



CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL

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Date: September 23, 2019
To: SENIOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS
From: CHS Guidance Counselors: Janet Beitelspacher-Auer (509.769.5589, janet@csdk12.org), Jeff Briney (509.769.5517, brineyj@csdk12.org), and Kathi Carlson (509.769.5595, carlsonk@csdk12.org)
RE: SENIOR INFORMATION

SENIOR GRADUATION CEREMONY: The 2020 CHS Graduation Ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 6th, at **2:00 pm** at the Lewis-Clark State College Activity Center. **PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE!**

SENIOR PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION MEETING: We will have a Senior Parent/Guardian Information Meeting on Monday, September 30th, from **6:30-7:45 pm** in the CHS Auditorium. We will be discussing important items pertaining to your student's senior year and beyond, please see agenda below. Please be sure to mark your calendar!

AGENDA

6:30-7:30 pm Senior Information by CHS Counselors
7:30-7:45 pm Class of 2019 Safe and Sober Graduation Party

FINANCIAL AID/FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) COMPLETION WORKSHOPS: The FAFSA for the 2020-21 school year will open on October 1, 2019. It is very important that seniors and their parents/guardians complete the FAFSA for any post-secondary education as soon as possible. Colleges and universities will not award any financial assistance to students who do not have a FAFSA on file. College Bound students are required to complete the FAFSA in order to remain eligible. Please go to www.fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm for an overview of the FAFSA process – including how to get your FSA ID number, which is required for FAFSA completion. **We have TWO FAFSA Completion Workshops scheduled -- Wednesday, October 2nd, and Thursday, October 24th, in the CHS Library from 6:00-8:00 pm for help with FAFSA completion. Both students and parents/guardians will have to create an FSA ID beforehand, which can be done at fsaid.ed.gov, and parents/guardians will need their 2018 tax information. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** It can take up to 48 hours to have your FSA ID verified once you apply – please make sure you allow yourself enough time to obtain everything you need (FSA ID and tax information) before our FAFSA Completion Workshop on October 2nd and/or October 24th.**

SENIOR GRADUATION ORDERS: Seniors will receive their graduation information order packets from Herff Jones by Wednesday, October 2nd, through their senior Government classes. (If your senior is not enrolled in a CHS Gov't class, please have him/her stop by the Guidance Office for a packet). The order packet includes information on graduation caps, gowns, tassels, stoles, announcements, class rings, etc. There are many great graduation options to choose from through Herff Jones! **The items REQUIRED for the graduation ceremony are the cap, gown, tassel and stole which is listed as item #26 on Herff Jones' order form for \$42.95. If your senior is using a borrowed black cap and black gown, you MUST still order and purchase the graduation tassel and stole from Herff Jones in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Herff Jones will be in the CHS cafeteria on Wednesday, October 16th, during lunch (11:10-11:45 pm) and again that evening from 5:00-6:30 pm (during our CHS College Fair, see info below) to collect all order forms and payments. This is the ONLY day that Herff Jones will be at CHS for collection. Please note that CHS does NOT collect the orders/payments, you must go through the Herff Jones Company. See your senior's graduation order packet for details.**

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CHS COLLEGE FAIR: WSU's GEAR UP Program will be hosting a college fair on Wednesday, October 16th, from 5:00-7:30 pm in the CHS cafeteria. This event will include a college fair, breakout sessions, and a free pizza dinner. Mark your calendars for October 16th!

SPOKANE NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR 2019: The Spokane National College Fair will be held on Tuesday, November 5th, from 9:00 am – noon AND 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the Spokane Convention Center. This is NOT a school sponsored activity and transportation will NOT be provided, but we do want to make our parents/guardians and students aware of this opportunity.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN REQUIREMENTS:

Check the 2019-20 Registration and Planning Guidebook on our website (chs.csd12.org), listed under "Student Resources", then "Registration Information") for these requirements and updates.

STATE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2020: If your student took a state assessment exam last spring at CHS, those results are included in this mailing (spring 2019).

Students in the Class of 2020 must pass the following state assessments in order to graduate:

1. Smarter Balanced Assessment for Math (SBA Math)
2. Smarter Balanced Assessment for English Language Arts (SBA ELA)

Students in the Class of 2020 must also have attempted the state science assessment in order to graduate.

For Students Who Have Not Yet Passed All State Assessments: Parents/guardians of students needing to retake an exam(s), as well as the students themselves, will be notified prior to testing with the exact testing date(s) and time(s). **There will be a meeting held in January for students who have not yet passed all their state assessments and their parents – details of this meeting will be advertised in early January.** All state assessments will be administered this spring.

SENIOR PRESENTATION AND PORTFOLIO: Each senior must successfully complete his/her Senior Presentation and Portfolio (including a PowerPoint presentation) in order to graduate. Seniors will be **ASSIGNED** a date and time on either May 5th or May 6th to present their pre-approved senior portfolio and presentation. If you have any questions, please contact Inga McCarter at (509) 758-5591.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: The daily school bulletin is available on our website at chs.csd12.org. Important student announcements are made through our daily bulletin and it is very beneficial for our parents/guardians as well. We encourage all parents and guardians to read our daily bulletin.

YEARBOOK INFORMATION: The senior individual picture, baby picture, and quote must be submitted electronically/digitally to bantamyearbook@gmail.com no later than Friday, November 22nd, for the yearbook. (All pictures should be vertical.) If you have questions, please contact Debbie Lynch at (509) 758-5591.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS: The SAT/ACT exams are mandatory college entrance exams for students planning on attending a four-year college or university. Students are not required to take both the SAT and ACT, but can take both if he/she chooses to do so. Students must register online for these exams. The SAT costs \$49.50 and the SAT with essay costs \$64.50. The ACT with writing costs \$68.00 and the basic ACT costs \$52.00. If a student qualifies for free/reduced lunch, he/she will qualify for a fee waiver – see your guidance counselor for the waiver. To register (including information regarding registration deadlines, test dates, and practice tests) go to:

- SAT - sat.org/register (College Board High School Code = 480-205, Clarkston Test Center = 48-113/*Note: CHS is NOT a testing site for the August and June SAT Exams*)
- ACT - www.actstudent.org (High School Code = 480-205)

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FOR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES and SCHOLARSHIPS: The two-sided senior information form attached must be completed and returned to the Guidance Office by Friday, October 18th. Senior students who fail to complete and return the form will not get a counselor's letter of recommendation for college applications or scholarships. **In addition, students must give their counselor ONE WEEK'S NOTICE for a letter of recommendation.**

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION: Scholarship information is updated as we receive the information. The scholarship listing is based upon last year's opportunities and is updated (deadlines, etc.) as we receive notification, including adding any new scholarship opportunities that we are made aware of. Scholarship information is available online at chs.csd12.org (under "Parent Resources" and "Student Resources"). The scholarship listing will be updated by November – it currently lists last year's opportunities/deadlines.

SENIOR INFORMATION

This form (2-sided) must be completed and returned to the Guidance Office by October 18th. IMPORTANT: Without this completed form, you will not get a counselor's letter of recommendation for college applications or scholarships. In addition, you must give your counselor ONE WEEK'S NOTICE for a letter of recommendation.

Student Name: _____ Cell Number: _____

Parent Name: _____ Cell Number: _____

Colleges you are applying for:

1st Choice and Why –

2nd Choice and Why –

3rd Choice and Why –

College Major:

Do you plan to apply for FAFSA (circle one): YES NO DON'T KNOW

Career Goal:

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Academic Honors and Awards:

Activities:

Volunteer Service Activities/Hours:

Comments: