News 4 U!

*September 2017 FPHS Junior Newsletter*

This monthly newsletter will contain information you as a junior can use to help yourself be the best prepared for life after high school! Please share the newsletters with your parents. The newsletters will also be posted on the counselor website.

You don’t have to be a senior to apply for scholarships

There are some scholarships that underclassmen can apply for. Go to [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) and set up an account. This is a scholarship search engine that will email you scholarships that you may be eligible to apply for.

College Representatives will Visit Fair Play

Various representatives from colleges will be visiting our school to meet with students interested in learning more about admissions, scholarships, and other helpful information pertaining to that college. If you want to visit with one of these representatives you must obtain a pass from Mrs. G prior to the visit time. Following are the representative visits scheduled to date:

September 27 @ 8:30 a.m. Missouri State University

October 19 @ Second Lunch University of Missouri-Columbia

Selective Service Registration  
The Federal Government requires all males to register with the Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Seventeen year old males can submit their registration information early at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov) or by filling out a form available from the post office. You must be registered with Selective Service to be eligible for a federal student loan, job training and federal jobs.

PSAT/NMSQT Test

If you have a strong reading, verbal reasoning, math, and writing skills, you might want to consider taking the PSAT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). For juniors, it is the first step in entering the National Merit Scholarship Corporation competitions. The test will be given at Fair Play on Wednesday, October 11 and the cost is $16. You need to let me know ASAP if you plan to take the test.

SOCIAL MEDIA ALERT

Keep your social media accounts clean, respectable, appropriate. During the admissions process colleges sometimes will check social media to determine admissions. Check out this story: <http://college.usatoday.com/2017/06/05/at-least-10-who-got-into-harvard-lose-admission-over-offensive-memes/>. Employers check also!

Drury Architecture Day

On October 6th, Drury University’s Hammons School of Architecture will host Drury Architecture Day. This is an all event day that allows high-school students interested in studying architecture to learn about Drury’s program, spend time in the design studios and with their students, and tour area architectural offices. Students can register at <http://www.drury.edu/calendar/details/architecture-day-2>. If you plan to attend, be sure to fill out a pre-arranged absence form. You may get that form from Mrs. G.

Taking the ACT

Juniors usually take the ACT for the first time during their junior year. We encourage you to take it on the national December test date to get an initial score. The test will be offered to all juniors at Fair Play on April 3, 2018.

National ACT dates this year are:

October 28, Deadline to register is September 22

December 9, Deadline to register is November 3

February 10, Deadline to register is January 12

April 14, Deadline to register is March 9

June 9, Deadline to register is May 4

July 14, Deadline to register is June 15

Find ACT Test Prep at <http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/>

ACT Test Prep Courses Offered at Missouri State University

Missouri State University offers on campus and live-online ACT Prep Courses. Cost for the session is $449. If you would like more information on the courses see Mrs. G. The first course starts October 1.

This year is Important!

Attendance, grades, activities………….all important. How you perform your junior year is very important when it comes to college admissions next year!

Build a Resume

Your high school “resume” will include more than your grades. Colleges will want to see what activities (clubs, sports, music, volunteering, etc.) you’ve been involved in. Take advantage of opportunities found in your school and community. You may want to give some thought to getting involved in some type of community service. In addition to the personal benefits you will reap from giving back to others, some scholarships put a lot of weight on the amount of community service you have participated in--above and beyond community service you do through school organizations.

Request information from colleges that interest you

Colleges will send you their information packets for free. At this point, still consider a wide variety of schools. When you request information, be sure to ask for application materials, so you can see the college’s admission requirements. And remember, almost every college has its own website. You can get valuable information about a college’s course requirements, campus life, student body and more. For easy access to these colleges use Missouri Connections website.

College Fair at Bolivar High School

A College Fair will be held **October 5, 1:30-2:30** at Bolivar High School. Approximately 60 representatives from 2-year and 4-year colleges, military branches, and college planning/financial aid institutions will be available for consultation. We will take a bus to the fair, leaving immediately after second lunch.

A+ Scholarships to 4-year Universities/Colleges

Several 4-year universities/colleges are offering scholarships to students who complete the A+ program. Additionally, 4-year schools are offering “transfer” scholarships to A+ students who complete their first two years at an A+ school and then transfer to a 4-year college or university. Check with me for a list of the colleges who offer this!

TIP OF THE MONTH: Try to save money throughout the year. If you don’t have a savings account, talk to your parents about helping you open one. If you’re working, make sure to set aside some money out of each paycheck for savings. You’ll probably need money to help pay for college!

Helpful Websites for you to check out

* [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com): scholarships and college serach
* [www.missouriconnections.org](http://www.missouriconnections.org): career, college, financial aid information
* [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov): federal student aid for students
* [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org): financial aid information
* [www.mappingyourfuture.org](http://www.mappingyourfuture.org): college, career, financial information
* [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov): U.S. Department of Education
* [www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco): Occupational Outlook Handbook
* [www.college-scholarships.com/free\_scholarship\_searches.htm](http://www.college-scholarships.com/free_scholarship_searches.htm): scholarship search

Your intellect is not a birthright but something that grows and develops as you learn new things. So KEEP LEARNING! ☺