Winchester Community High School
Senior Bulletin #1
September 2022

Welcome to your Senior Year at WCHS!

It's here! You're finally a senior! The end is in sight! Your year as a senior will be one of *endings* and *beginnings*. Several things will come to an end: your daily school routine, your involvement in clubs, sports teams, and performing groups, and your high school academic journey. At the same time, your life after high school is just beginning! You'll have new schools and new jobs. Some will move away to new homes. You'll make new friends and be involved in new groups. As an adult, you'll have new privileges and new responsibilities within your community. Life will never be the same again.

A huge part of our role in the Guidance Office at WCHS is to help you *end well* as you wrap up your time among us at WCHS, and *begin well* as you transition into your life beyond high school. These 2022-23 Senior Newsletters will help us communicate some important information to you as you make this transition.

What Comes Next?

A lot of you have already been considering what you'll do after high school. You're looking into potential jobs, careers, and further education. This month's newsletter will focus in seeking further education, as several deadlines are approaching quickly and have to be addressed to transition successfully into college.

Here are some steps to help guide you through the process of seeking further education:

Step 1: Ask: "What do I want?"

a. **Curriculum** – What do I want to study? What will my major be? Which colleges, universities, or technical schools are the best at what I want to study?
b. **Style of Education** – How much contact do I want with my professors? Do I prefer online and virtual learning, or is being on-campus more important?
c. **Size** – Am I interested in attending a large or small school?
d. **Admission Requirements** - What does the school require for admission? Can I meet those requirements?
e. **Facilities and Services** – What would I like to see on or near my school's campus?
f. **Campus Life** – How is life outside the classroom? What organizations, clubs, community organizations, etc. are available?
g. **Campus Security** – What steps has the campus taken to provide a safe and secure environment, day and night? What is the community like?
h. **Athletics** – Does the school offer intramural and varsity sports?
i. **Housing and Resources** – Availability and quality of dorm life, public transportation if needed, food services, etc.? Am I able to commute from home if I wish?
j. **Cost** – How much can I (and/or my family) afford? How much financial aid is offered by the school?
k. **This Form** can help you with this process: College Compare Sheet

Step 2: Make a list (or two… or five…) to help you decide which school(s) to investigate.

a. Compare the pros and cons of each school on your list.
b. Group school choices by your chance of being admitted.
c. Make your final list.

d. Get organized and be systematic in your approach – be sure to follow guidelines and meet deadlines. Turn applications into the guidance office early to allow time for processing.
e. Seek the advice of people you trust to help make these decisions. ***Do NOT*** try to make it alone! You don't have to.

Step 3: Visit Schools – It is important to visit campuses, either in person if available or virtually if in-person visits are not available. It is very important to get a feel for the campus and see if the environment is a 'fit' for you, before committing. Get the most of out of an in-person or virtual college visit by doing the following:

a. **Prepare** for the visit – decide ahead of time what you want to learn about the school and put together a list of questions.
b. Visit while classes are **in session**!
c. **Schedule** your visit at least one week in advance. Call the admissions office or explore the admissions website to arrange your visit and inquire about campus tours
d. Schedule interviews or appointments with an **admissions counselor**, and try to arrange to meet with professors or faculty who teach in your area of interest.
e. Meet with a **financial aid officer**. Ask about scholarship and financial aid packages. Ask about the 'real' cost of attending their school, including housing, fees, meal plans, etc.
f. **Tour** the campus. If the school offers a guided tour, take advantage of it; you will always learn something new, even if on a familiar campus!
g. **Ask** lots of questions – This is your chance to discover things that you will learn no other way!
h. Trust your instincts and **take notes**. Pay attention to how you feel and especially to your first impressions. Is this where you want to live and study for four years?
i. Talk to current students! Ask about their experiences.

Take advantage of school websites and other related websites. A good state resource is www.learnmoreindiana.org which has career interest surveys, career surveys, college and university courses of study, admissions planning, and more. You can also check out http://www.indianacollegecosts.org/ for more information related to paying for college.

Scholarships

Below are some scholarship opportunities we know about. Check back regularly: this list is always growing and changing!

QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship

The QuestBridge College Prep Scholars program application opens later this month. This is an opportunity that can get your foot in the door with the Questbridge Program for the college match next year.

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This program offers you the opportunity to attend a college summer program at schools like Yale, Emory, UChicago, and more at no cost to you. Additionally, funds are available to purchase a laptop, receive personalized college essay feedback, and other guidance.

