



Tuscola High School Junior Newsletter

September 2012

564 Tuscola School Rd. Waynesville, NC 28786

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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.



Your Counselors

Kari Francoeur
Last Names A-G

Joy Sollie
Last Names H-O

Julia Plott
Last Names P-Z

Mark Your Calendars

Take the PSAT.

- The PSAT is offered at Tuscola on **October 17th**. The PSAT is required for several national scholarships and is especially important for National Merit Scholarships. Sign up in the Counseling Center with Mrs. Chambers.

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 10th at 6 P.M.**
- A representative from Radford University will be in the Counseling Center on 9/14 @ 9am.
- 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 in November.

Plan your spring testing schedule.

- Tuscola is giving the ASVAB to all juniors on September 19th. (This is a free career assessment that will help clarify options after high school.)
- The SAT is offered at Tuscola on October 6th, November 3rd, and June 1st.
- The SAT is offered at Pisgah on May 4th.
- The ACT is offered to all Juniors in March 2013.



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 interested in.

We will use the results during classroom sessions with your students to talk about careers!

All Juniors will be taking the ASVAB on September 19th at 8am in cafeteria!



ATTENTION JUNIORS!

If you would like to be considered for National Merit Scholarships, you MUST take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 17th, 2012.

You can register for the PSAT through the Counseling Center with Mrs. Chambers.

The cost is \$14, and checks must be payable to Tuscola High School. You must sign up before 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 4th and at Tuscola on Oct. 6th, Nov. 3rd, and June 1st.
- 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.

SAT Test Prep at UNC Asheville

This test preparation program concentrates on test-taking techniques, timesaving methods, logical reasoning, verbal ability and mathematical competence. Past exams and simulated materials are used to teach question types and strategies.

Visit unca.edu/testprep to learn more about upcoming sessions.

Cost: The session includes 18 hours of instruction, textbooks, and all materials for \$295.00

Register online at <http://agc.unca.edu/sat>.

Contact Nancy Williams at 828-250-2353 or nwilliam@unca.edu for additional 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 6 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at MAHEC. Workshop will include: academic preparation, career exploration and planning, searching for the right college, and financial aid. FREE!
- **How to Study & College Scholarship Session:** November 8 from 6:30—9:00 pm. Session will focus on: finding scholarships, understanding the cost of attending college, tips on effective study habits and note taking, and improving EOG scores. FREE!
- **Financial Aid for College:** November 13th from 6:00—7:00 pm at MAHEC. This session covers: the financial aid application process, how to find scholarships and grants, understanding college loans. FREE!
- **SAT Prep Strategies Course:** October 13-14 (Sat. 8 am—3:45 pm; Sun: 1:00—3:00 pm) 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.

