

Broadway High School
Counseling Department Newsletter
June 2016

Work Readiness Information
Opportunities

Local Training

College/Financial Aid Information

A Note To Parents...

Dear BHS Parent,

During the Junior and Senior years it is important to begin seriously planning for life after high school. In this newsletter the Counseling Department has tried to provide you with information that will help your student to plan the next best step, whether it is for full time work or to pursue further education or training.

Students who expect to pursue further education need to pay particular attention to requirements. Parents of this group are encouraged to carefully monitor your son's/daughter's responsibilities concerning form completion and meeting deadlines.

The Counseling Office at BHS is willing to assist you and your student at any time. We welcome your calls.

Sincerely,

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NAVIANCE

Welcome to Naviance. Rockingham County Public School provides students and parents a new tool to assist in career and college planning. Through Naviance’s Family Connection, students will be able to:

Research careers that match a student’s interests and strengths

Develop a resume

Research post-secondary education options that match a student’s career goals

Research colleges and submit requests for transcripts to be send electronically

Explore scholarship opportunities

Track the college application submission process

Learn about upcoming college representatives visits to BHS

- Naviance is a website that brings together career planning, course planning for high school, and post-secondary education and/or training.
- Naviance provides a central location that allows students to develop a plan for success where the student is actively involved in setting goals and evaluating progress toward these goals.
- Naviance serves as a communication tool between students, parents, counselors, and teachers so that all can contribute to the implementation of the success plans.

Students will learn ways to use Naviance in classroom guidance throughout the school year. Students may access Naviance at www.connection.naviance.com/broadway . The username and password for Naviance will be the same as the student’s Powerschool username and password. More information will be added to the program throughout the school year.

CAREER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Getting ready for life after high school, is an ongoing process. Some students will choose to work full time upon graduation while others will go on for further education. Broadway High School offers courses in Agriculture, Business, Marketing, Technology and Work and Family Studies. Additionally, BHS offers the Marketing cooperative training that allows students to “earn while they learn in a marketing/retail field.” A Co-op program requires a class and early release from school to allow time for the job.

Massanutten Technical Center (MTC) offers training in many areas. The following are programs available to sophomores, juniors and seniors (* = dual enrollments credits possible):

Architecture & Interior Design*	Dental Assistant*	Masonry/Decorative Concrete*
Automotive Technology*	Diesel Truck Technology*	Practical Nursing* (12 th)
Carpentry*	Electricity*	Restaurant Careers*
Collision Repair*	Engineering Technology*	Veterinary Assistant*
Computer Repair A+/Networking	Fire and Rescue*	Visual Effects/3D Animation*
Cosmetology	Health Careers*	Welding and Metalwork*
Criminal Justice*	Heating & Air Conditioning*	

Military

Branches of the armed services visit Broadway on a regular basis, usually during lunch periods. They provide students with information pertaining to further education and job training available through the military. Information on visits from the military is posted on the bulletin board by the counseling office.

Opportunity, Opportunity, Opportunity!

Mentorship

Business and Industry Mentorship is a high school course for juniors and seniors who want to “try out” a particular career area. The student is released from school one period to spend time in a business, government or service industry. The course, which may be taken for a semester or a year, is on a pass/fail grading system and requires certain written materials be returned to the mentorship coordinator and completion of required number of hours. Students also have an opportunity to do a Teaching Mentorship.

Leadership /Enrichment

There are also many leadership and enrichment opportunities that are available to juniors throughout the year. This information is available in the Counseling center.

Check out the following:

- ***Boys and Girls State-*** Students are chosen to attend this week- long summer leadership seminar (upcoming seniors). Sponsored by Broadway-Timberville Ruritans, and New Market American Legion.
- ***Summer Residential Governor’s School-*** unique summer experiences in areas such as Foreign Language, Agriculture, Marine Science and Engineering.
- ***Valley Ridge Regional Governor’s school-*** an opportunity for rising 10th, 11th and 12th graders, with a special interest in environmental science, to participate in an 11-day, residential, hands-on experience at JMU, Shenandoah National Park and the Chesapeake Bay.

Choosing a College

Choosing the RIGHT College

If you are planning to attend college, here are some suggestions to help in the process of choosing the right college.

1. **Know Yourself**

Each student must examine his or her own likes, dislikes, strengths, weaknesses and future plans. Do they like big cities or do they only feel at home in small towns? Do they seek to be known or hide in a large crowd? Do they want a wide open social atmosphere or do they feel more comfortable with some rules? Will they be happy far away or do they prefer to have family close by? The answers to questions like these will help the student to narrow choices. Seniors will also have opportunities in classroom guidance to learn more about colleges and careers.

