

COUNSELING NOTES FOR SENIORS - August 2017

Time Management: Welcome to your senior year of high school. This is an exciting and very busy year. Besides classes, you will be completing your PREP project, many of you will be applying for college and financial aid in the fall, and deciding which college to attend in the spring. All of these activities have critical deadlines. How you manage your time will determine how much stress you might have this year. Some tips to help you are: a.) plan your schedule, b.) avoid procrastination/distractions, c.) regularly use the times of day when you work best, d.) create weekly schedules of tasks to complete large projects instead of waiting for the day before it is due.

Naviance Family Connection: Counseling uses Naviance to assist students with college searches and applications, career exploration, scholarships and communication. Those not registered for Naviance should do so as soon as possible. You also will need to update your Naviance Family Connection account if you have changed your email address. Counseling sends emails through Naviance to seniors about college representative visits, scholarship opportunities, financial aid workshops, deadline reminders and more. See Mr. Leonard or your counselor if you need help to register. You can also email Mr. Leonard at hleonard@patterson.k12.ca.us

6th Grade Camp Counselor: We are beginning the recruitment process to become 6th Grade Camp Counselors at Foothill Horizons Outdoor Ed. Please sign up in the counseling office ASAP if you are interested. Please see Mrs. Gonzalez with any questions

CREDIT RECOVERY: Seniors who are deficient credits for graduation (less than 170 credits) need to see their counselors. There are 2 credit recovery programs available - Night School and Cyber High. Night School will begin on September 13th and Cyber High will begin on September 11th. Priority is given to seniors deficient credits for graduation, but there may be space in Cyber High for those college bound seniors wanting to remediate a D or F grade in a college prep course.

College Entrance Testing: There are two types of college entrance tests, SAT and ACT. Colleges will accept scores from both the ACT and the SAT. They will take the highest score into consideration for college admissions. All seniors applying to a 4-year college/university should take one of the entrance tests. Fee Waivers for both tests are available to those who qualify, usually by having qualified for the Free/Reduced Lunch program. Fee waivers can be picked up from Mr. Leonard before/after school and during lunch. Seniors must have taken an entrance exam by the end of December for most 4-year universities.

The next SAT being held at Patterson High School will be on October 7th. Deadline to register without a late fee is September 8th. When registering for the SAT make sure you register for **SAT with Essay**

The next ACT will be on October 28th. The ACT testing is not held at Patterson High School. Deadline to register without a late fee is September 22nd. When registering for the ACT make sure you register for **ACT with Writing**.

UC and CSU Application process:

Admissions in both the UC and CSU system give priority to applicants in the individual university's local area. For PHS the universities giving priority to our seniors are CSU, Stanislaus and UC, Merced. Seriously consider applying to these schools if you are interested in attending a 4-year university in the fall of 2018.

Seniors planning to apply to universities in the CSU system can begin filling out their application on October 1st at calstate.edu/apply. Application Fee waivers are determined by the application software. Fee waiver can be used for up to 4 CSU applications.

Seniors planning to apply to universities in the UC system can begin filling out their application on August 1st at <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/apply-online/index.html>. The application cannot be submitted until November 1st. Application fee waivers are determined by the application software. Fee waiver can be used for up to 4 UC applications.

Deadline for both UC and CSU applications is November 30, 2017 at midnight

UC and CSU Application workshop: There will be representatives on campus to assist seniors with their applications to UC or CSU or both. Sign ups will be available in the Counseling office starting in August for UC and September for CSU. Those signing up for one or both workshops must complete an in-lieu slip and turn it into attendance no later than the day before the application workshop. Minimum Academic GPA for applying to UC is 3.0 and CSU is 2.0.

California State University (CSU) Application Workshop - Thursday October 3rd during Advisory period
University of California (UC) Application Workshop - Thursday September 7th during 2nd and 3rd period

EOP: The UC and CSU Educational Opportunity Programs are designed for low income and historically disadvantaged students. The program provides admission assistance (CSU only) and support services (UC and CSU) to succeed in college. Qualified and interested students will need to submit a separate application to each UC or CSU campus. Teacher letter recommendations are required for this program.

Teacher/Counselor Recommendations: There are applications and scholarships that will ask you for one or more teacher recommendations. Please ask your teacher or counselor at **least 2 weeks before** you need the recommendation letter. When asking the teacher or counselor you should be ready to give them a paper listing your accomplishments, information about your academic interests and anything else that will help them to write a good recommendation letter for you.

College Preview/Open House Days: Opportunity for you and your parents to visit colleges you are submitting an application for admission. You will need to complete online registration for event on the university's webpage

CSU, Cal Maritime - October 28, 2017 from 8:00 to 2:00pm

CSU, Chico - October 21, 2017 from 9:00am to 2:00pm

CSU Channel Islands - has several saturday preview days starting at 10:00am - Sept. 16 & 23, Oct. 7 & 21 and Nov. 18

CSU, Dominguez Hills - October 14, 2017

CSU, East Bay - October 14, 2017 from 8am to 12pm

CSU, Sacramento - October 14, 2017

CSU, Stanislaus - October 14, 2017 from 9:00am to 1:00pm

UC Irvine - October 28, 2017

MJC: Modesto Junior College will be hosting their College Night on Wednesday August 30, 2017 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm outside the Center for Advanced Technologies and the Student Services Buildings on the East Campus. Representatives from UCs, CSUs and other 4-year colleges/universities will be present to answer questions about their schools.

Website Resources:

www.connection.naviance.com/patternsons - PHS Naviance website

www.twitter.com/phs_counseling - PHS Counseling twitter account

www.calstate.edu/apply - California State University website

www/admission.universityofcalifornia.edu - University of California website

sat.collegeboard.com - Registration and resources for SAT

actstudent.org - Registration and resources for ACT

www.khanacademy.org - SAT test prep and academic subject tutoring

www.californiacolleges.edu - website for california colleges exploration and planning

www.fsastudentaid.ed.gov - website on financial aid

www.fastweb.com - Scholarship search

www.icanaffordcollege.com - California Community College financial aid website

bigfuture.collegeboard.org - College Board college search, planning, financial aid and scholarship website