TWO MINUTES # 1 11 September 2025

12 FOR SENIORS ONLY

GET EARLY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS COMPLETED NOW!! Request electronic transcripts if Possible through **Parchment**. Use "**Parchment**" and/or "**Common Application**" if possible for college applications. All applications should be done by November. Only 2 months to get them done!

<u>FAFSA – THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID</u> is now a <u>required step for students to earn a diploma</u> from an Illinois High School. WCHS will be having a workshop later this semester (around December) to help parents with filling out the form. For more information, go to the Financial Aid/FAFSA tab under WCHS Counselor's Corner on the **High School** website. Students and parents can <u>get started</u> by creating an FSA ID by going to https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm. This year's FAFSA application will be available around <u>December</u>.

<u>GET YOUR INOCULATION/SHOT RECORDS UP TO DATE</u>. Check with your physician, health department and/or WCHS to make sure you have all shot records in ONE location and ready to deliver to the college of your choice.

<u>Highland Career and College Fairs</u>. I will be taking seniors to the career fair on November 12 and the College Fair on October 17th. Both are at Highland Community College. **All seniors are expected to attend one of the fairs or both**. There will be a sign-up for which Fair you plan to attend.

- 11-12 <u>US SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM</u> is available for junior and senior students who are currently serving in an elected capacity in student government with the intention to take government courses in college. Two students from the state of Illinois will be selected to experience U.S. government in Washington D.C. Applications are due by **October 3**. For application, please go to the following website https://www.isbe.net/Pages/United-States-Senate-Youth-Program-Hearst-Scholarship.aspx
- 9-12 **FIRST QUARTER** comes to an end on **October 24**. While we have just started school this year, please remember quarters go fast! Are you doing the best you can?
- 9-12 <u>IXL</u> West Carroll High School has begun using IXL with students. IXL is a great program that helps students prepare for standardized tests such as the ACT. All students are required to complete two IXL sessions on average per week. If a student finishes three IXL sessions on average per week, they may be allowed to skip one final per semester.
- ASVAB will be given to <u>ALL JUNIORS</u> on Thursday, <u>October 16, at 8:15 AM 11:30 AM</u>. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery will be administered at the high school. The most important feature of this test is that it can help students find out what occupations may be a good fit for them. Plus, the results can be used if they are interested in serving in the military.
- 11-12 CHECK COLLEGE WEBSITES FOR VISIT DAYS AND OPEN HOUSE OPPORTUNITIES.
- 11-12 <u>SCHOLARSHIP UP-DATE</u> Most local scholarships are not due until February, March, or April. For students who are looking to get a head start, the scholarships page on the school website, located in the Counselor's Corner, is a great resource to start with. There are national scholarships that students can apply for, listed on the website. Other great places to check for scholarships are <u>scholarships.com</u> and <u>scholarships.org</u>.

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- 10-12 <u>NHS SELECTION PROCESS</u> Are you interested in joining the National Honor Society? If so, please click on the link to learn more about the process. <u>NHS Selection Process</u>. Please make sure you have read and understand the steps you need to take in order to be considered for the NHS!
- 11-12 ARE YOU AN 18-YEAR-OLD MALE? If you are, you must register with the Selective Service. You can register as early as 17 years and 3 months old. You are required by law to register. By doing so, you will be eligible for student loans and grants, job training, and government jobs, as well as avoiding a 5-year prison sentence and up to \$250,000 fine. Register at the post office, driver's licensing facility, or online at https://www.sss.gov/.
- 9-12 <u>XELLO CAREER EXPLORATION</u> Not sure what career you want to pursue? Hit the <u>XELLO</u> button on "Counselor's Corner". Here you can explore your own personal career options. Using your own interests, personality type, and learning style, this program will help you explore careers that match your wants and needs. It will help you decide what type of training you will need, whether it is "On the Job Training" or Post-High School education in a college of some sort. With this program, you get to be in the driver's seat.