2. **Use Naviance to research colleges**

By entering preferences on topics such as major, location, cost, size of community, religious affiliation, and selectivity as to grades and SAT's, a list of possible choices can be generated. Students will have opportunities in classroom guidance to learn more about colleges and careers.

3. **Gather Information** about possible college choices. Go to College Night Plus, visit the college website, write for information, talk to students who attend the college, talk with college representatives when they visit BHS, and use the information in the Counseling Dept. to find out as much as possible.

4. **Visit colleges** during the summer after your junior year or the early part of the senior year. The visits will help to narrow the college choice list to two, three or four which become the schools to which applications will be made.

***College Night Plus 2016- JMU Convocation Center (Date to be Announced)**

HINTS FOR A CAMPUS VISIT

A campus visit is highly recommended. Before you visit the campus, consider some of the options below. It is also important to develop a list of questions and plan specific activities in order to accomplish your goals.

- Meet with an admissions counselor
- Verify admissions requirements (tests and high school preparation)
- Discuss your chances for success
- Obtain a school calendar and a catalog
- Dine in the cafeteria/food court
- Talk to students

“Early College Scholar Program”

The Virginia Department of Education encourages an initiative called "Early College Scholar Program" which invites college bound high school students to participate in courses in which they can acquire college credits. This option is available to students in four ways, each of which results in a weighted grade:

* **AP Courses.** Students who take the national test at the end of the course and earn an acceptable score (typically a 4 or 5, depending on the college) will receive from 3 to 8 college credits.

* **Concurrent Enrollment courses.** Students may elect to enroll as a "special student" in courses at any of our four area institutions (Blue Ridge Community College, Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite University, or James Madison University). Students will be asked to indicate whether they would like their college courses to provide both high school and college credits (2 college semesters = 1 high school credit) or only college credit. A grade of "C" or better is required for the credit to transfer to the college or university of your choice; some colleges require a "B" or better.

* **Dual Enrollment Classes.** Dual enrollment courses at BHS are offered through Blue Ridge Community College and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. These classes are taught at BHS and provide college and high school credits. The courses are taught during the school day at BHS and are offered at lower costs, thanks to the community colleges covering the majority of the tuition. The yearlong dual enrollment classes planned for 2016-2017 are English

12 Dual Enrollment and Calculus Dual enrollment. Second semester dual enrollment classes are planned to be offered through Computer Information Systems and several other career and technical classes. A grade of "C" or better is required each semester for the credit to transfer to the college or university of your choice; some colleges require a "B" or better.

* **On-line courses.** There are online courses available in a variety of courses from various institutions all over the world. Interested students should thoroughly research these options on the college/university website and then discuss it with a counselor. Virtual Virginia, an on-line program sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education, has on-line options for AP and other classes not offered at the school or in circumstances involving a schedule conflict.

TYPES OF COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

There are **five** ways in which colleges make admission decisions.

1. **Early Decision** – in this type of admission, the student applies early (usually November 1) and, if admitted, **MUST** attend this school.
2. **Early Action** – student will receive decision by early December, but the decision is not binding. Students may apply to more than one school under early action.
3. **Regular** – all students are notified by the same date, usually April 1.
4. **Rolling** – students are notified within a few weeks of applying. Applicants applying early under rolling admission will receive their decision early.
5. **Open** – all students who meet the requirements are offered admission.

Applicants not accepted under Early Decision and Early Action will have their names added automatically to the applicant pool for regular consideration.

SENIOR NEWSLETTERS

During each school year, our registrar prepares newsletters for seniors with information on upcoming events, deadlines and scholarship opportunities. Newsletters are distributed to senior English teachers and are posted on the Counseling Office web page. Extra copies are always available in the Counseling Department.

Testing Required for College Admissions

Counselors are often asked which tests are required for college admissions. There is no one test that is required at every school. Generally, two year schools have their own placement tests, but may accept scores from an SAT or ACT test. Four-year schools may require one or more entrance exams. The student should check the college website for the exact test required at that particular school. Following is a brief explanation of admissions tests:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| SAT I | Measures developed reasoning in critical reading and mathematics; optional writing section. |
| SAT II | Required by some Virginia Colleges to determine level of achievement in a subject area; generally used for placement purposes. Students may choose 2 or 3 of these one hour subject tests with choice determined by college requirements. |
| ACT I | Measures achievement in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science; optional Writing section. |

SAT or ACT: Standardized Tests

Most colleges and universities accept either the SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test through College Board) or the ACT (American College Placement Program) as the standardized testing requested as part of the admission process for that college. This year was the first year for the redesigned SAT test. The College Board states the new SAT focuses on relevant language in many different subject areas. If your student knows where they want to apply for post-secondary study, it is advised they check on the college's Admissions webpage to see if there is a preference in standardized testing. Information about both tests is available in the Counseling Center.