This is an opportunity for students with excellent grades and quality involvement. Your family must make $65,000 or less as a family of four annually to be eligible.

Check out this link for more information and feel free to visit me if you have any questions.

https://www.questbridge.org/high-school-students/college-prep-scholars

Indiana University Bloomington Wells Scholars Program
The IU Bloomington Wells Scholars Program nominations are open. If you are interested in attending IU Bloomington please let either Mr. Hendrickson or Mrs. Winkle know so we can consider you for nomination.

National Young Arts Foundation
National YoungArts Foundation identifies the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, and performing arts, and provides them with creative and professional opportunities throughout their careers. To apply or learn more visit www.youngarts.org

School Specific Scholarships
Many schools offer specific scholarships for students, both merit and need-based. Visit school websites and talk to schools' financial aid offices to find out what opportunities are available to you.

Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation
The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is awarding $3.55 million to over 1,400 students. Go to www.coca-colascholars.org to learn more and apply. **Deadline: October 31, 2022.**

Heisman High School Scholarship
The Heisman High School Scholarship program honors hundreds of the nation's most accomplished, community-minded high school senior athletes each year. This year, the college scholarship amounts have been doubled, increasing support for each student-athlete's education. The program will recognize a winner from each high school that has student participation. The top male and female applicants from each state will be awarded $1,000. State winners will move on for the chance to become a national finalist and win at least $2,000. Of the national finalists, a male and a female will be selected as the winner of the **$10,000 National Heisman High School Scholarship**. To learn more and apply visit www.heismanscholarship.com

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Horatio Alger Scholarships
The Horatio Alger Association honors the achievements of outstanding individuals in our society who have succeeded despite adversity and who are committed to supporting young people in pursuit of increased opportunities through higher education. To learn more and apply visit www.scholars.horatioalger.org **Deadlines are different for each scholarship. Visit their website now to identify which scholarships you are interested in and note their individual deadlines.**

CREATE YOUR FEDERAL STUDENT AID ACCOUNT NOW!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) goes live on October 1st. The first step to completing it is to create an account. A video explaining how to create your Federal Student ID can be found by clicking **HERE.**

General Information

INvested College Planning Guide:
The INvested College Planning Guide is now available in the front office, ask Mr. Hendrickson for a copy. INvested is a free resource to help you plan to continue your education from choosing a plan of study to paying for college.

March2Success:
March2Success provides an online study program to help students prepare for standardized tests, improve your schoolwork, and review materials. To learn more visit www.march2success.com

CollegeBoard, SAT:
Register for the SAT, access SAT prep materials and more at www.collegeboard.org

ACT:
Register for the ACT, access ACT prep materials, and more at www.act.org

Indiana College Cost Estimator:
This is a comprehensive website for colleges and universities in Indiana. On this website, you can put in your family's financial information and see how much each school will cost you after financial aid is factored in. This is a great website to see how much college will actually cost. Visit www.indianacollegecosts.org to learn more.

Individual school scholarship calculators: Some colleges and universities offer online scholarship finders such as this one at Ball State:
https://www.bsu.edu/admissions/financial-aid-and-scholarships/scholarship-calculator

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Simply enter your information about high school class rank, GPA, and SAT/ACT scores and they calculate which school scholarships you qualify for.

College entrance exams:

If you're planning on going to college, it's a good idea to take either the ACT, SAT or both. While the tests are *not currently required* for admission into most universities in Indiana, many of them award scholarships based on ACT and/or SAT scores. Taking the test can result in money for college!

2022-2023 ACT Schedule

ACT Test Date	**Registration Deadline**	**Late Registration Deadline (Fee)**
October 22, 2022	September 16, 2022	October 14, 2022
December 10, 2022	November 4, 2022	November 11, 2022
February 11, 2023	January 6, 2023	January 20, 2023
April 15, 2023	March 10, 2023	March 24, 2023
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	June 2, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	July 7, 2023

2022-2023 SAT Schedule

SAT Test Date	**Registration Deadline**	**Late Registration Deadline (Fee)**
November 5, 2022	October 7, 2022	October 25, 2022
December 3, 2022	November 3, 2022	November 22, 2022
March 11, 2023	February 10, 2023	February 28, 2023
May 6, 2023	April 7, 2023	April 25, 2023

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June 3 2023	May 4, 2023	May 23, 2023