West Milford Township HS Guidance Newsletter 11/17/23



Captain's Log - The first marking period is over! Hopefully all are off to a great start. If not, it's the perfect time to readjust your sails and do things differently. Take stock in what is working and what is not. Talk with your teachers and get their feedback. Avail yourself of extra help and tutoring opportunities in WMHS and online. It's a fresh marking period - a fresh start! Congratulations to our fall athletes and our marching band for successful seasons. Good luck to our winter athletes. Wishes for success to our actors in the fall play! WMHS is a busy place! Finally Thanksgiving wishes for all as we

head into the holiday week - enjoy the downtime this week will bring.

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE/COUNSELING OFFICE

NATIONAL HISPANIC COLLEGE FAIR



Students are attending the National Hispanic College fair today. This fair, at Montclair University, brings together admissions representatives from colleges across the US looking to recruit students with hispanic or latinx heritage and ethnicity. Our students were excited to go and make connections with reps and learn about possible schools for their future!

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

*Nov. 20, 21 & 22 are Early Dismissal Days.

CONFERENCES



Conferences will be held virtually on Nov. 21. Parents must sign up for an appointment slot - use your Gmail account or your student's school account. Please pick a 5 minute appointment slot. Use the link below to schedule your times.

Please be reminded that there are a limited number of conference time slots - so meet with teachers you feel are essential. If you

have issues with reserving a slot, please email that teacher directly.

Parent Teacher Conference Appointment Link

STUDENT PORTAL



Parents & students are reminded to log in and check their portals regularly.

Not only is this useful for attendance, it helps with monitoring grades. While much information can be found in google classrooms, many teachers only post grades to the portal.

Additionally, the following can found on the portal

- -- Report cards
- -Calendar (which shows upcoming assignments & due dates)
- -Gradebook
- -Daily attendance and attendance per class period (also shows scan history)
- -Attendance letters (warnings, credit withdrawals)
- 504 plan or IEP plan (if applicable to your student)
- -Fines (outstanding fines for books, cafeteria, etc)
- -Food Services (including account information, purchase history, online payment)
- -Application for free & reduced lunch (students qualified for free/reduced lunch can also get fee waivers for SAT/ACT tests, reduced cost for AP tests, and fee waivers for college applications)
- -Transportation information (bus pass, bus stop, snow stop)

If you have forgotten your password or need assistance with your portal, please email portalhelp@wmtps.org.

ATTENDANCE

Parents must call in all absences on 973-697-1701 x7372

- Parents and Students- please be sure to check attendance regularly on the portal. This will help to find differences quickly.
 - To find your **daily** attendance, go to the "Attendance" tab on the portal menu
 - To find your absences **per period**, go to "Period Attendance" on the portal menu. Change the month to see the full year so far.
- Doctor's notes should be brought to the guidance office or emailed to pamela.fenning@wmtps.org.
- Make sure your student emails their teachers and checks the Google Classrooms for any missed work.
- If you have been contacted by the attendance team for a meeting, please respond ASAP. Too many students are already in danger of losing credit for excessive absences. Work with us to turn this around & to help you improve your attendance if it has become a problem.

SENIORS - ON SITE DECISION DAY

December 7 during school hours - SIGN UP now to get your spot reserved! Don't miss this opportunity!

Transcript Requests & Applications for On Site are due on November 29th

27 confirmed colleges participating! 22 are offering free application or a fee waiver (to get you a free application) 4 NJ Community Colleges! 17 NJ Colleges! 6 out of state colleges from 4 different states. All 3 NCAA athletics levels.

Plus trade programs (degree & certificates) are offered at several of the participating colleges (the four county colleges, Berkeley, Johnson & Wales, Lincoln tech) including programs in HVAC, welding, culinary, automotives, fires science, diesel, electrical lineworker, optics technology, horticulture and MORE.

See the list of participating colleges at the end of this newsletter. Click here to learn more about this signature program that has been a WMHS staple for 28 years. ON SITE DECISION DAY FAQS



⇒SENIORS - APPLICATION HELP

Seniors - There are tables in the guidance office open for you to come work on college applications! Bring your Chromebook - come during lunch or a study or after school - and work on applications (Common App, individual college app, SRAR -student reported grades required by some colleges, NCAA registration). It

is STRONGLY SUGGESTED you work on applications and SRAR here in case you have questions. Working in our office gives you direct access to us for questions or help. Come on down & work in a relaxed environment - we are here to help!

⇒SENIORS - IMPORTANT DEADLINES FOR TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS



This is the date the transcript form MUST BE RECEIVED to ensure your materials get to the college by the college's deadline.

Application deadline

December 1

December 15

On Site Decision Day

January 1

Date Request Form due to counselor

This deadline has passed

November 27

November 29

December 8

- Transcript request form. This is required to enable your school counselor to send your transcript and letters of recommendation to the requested colleges. You must submit one for EACH school to which you apply. This form is to be completed by the student.
- If you have not had a SENIOR MEETING with your counselor you need to schedule one ASAP. Please also complete the <u>Senior Planning Survey</u> to get a Senior meeting.