It is important to include the BHS CEEB code (470325) when registering; this allows for information to be sent to the school for the student's permanent record.

2016-2017 Test Dates

Registration booklets will be available July/August

470325 - BHS CEEB CODE

SAT I/SAT II

(Closest locations for tests - Harrisonburg High School, Central High School)

Anticipated Dates	Test	Registration Deadlines
October 1, 2016	SAT I/SAT II	TBD
November 5, 2016	SAT I/SAT II	TBD
December 3, 2016	SAT I/SAT II	TBD
January 21, 2017	SAT I/ SAT II	TBD
March 11, 2017	SAT I	TBD
May 6, 2017	SAT I/ SAT II	TBD
June 3, 2017	SAT I/SAT II	TBD

ACT (American College Testing) Assessment

(Closest location for tests – Skyline Middle School)

Testing Dates	Registration Deadlines
September 10, 2016	August 5, 2016
October 22, 2016	September 16, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017

Are you considering a Virginia Private College?

Virginia Private College Week will be July 25 - 30, 2016. This is the week during which members of the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia (CICV) host two daily Open House programs for prospective students and their families. Morning and afternoon sessions, will include campus tours, financial aid and admissions workshops, and curriculum/programs overview. Please go to www.vapivatecollege.org for more details.

By participating in Private College Week and visiting private colleges and universities in Virginia, you can save money. If you visit at least 3 participating colleges during the week, you will receive three application fee waivers. You will receive information at the first college you visit. There is no registration required, but it is strongly recommended that you contact the school(s) you plan to visit. Participating schools include:

Averett University	Jefferson College of Health Sciences	Shenandoah University
Bluefield College	Liberty University	Southern Virginia University
Bridgewater College	Lynchburg College	Sweet Briar College
Eastern Mennonite University	Mary Baldwin College	University of Richmond
Emory and Henry College	Marymount University	Virginia Union University
Ferrum College	Randolph College	Virginia Wesleyan College
Hampden-Sydney College	Randolph-Macon College	Washington and Lee University
Hampton University	Roanoke College	
Hollins University		

JUNIOR YEAR – Suggestions

1. Select appropriate courses for career goals and/or to meet advanced training/college entrance requirements.
2. Discuss plans with parents.
3. Attend College Night Plus at James Madison University Convocation Center in the fall – representatives from 2 year colleges, 4 year colleges, technical schools, business schools, and the military will be there to give information.
4. Opportunities to take career assessments are available through Naviance and the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery).
5. Representatives from different career fields and college admissions offices will be at BHS to present workshops and information sessions. Field trips will also be scheduled to different businesses and some local colleges.
6. If planning to attend college – begin researching colleges and college majors, take the PSAT in the fall and the SAT or ACT in the spring, attend the Financial Aid Workshop in the fall, and visit college campuses.

JUNIORS AND PSAT

BHS students have an opportunity to take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) on Wednesday, October 19. The test consists of two verbal sections, two math sections, and a writing section. The PSAT, which offers practice for the SAT I, places emphasis on critical reading, mathematical problem solving skills, and writing writing skills- abilities students need to succeed in college. Because some mathematical questions require student responses, students will be using calculators for a portion of the test. The writing portion covers the kind of skills required of students editing and revising essays.

A student bulletin describing the PSAT will be distributed in mid-September. The bulletin will provide sample questions with explanations, tips, test taking strategies, and a full length practice test.

FINANCIAL AID

What You Need to Know

Financial Aid is available to students going to technical and business school as well as those going to two and four year colleges. Many different types of aid are currently available to help students and their families pay for rising educational expenses. To better understand the process, come to the **Financial Aid Workshops** offered at Broadway High School in November. Assistance with financial aid questions is also available through Ms. Dieber, our Career Coach. Federal and state financial aid programs comprise the majority of aid available to students. Many public and private organizations, associations and businesses also offer need and merit-based scholarships and supplemental loan programs. More information on these forms of aid is available through the college financial aid office or the BHS Counseling Department.

Types of Aid

Aid comes in three basic forms: GRANTS, WORK-STUDY and STUDENT LOANS.

Grants

Pell Grants and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOP) are federally funded grant programs available to undergraduate students. Unlike loans, grants do not have to be repaid. These grants are awarded to students who demonstrate extreme financial need.

