### MHS COUNSELING OFFICE NEWSLETTER October 2018

#### **Current Happenings**

#### **Senior Meetings**



Seniors met with counselors to go over the college application process and some important dates. The packet they received has lots of resources and important dates for seniors. A copy can be viewed on the high school counseling website at www.mhscounseling.weebly.com .

Senior Parent Night/FAFSA Presentation Thursday, Oct 4, 5:30-6:45 pm in the MHS Auditorium MHS Counselors will discuss the college application process and MSU Financial Aid Office will offer some helpful information about filling out the FAFSA and paying for college.



#### Wilson Talent Center to Present at Mason High School in October



The Wilson Talent Center will be at MHS on October 16th and October 23rd to present its programs to all sophomores and interested juniors. Juniors can sign up to attend in the counseling office with Mrs. Oakes. During the presentation, students will have the opportunity to sign up for an official visit to WTC on November 29 during 4th and 5th hours. Students may also attend the Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> WTC Open House in lieu of an official visit.

#### **October is Michigan College Month**

The Mason High School Counseling Office is celebrating Michigan College Month with several activities. We are excited to explore post-secondary opportunities with all students. Activities include:

- Field Trips to GVSU, MSU, CMU and LCC College Fair
- College visits at Mason High School
- College Application help labs during WIN time
- Senior Parent Night and FAFSA presentation



### College Month

(See p. 2 for more information)



#### Ele's Group at MHS

Ele's Group, a grief support group for students who have experienced the death of a family member or close friend, will be offered during the school day, once a week, beginning October 17. Students will have the opportunity to talk about their feelings and experiences with others who understand, participate in a variety of hands on activities, and learn positive coping skills. We have limited space, preference will be given to the first students who return the permission slip. Email williamss@masonk12.net for questions.

#### **WELCOME NEW STUDENTS TO MHS!**

The counseling staff and administration at MHS held a gathering on September 25th during WIN for students new to Mason Public Schools. Over twenty students joined us for dessert and conversation. Welcome to Mason High School!



#### OCTOBER 10th IS WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Promoted by the World Health Organization, World Mental Health Day is Oct 10, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. Many adolescent issues go unnoticed or undiagnosed. Did you know:

- 1. Half of all mental illness begins by the age of 14.
- 2. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds.
- 3. Teen use of alcohol and drugs is a major issue in many countries and can lead to other risk taking.
- 4. Eating disorders are of increasing concern for the teenage population.

Source: http://www.who.int/mental\_health/world-mental-health-day/2018/en/

#### **PARENT NIGHTS 2018-19**

October 4, 2018 Senior Parent Night & Curriculum Night & Paying for College

January 15, 2019 FAFSA help lab

January 17, 2019 Junior Parent Night April 23, 2019 Eighth Grade Parent Night



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#### **Michigan College Month Activities**

#### College Visits

College visits are an important part of the college exploration process. Many colleges come directly to MHS hoping to meet with prospective students and tell them about their university. Below is a list of colleges schedule to visit. This list is updated daily on the calendar in the counseling office.



10/2: Calvin College & Asbury College visit MHS in cafeteria at lunches

10/5: Lansing Community College visits MHS in cafeteria @ lunches

10/9: Michigan State University visits MHS in library during TIES

10/11: Spring Arbor & Eastern Michigan University visit MHS in library during WIN

10/17: Ferris State & University of Michigan Ann Arbor visit MHS in cafeteria at lunches

10/18: Western Michigan University & Spring Arbor visit MHS in library during WIN

10/24-25: Aquinas College visits MHS at lunch and during WIN

10/25: Defiance College visits MHS in library during WIN

10/30: Michigan Tech & Alma College visit MHS in library during TIES

#### • College Fair Trip

LCC will host over 50 colleges on October 18 from 6-7:30. All MHS students and parents are invited to attend. More information is available at <a href="https://www.lcc.edu/services/community-campus-resources/college-night.html">https://www.lcc.edu/services/community-campus-resources/college-night.html</a>. MHS Counselors will take a group of students. We will meet



in the MHS library at 5 pm for pizza and directions, take a bus to LCC to attend the fair, and return to MHS at 7:30. Permission slips (due Oct 15) to attend with our group are available at www.mhscounseling.weebly.com

#### • College Campus Tours

Going to tour a campus may be the very best way to obtain firsthand information about a college. MHS is sponsoring three different campus visits in October.



10/5: Visit to Grand Valley State University (permission slips due Oct 2) 10/10: Visit to Michigan State University (permission slips due Oct 5)

10/31: Visit to Central Michigan University (permission slips due Oct 19)

Students can also visit colleges individually. If a student visits during a school day, a college visit form can be signed by the

college and returned to our attendance office to excuse the absence.