⇒SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



The NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associated Disorders, Inc. (NJCTS) is proud to announce the 2024 scholarship awards to graduating New Jersey high school seniors diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome or another tic disorder.

Established in 2004, the NJCTS Youth Scholarship Program has awarded more than 350 scholarships to graduating high school seniors in every corner of New Jersey. Eligible applicants must be:

- Diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome or another tic disorder from a qualified medical practitioner.
- A resident of the State of New Jersey.
- A high school senior in a private, public, or home school.
- Planning to attend a college or trade school on a part-time or full-time basis in Fall 2024.

Here is a link to the application: **NJCTS Youth Scholarship Program**



⇒SCHOLARSHIP SERVICES

FAST WEB GOING MERRY

All students (not just seniors!) should have accounts with these two free scholarship services - these organizations will seek out scholarships you may qualify for. Going Merry actually allows you to do one application that can be applied to multiple scholarships. Check them out & register for a free account!

SENIOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Student athletes please be reminded - verbal offers from college coaches are neither binding nor official. If you have not yet been admitted to the college, the offer is pending - pending acceptance. A coach cannot and should not "guarantee admission". Students are admitted by admissions not athletics. Students pursuing NCAA D1, NCAA D2, or NAIA must also meet academic eligibility.





BRAINFUSE TUTORING AT THE WEST MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Homework Help Interact with live tutors in math, science, reading/writing, social studies, PSAT/SAT, ACT, AP and state standardized tests.

- Skills-Building Choose your topic to receive real-time help.
- **Personalized eLearning Tools** My File Sharing, My Session Replay, My Tutoring Archive, My Tests Archive, and more!
- 24-Hour Writing Lab Submit essays and other forms of writing for constructive feedback.
- Homework Send Question Submit homework questions for expert guidance.

For more information on Brainfuse Tutoring - <u>Brainfuse Tutoring at the WM library</u> To access Brainfuse - click here: <u>BRAINFUSE TUTORING</u>



⇒REMINDERS

- ATTENDANCE COUNTS!
- Make sure you are following our Guidance Google Classrooms! A Classroom has been set up for each grade level and all students have been invited. Please be sure to accept the invitation. We regularly post information, FAQs, documents, and opportunities!
- All students must have a parking pass to park at WMHS during the school day. If you need a parking pass, please go to the assistant principals' office.
- Working papers are now done online here is the link to get working papers: <u>NJ WORKING PAPERS</u>
- CHECK YOUR EMAIL EVERY DAY! Students should check email at minimum daily and RESPOND when asked questions.

Follow us on social media!

@wmguidance on Twitter@GerischMrs on Twitter@Ms_Csengeto_WM on Twitter





COLLEGE BOARD "REAL TALK" EVENTS

Real Talk, the College Board virtual event series for Black students and their parents, is back! Real Talk is a career and college exploration initiative designed to connect Black students and families with Black professionals and representatives from colleges and access organizations across the country. We empower Black students to own their future, their way.

Here is the schedule of presentations - they are free but you must register

Dec. 5 8-9 pm How I Won a \$40,000 Big Future Scholarship

Dec. 12 8-9 pm Let's Talk \$\$\$: Filling Out the FAFSA

Past presentations are available on demand at the site as well.

Click here to register and get more details: **REAL TALK EVENTS**

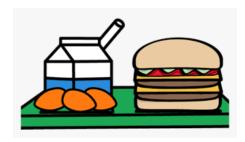
⇒NATIONAL PORTFOLIO DAYS

Visit with counselors, admissions team members, and faculty from art & design schools for review of your portfolio before applying to colleges & universities. Registration required! Links include details about schools attending & location (in person) & virtual (online)



December 3	Virtual	12 pm - 4 pm	Link to Register
January 7	Virtual	12 pm - 4 pm	Link to Register
May 4	Virtual	12 pm - 4 pm	Link to Register

INFORMATION & RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES



CAFETERIA BALANCES

We have a number of students who are accruing negative cafeteria balances. You can check the status of your student(s) cafeteria balance on the Parent Portal. If you would like to set up automatic payments please use this link <u>Pay Schools Central</u>. If you have any questions or need to make a payment by check please contact

michelle.marrapodi@wmtps.org

If your family may qualify for free or reduced lunch, please click this tab and file the necessary papers. <u>Free</u> & <u>Reduced lunch application</u> You can also apply for free & reduced lunch on the parent portal.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRY INFORMATION

Click the links below for information

West Milford Presbyterian Church Pantry

St. Joseph's Church Food Pantry

Our Lady Queen of Peace - (contact Linda Ziemba on 973-728-8211 for more information)

Living Word Church Food Pantry

Crossroads Community Food Pantry at Holy Faith Lutheran Church

Center for Food Action (Ringwood)

Other resources

NJ SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

NJ WIC (Women, Infants & Children)



Affordable health coverage. Quality care.

NJ FAMILY CARES

As of January 1, 2023, children under 19 may now apply for NJ FamilyCare regardless of their immigration status. All other requirements for NJ FamilyCare still apply. Visit NJ FAMILY CARE to learn more.

