. This runs from 6:00-7:00 P.M. Registration begins October 1.
- **SAT Prep Strategies Course:** October 23-24 at MAHEC. There is a \$65.00 registration fee. The program goals are: to learn strategies for Reading Comprehension, learn strategies for 5 levels of mathematics questions, learn strategies for sentence completion, and improve SAT scores.

COLLEGE INFORMATION

The Counseling Center is placing file boxes that contain college information in each of the Junior and Senior English classes. There will be information regarding upcoming events, scholarship information, ACT, and SAT information and various other materials that are pertinent to your student. We hope by placing these boxes in the classroom the students will take advantage of picking up information and passing it on to you as parents. All information will continue to be available in the Counseling Center.