#### **Senior's Corner**

#### Time to Apply!

Now is the time for seniors to apply to college. It is highly recommended students complete applications to their top choice schools during the month of October.



fully



#### **College Application Help**

MHS Counselors will be available to help with any aspects of the college application process in the library during WIN on OCT 4 & OCT 18. Sign up is available now with Mrs. Sandel.

#### **Transcript Requests**

Mason High School uses Parchment for all transcript requests. Students can go to the counseling webpage at www.mhscounseling.weebly.com and click Transcript Requests to create an account and send transcripts to colleges or even email a copy to themselves.



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#### **SAT Retake Opportunities**

SAT DATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE

November 3, 2018 October 5, 2018 Oct 16 (mail), Oct 24 (online or phone)

December 1, 2018 November 2, 2018 Nov 13 (mail), Nov 20 (online or phone)

March 9, 2019 February 8, 2019 Feb 19 (mail), Feb 27 (online or phone)

May 4, 2019 April 5, 2019 April 16 (mail), April 24 (online or phone)

June 1, 2019 May 3, 2019 May 14 (mailed), May 22 (online or phone)

For more information and to register, please visit www.collegeboard.org

#### **Fee Waivers**

Students who qualify for free and reduced lunch or meet other federal guide lines may be eligible for college application fee waivers. These students should see their counselor to check eligibility and to obtain a fee waiver.

Special fee waiver incentives for ALL students during October (Michigan College Month):

- Saginaw Valley State is waiving fees for the month of October with the code "AMARMCAN"
- Baker College is waiving fees for the month of October. No code needed.
- Wayne State University is waiving fees for the month of October. The code is MCAW2018.
- Western Michigan University is waiving feels for all Open House Attendees who apply that day.
   The dates are October 12, October 27, and November 2nd.

The following schools have free online applications year-round:

Adrian College Henry Ford College Mid Michigan CC

Albion College Hillsdale College Monroe, Montcalm & Mott CC

Alma College Jackson College Muskegon CC

Aquinas College Kalamazoo College North Central Michigan College
Calvin College (until Dec 1) Kalamazoo Valley CC Northwestern Michigan College

College for Creative Studies Kellogg CC Northwood University

Concordia University Kettering University Oakland CC

Cornerstone University

Davenport University

Delta College

Delta College

Lake Michigan College

Ferris State University

Lake Superior State University

Lansing CC

Coakland University

Olivet College

St Clair County CC

Schoolcraft College

Siena Heights University

Glen Oaks CC Macomb CC Spring Arbor University

Grace Bible College Madonna University University of Detroit Mercy

Grand Rapids CC Michigan Technological University Univ of Mich. Flint & Dearborn



#### FAFSA OPENS OCT 1, 2018

To apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study, and loans, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid to pay for college or career school. It is recommended that every college bound senior complete the FAFSA. For more information about the FAFSA, visit StudentAid.gov.



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#### FREE TEST PREP FOR ALL!!

All MHS Students are strongly encouraged to set up fee, personalized practice on Khan Academy in order to prepare for the SAT test. This can be done in 3 steps.

#### STEP1: College Board Account Set Up

- 1. Go to www.collegeboard.org
- 2. Click Sign up
- 3. Click you are a STUDENT
- 4. Input your information—MAKE SURE INFO IS CORRECT-Do not use nicknames, use valid email.
- Choose a username and password that you can remember (Follow prompts). Make sure you give this to your TIES teacher/Counselor to keep in case you forget.
- 6. Set up a security question
- 7. Agree with the Terms and Conditions
- 8. Confirm Account Information

# ~90 pts. increase

Average Number of Points Gained from PSAT to SAT

~**115 pts.** increase

# No hours 6 hours 20 hours of Official SAT Practice SAT Practice SAT Practice SAT Practice

#### STEP 2: Khan Academy- Account Set UP

- 1. Go to www.khanacademy.org
- 2. Click Create a new account (at the very bottom of the page)
- 3. Click Sign up with email and use same email as for College Board account
- 4. Check email for verification (use cell phone or log in on computer)
- 5. Click Finish Signing Up
- 6. Create with your email or create a username and password (either method works) and give this to your TIES teacher/counselor to record in case you forget.

#### STEP 3: Link College board Scores with Khan Academy Practice

To link with College Board. Click SAT (some of you may have to click subject tests first) Click "A" then Allow. From here you can choose a practice schedule (April 11<sup>th</sup> is SAT for juniors), view scores, set skill levels, or start a practice.

## Keep up to date with Mason High School information



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#### Join REMIND to receive text messages about specific grade level events



#### **Email us with questions!**

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