

Dear Parents and Seniors,

Here is some information for the upcoming school year from your counselors. Read carefully, this will be quite helpful in the upcoming year.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AND VOCATIONAL APPLICATIONS

- If you have not begun the application process, please begin soon. It is recommended that seniors apply to a university by November 1, 2019 for early admissions determination. Colleges will continue to accept applications later, but is better to get them in sooner for greater scholarship opportunities. **Counselors are available to help all students with this process.**
- Students interested in attending a Vocational/Trade School at the completion of high school can get information from their counselor regarding various skilled trades. These applications cannot be completed until the student has completed their high school education.
- Many colleges require that an online undergraduate application is completed for admissions. Online applications can be located on the specific universities website. Some universities charge an application fee. If you are eligible for free/reduced school meals and need a fee waiver, please contact your counselor.
- SAT scores. SAT scores must be sent directly from SAT (www.collegeboard.com). They cannot be sent from the high school as the high school does not have access to each students independent score report. Students were able to send scores for free in April following the exam. If you need to send additional SAT scores, this does cost an additional fee per school. If you are eligible for free/reduced school meals and need a fee waiver, please contact your counselor. In addition, if you are considering retaking the SAT, please use the above site to register for the exam.
- THE COMMOM APPLICATION: This is required for some colleges (i.e. Kalamazoo College and UM Ann Arbor). This is a lengthy application, so please start early. A letter of recommendation is required and it will take your counselor/teacher/coaches, etc. a few days to complete this for you.
- Parchment: This website is how you will send colleges/universities your transcript. This website can be accessed at: <http://www.parchmentexchange.com/>. Students created parchment accounts with the counseling department. **The login information for all students is: user name, (your GC email address), password, (your GC student ID #).**

FAFSA:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid is available online www.fafsa.ed.gov. You may begin to complete this application starting October 1, 2019. By completing the FAFSA a student may be eligible for educational loans, grants, word study and other funding needs. This information may also be utilized for some scholarship opportunities. **A Financial Aid Workshop is scheduled for October 22, 2019 at GCHS for students and parents to receive assistance is completing the FAFSA application.**

COLLEGE/VOCATIONAL VISITS

To visit a college/vocational institution contact the college or trade school to set up a time for a tour. Many colleges/trade schools have special weekends for prospective students. You are allowed two school-excused college/trade school visits when you provide proper documentation from the visit.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS/VOCATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

College Admission/Vocational Representatives are scheduled to come to GCHS to meet with senior students throughout the Fall months. **Students are notified of which College/Vocational Representative will be at the high school via the Counseling Department and can sign up to attend in the counseling department.**

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Contact the college you want to attend & review their financial aid/scholarship website page
- The counseling department sends out scholarship opportunities throughout the school year to each student's email address.

- These are websites to assist:

www.fastweb.com	www.wiredscholar.com	www.collegescholarships.com	Fastaid.com
www.fafsa.ed.gov	www.nextstepu.com	www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid	www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid

MILITARY

Recruiters from all branches of the military visit the Commons during lunch time each month. Make sure to stop by their exhibit and pick up information, which is also available in the counseling office.

PARENTS:

Please send us an email address so we can add you to our database to send further information. Feel free to contact us with any questions.

EMAIL: Students, please get your email address to your counselor

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