

Date: November 12, 2019
To: JUNIOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS
From: CHS Guidance Counselors Janet Beitelspacher-Auer, Jeff Briney, and Kathi Carlson
RE: JUNIOR INFORMATION

JUNIOR PARENT/GUARDIAN MEETING: We have a junior parent/guardian meeting scheduled for **January 29th from 6:30-7:30 pm in the CHS auditorium.** It is very important that students and parents/guardians attend – there are many important items that we will be discussing, especially those decisions needing to be made for registration and classes for senior year, college requirements, state assessments, etc. Parents/guardians are also welcome to schedule an individual meeting with their student’s guidance counselor. Contact the guidance office at 509-769-5566 if interested in setting up an appointment.

PSAT/NMSQT EXAM: For those junior students who registered for and completed the PSAT/NMSQT Exam on **October 19th,** the results will be available by the end of December. (Students must sign in through their collegeboard.org account to view their results.) Students can use their PSAT/NMSQT Exam results to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses to prepare for the SAT Exam using Khan Academy as a personalized study guide for the SAT Exam. Go to www.khanacademy.org. NOTE: PSAT 10 Exam results (from last spring) were handed out this fall through Advisory classes to those juniors who chose to take it last year.

STATE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2021: 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 2021 must pass the following state assessments in order to graduate:

1. Smarter Balanced Assessment for Math (SBA Math) – administered in spring of Gr 10
2. Smarter Balanced Assessment for English Language Arts (SBA ELA) – administered in spring of Gr 10
3. WA Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) – administered in spring of Gr 11

For Students Who Have Not Yet Passed All State Assessments: Jeff Briney, guidance counselor and our state assessment testing coordinator, will be holding a state assessment meeting for parents/guardians of junior students who HAVE NOT YET PASSED their state assessments to discuss options available. The meeting will be held on **January 29th in Lynn Carey’s room** which is in the upper level cafeteria between the bathrooms and the DECA Deli (**rm #724**) **from 6:00-6:30 pm** (right before our junior parent meeting in the auditorium). State assessment testing will be held in the spring, students and parents will be notified prior to testing with the exact retake testing date(s) and time(s).

ASVAB TESTING: Our junior students were administered the ASVAB test in October. The ASVAB Program is designed to determine aptitudes and skills in a variety of areas not generally tested. The program provides high quality career exploration and planning materials at no cost to the high school. **Students will be getting their results during their US History classes on November 18th and 19th.** A military representative will be here to interpret the results and pair them with each student’s interests. Additionally, there will be an access code printed on your student’s score report. We encourage students to use their access code to explore over 400 occupations on www.asvabprogram.com and learn how their skills relate to the occupations of most interest to them.

COLLEGE BOARD AP EXAMS: If your student signed up for an AP Exam (deadline to sign up and pay was Friday, November 7th), the test will be administered in May. Details regarding AP testing including test dates and times, and testing locations will be announced in April.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: The daily school bulletin is available on our website at chs.csdk12.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.

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. **We recommend that students take either the SAT or ACT in the late spring of their junior year and the same exam in the early fall of their senior year.** 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**/SAT testing is available at CHS/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**, ACT testing is available in Lewiston)

COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER HOURS: Reminder – **All students need at least 10 hours per year of community service/volunteering. Students must complete their required 10 hours of service per year by April 1st each year.** Opportunities for community service are posted through our school bulletin. Students who have attended CHS for four years need to have 40 hours of community service by April 1st of their senior year. The form to log volunteer service hours (Citizenship Volunteer Activity Form) can be found on our website under “Student Resources”, then “Senior Presentation Portfolio Materials”, choose “Citizenship Volunteer Activity Form”.

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. Most of the scholarship opportunities on our list pertain to senior students, however, there are some exceptions. Scholarship information is available online at chs.csdk12.org (under “Parent Resources” and “Student Resources”). **The scholarship listing will be updated by mid-November; it currently lists last year’s opportunities/deadlines.**

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA): Students interested in NCAA college participation in sports should be aware of the requirements and forms that must be completed at www.ncaa.org. **Students need to sign up on the eligibility website by junior year and review NCAA eligibility requirements and make their counselor aware that they are interested in obtaining an NCAA Scholarship.**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN REQUIREMENTS:

Check the 2019-20 Registration and Planning Guidebook on our website (chs.csdk12.org) for these requirements and updates. Go to chs.csdk12.org, under “Parent Resources” choose “Registration Information”, then “click here to view the 2019-2020 Registration and Planning Guide”.

WSU GEAR UP PROGRAM TUTORING SUPPORT AND CHS ACADEMIC SUPPORT: The WSU GEAR UP Program is located in the lecture hall in the main building of the CHS campus. GEAR UP tutoring support is available in the GEAR UP room to ALL CHS students during the following times:

- Monday 11:10-11:45 am (lunch)
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:15-7:55 am, 11:10-11:45 am, 2:35-3:10 pm
- Friday 7:15-7:55 am, 11:10-11:45 am

In addition to GEAR UP Program tutoring, this year our students have Advisory every day. On ‘A’ days all students have the opportunity to go to other teachers to make up work and get extra help.

U of I STEM ACCESS UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM: STEM Upward Bound is a federally funded project through the Department of Education. The main purpose of this project is to support and provide STEM knowledge to students who are in need or students who are interested in STEM field careers (science, technology, engineering or math). STEM Access offers school year mentoring/support and summer activities where students learn about numerous STEM careers, college skills, travels, and also earn dual credit in STEM courses. **The STEM Access Upward Bound Program is currently accepting applications** – go to <https://stemaccess.wordpress.com> or pick one up in the CHS guidance office. **The application deadline is December 6, 2019.** If you have questions on this program, email John Ariola at jariol@uidaho.edu or call 208-885-5819.

RaiseMe PROGRAM: RaiseMe is a new program to help make a college education more affordable which was launched with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and US colleges. Students can guarantee scholarships from 250+ colleges as early as 9th grade, making it easier to plan financially for school. RaiseMe has proven to be a great tool to motivate student in high schools throughout the U.S. **As an example, students may:**

- Get an A in a course (\$100-\$1,000)
- Get a B in a course (\$40-\$600)
- Participate in a school club or sport (\$25-\$250)
- And much more!

Here are a couple of easy ways to support your students in using this unique tool:

1. Ensure that you student creates an account at www.raise.me.

2. Encourage your student to regularly add good grades, community service, extracurricular activities, and other achievements to his or her RaiseMe Portfolio to earn micro-scholarships from colleges.
3. Visit www.raise.me/parents for more information.
4. See your CHS guidance counselor if you have any questions.

FREE/REDUCED LUNCH FORMS: As a reminder, **these forms must be completed each year at the beginning of the year during fall registration – but we accept forms at any time during the year after that as well.** There are many other opportunities available to those who qualify for free/reduced lunch as well (SAT/ACT fee waivers, college application fee waivers, etc.).

IF A STUDENT OR FAMILY BECOMES HOMELESS AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR: This may include the need to stay in a: hotel/motel, shelter, car, park, campsite, trailer park, with relatives or friends, etc. The student and/or parent or guardian should contact the student’s guidance counselor at CHS ASAP for possible assistance. [If homelessness occurs in the summer time when CHS is closed, please contact our district office at 509-758-2531 and speak with Rebecca Lockhart or Diane Howell (our “Child in Transition” specialists)].