Work Study

Work-study allows students to earn money to contribute toward their educational expenses. Student's work 10-20 hours per week and are paid on an hourly basis. College Work-Study is a federally funded, need-based program. The Commonwealth of Virginia also sponsors a work-study program for undergraduate and graduate students who are Virginia residents enrolled at eligible Virginia institutions.

Student Loans

Student loans are an important part of most financial aid packages. The Perkins, Stafford, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan, and PLUS loan programs provide educational money to students and parents. The amount of money eligible students can receive through the program varies, and programs have a maximum debt amount for each student. Interest rates on the different loan programs vary, as do the terms of repayment. Specific information about each of the loan programs can be obtained in the Counseling Department or the financial aid office at each college.

The Financial Aid Application Process

A student's eligibility for federal financial aid (Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Work-study and Student Loans) is calculated by using a formula mandated by Congress. To determine eligibility the student must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and file it with the application processor. The FAFSA can be completed on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Each applicant who files a FAFSA will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) and a financial aid award letter from the school to which he/she applied. The SAR is an analysis of a family's ability to pay for college and provides the college numbers that indicate a student's eligibility for federal aid.

Expected Family Contributions (EFC) outlines the estimated amount of money the student's family can contribute to educational expenses. The EFC is used to determine eligibility for financial aid awarded by the school. The financial aid officer at the college can answer questions regarding the SAR and the award letter.

Amount of Aid

The amount of financial aid a student receives is dependent upon the calculated family/student contribution as determined by the FAFSA, the cost of education and the amount of available money at the educational institution.

Parents who have questions are encouraged to contact the appropriate counselor or the financial aid office at the school of choice.

HELPFUL WEB SITES

www.rockingham.k12.va.us (Rockingham County Home Page)

www.connection.naviance.com/broadway (Naviance)

www.finaid.org

www.fastweb.com (free scholarship search)

www.fafsa.ed.gov (FAFSA application)

Calendar for College Bound Seniors

August/September

- register if taking the September ACT or October SAT.
- continue working on your college list. You might include the following:
 - the college you would most like to attend.
 - a college you would consider as a good second choice.
 - a college at which you are sure you would be accepted.
- maintain or improve academic grades during your senior year. Colleges pay particular attention to a senior's course load and performance.
- continue to write for college information, obtain information from the Counseling Department, and meet with the college reps visiting the school.
- set up a calendar for your testing and for completing applications. Check all deadlines carefully. Review this calendar with your counselor
- check to see if the SAT II test is required at the college of your choice.
- consider teachers who might write recommendations for you; obtain a recommendation form from your counselor to give to your teacher **at least two weeks before a deadline.**
- set up visits and interviews (if needed) at the colleges of your choice.

October

- register if you plan to take the SAT I/SAT II in November.
- make sure you have copies of all applications you need. Check all deadlines carefully. Begin completing applications.
- if applying for an early decision deadline of Nov. 1, submit applications to your counselor by October 15.
- begin checking the senior newsletter for scholarship possibilities.
- make it a habit to check for information often. Listen to morning announcements.

November

- register if you plan to take the SAT I/SAT II or the ACT in December.
- attend the Financial Aid workshop at BHS with your parents.
- continue working on applications.

December

- register if taking the January SAT I/ SAT II.
- submit applications by December 18 for those with a January 15 deadline.

January

- by January 15 submit applications with a February deadline.
- register for the February ACT.

February

- make sure your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is mailed by the college's deadline.
- check to make sure all application forms are complete and all letters of recommendation have been sent.
- inquire about the Tuition Assistance Grant, if you are planning to attend a private college in Virginia. Applications are available at the private college.

March

- avoid senioritis; keep grades high.

April

- expect to hear about college acceptances if you did regular application process.
- decide which college to attend and send deposit.
- reply to colleges who offer financial aid package, accepting or refusing award.
- write to Admissions offices of schools you were offered acceptance but will not attend—this opens a spot for another senior.

May

- avoid Senioritis--keep studying
- complete your senior survey through Naviance so your counselor knows your plans after high school.
- if you receive any scholarships, write thank-you notes to the sponsors; you can get contact information from the Counseling Office.

Scholarships - Scholarship information is available at www.rockingham.k12.va.us under Broadway High School - Counseling office. Financial aid websites, scholarship websites, and senior newsletters with scholarship information are available on this website throughout the school year.

It is the policy of Rockingham County School Board to comply with all applicable state and federal laws regarding non-discrimination in employment and educational programs and services. The Rockingham County Public Schools will not discriminate illegally on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, disability, or age as to employment or educational programs and activities.