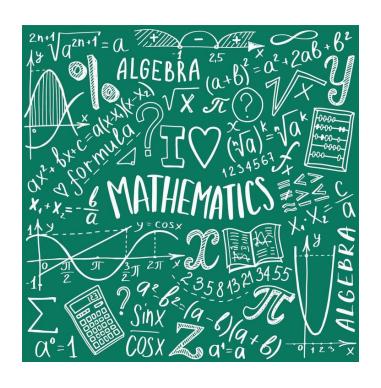
NJ FamilyCare - New Jersey's publicly funded health insurance program - includes CHIP, Medicaid and Medicaid expansion populations. That means qualified NJ residents of any age may be eligible for free or low-cost healthcare coverage that covers doctor visits, prescriptions, vision, dental care, mental health and substance use services, and even hospitalization.

If you are a NJ resident and you need <u>more information</u> on this program, please read through the pages of this website and see how to become a member of NJ FamilyCare.

Individuals ineligible for NJ FamilyCare can find information on other insurance affordability programs at www.getcovered.nj.gov.

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Do YOU need help with your MATH?

FREE MATH Help is available here:

Per1 Mr. Heerschap in HRC

Per2 Ms. Gennett in CAFE

Per4 Mrs. Downs in CAFE

Per5 Mrs. Nikinas *in CAFE*

Per7 Mrs. Wojcik in Lower Library

Per8 Mrs. N in Lower Library





NHS TUTORING AFTER SCHOOL

MONDAYS IN ROOM 124 WEDNESDAYS IN ROOM 123

Please see Mrs. LoRe in room 124 or Mrs. Petrosillo in room 123

to sign up to BE tutored. NO Drop-ins this year.



ON SITE DECISION DAY 2023

DECEMBER 7TH DURING SCHOOL HOURS

- Bergen Community College
- Berkeley College
- Caldwell University
- Centenary University
- County College of Morris
- Drew University
- East Stroudsburg University
- Fairleigh Dickinson University
- Felician University
- Georgian Court University
- Iona University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Kean University
- Kutztown University
- Lincoln Technical Institute

- Montclair State University
- Monmouth University
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Passaic County Community College
- Quinnipiac University
- Ramapo College
- Rider University
- Sacred Heart University
- Seton Hall University
- Stockton University
- Sussex County Community College
- University of New Haven
- William Paterson University

See Ms. Lambert to register



Be a part of the team where our mission is to enhance the lives our our Team. our Quests and our Partners by building lasting connections!

Positions Include:

Lift Operators Food & Beverage Ski & Snowboard Instructors Rentals and more!

Guest Experience **Snow Tubing**



SCAN TO APPLY!



MEET A CADET AND MIDSHIPMAN FORUM

The Office of Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill is hosting a forum with one current student from the U.S. Naval Academy and one current student from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, who will talk about their experiences attending a service academy and answer questions from interested students and parents.

Please RSVP at this link https://forms.gle/dWIUFhDcLHYJRkoVA or by emailing NJIIAcademy@mail.house.gov.



Monday, Nov. 20, 2023



6:30 PM



Chatham Borough Hall 54 Fairmount Ave Chatham, NJ

For More Information:



(973) 526-5668



NJIIAcademy@mail.house.gov





TCNJ BONNER COMMUNITY SCHOLARS

ACCESS TO EDUCATION,
OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

BONNER PROGRAM OPEN TO STUDENTS WITH A STRONG DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

EARLY DEADLINE DECEMBER 4 AT 5PM GENERAL DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15 AT 5PM

APPLICATIONS OPEN
NOVEMBER 1

BENEFITS OF BONNER

- 50%-100% TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FOR IN-STATE STUDENTS
- SERVICE TRIPS AROUND THE US
- 18,000+ ALUMNI NETWORK
- ACTIVE STUDENT CONNECTIONS ACROSS CAMPUS

Scan Here





Email bonner@tcnj.edu or visit cce.tcnj.edu for more information



Are you heading off to higher education? If so, we want to help you!

At S.A.F.E., we strive to help students heading off to further their education. Whether you're heading off to college, university, trade school, or what have you... we can offer assistance!

In just three simple steps, you can be considered to receive a number of items to help ease your transition into higher education.

- 1. Submit your application
- 2. Obtain a Letter of Recommendation and send it to us*

SOME ITEMS WE OFFER

- Sheets
- Microwaves
- Commute Assistance
- **Book Buying**
- Toiletries
- Backpacks
- Bath Towels and Washcloths
 Whiteboard Calendar
- Lab Fees
- Desk supplies

- Pillows
- Over-The-Door-Mirror
- Keurig
- Cleaning Supplies
- Grocery Store Gift Cards
- Planners
- Pens/Pencils
- Comforter

Scan the code below to view our website, apply, and more!



Email: safe@startupassistanceeducation.org Website: startupassistanceeducation.org

*Letters of Recommendation must be from a teacher or school professional. Those from family, friends, or otherwise will not be viewed.

MY THANKSGIVING WISHES FOR YOU:

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May every day of your life bring you sweet smiles, kind words and warm hugs.

May you realize how important you are in the lives of all who know you and care about you.

May you take time each day to see the beauty and joy that's all around you...