

**UPDATE  
FROM THE  
GUIDANCE OFFICE  
2016**

**APRIL 1**

**MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE:**

\*\*\* **Course Selection forms** were distributed to students in grades 8 through 11 this week. Parents should review these forms with their child. A parental signature is required on the form. Students were instructed to access the Course Selection Booklet online at [www.lourdes.k12.pa.us](http://www.lourdes.k12.pa.us). Click on documents. Forms are due in the main office by Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\* Grades 12, 11, 10, 9 & 8 attended a **Safe Driver/Safe Passenger Program** which was presented by **North Central Highway Safety Network** on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\* The results of the **Stanford Achievement Test Series** were distributed to the 10<sup>th</sup> grade class this week. Please review these results with your child.

\*\*\* The **Guidance Department** is currently **interviewing 11<sup>th</sup> grade students** to discuss post graduate goals, assist with planning for college entrance exams which include the SAT and ACT, and the college application process, that occurs in the early fall of Senior year.

\*\*\* The **PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 8/9** were administered to 11<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in October. Test results were given in January. An access code is provided on the student's paper score report.

Encourage your son or daughter to go to [studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org) and take advantage of free access to SAT Practice and Career Exploration. This information coincides with their PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 8/9 test results. Through the online school report, the student can receive the following:

- Score Report – test results, test question details and projected SAT scores
- Use results to create a core course work plan in high school
- Practice the skills the student will need in high school and beyond at [khanacademy.org/sat](http://khanacademy.org/sat)
- FREE world – class SAT practice online at [khanacademy.org/sat](http://khanacademy.org/sat)
- AP and course work to see which AP courses may be a good match for the student
- The student can explore careers that may interest them – link directly to that information from the online score report

Instead of SAT or ACT scores being considered for admission, some colleges offer a **Write Option**. The Write Option requires the applicant to send the college two graded writing samples from junior or senior year. These samples should demonstrate ability to communicate complex ideas, theories and opinions and to write effective, well-supported arguments. Samples include an analysis of a book, work of art, or literary style, a research project from a natural or social science course or a position paper.

It is very important that the applicant (student) check the box for the write option on the college application in order to be considered. Limited colleges offer this option. Check with the college that the student is considering.

**The Advance College Experience (ACE) at Bloomsburg University** is designed for college-bound high school juniors and seniors who seek to “jump start” their college career by earning college credits. Bloomsburg University offers a selection of courses intended to supplement high school offerings and to expose students to the academic environment at the college level. Students save 75% of the tuition. Typical offerings will include courses in exercise science, composition, psychology, history, public speaking, political science, language, music, biology, chemistry, mathematics, and geography. For more information call 570-389-4824 or visit [www.bloomu.edu/ace](http://www.bloomu.edu/ace).

The **Central Susquehanna LPN Career Center** is hosting a student directed **Health and Wellness Fair** on April 20, 2016 from 10 AM to 2 PM. This event will be held at the school located at 1339 St. Mary Street, Lewisburg. Students will have booths with a side variety of information related to health topics such as understanding diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, stress management, nutrition for busy people, summer outdoor safety, bullying, and more. If you are

interested in attending, please RSVP by April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please phone 570-768-4960 or you can email Wendy J. Erb RN MSN at [werb@sciu.org](mailto:werb@sciu.org).

**Harrisburg Area Community College – HACC**

Program Day Webinars

April 12 - 12 PM Wellness and Health Promotion

May 10 - 12 PM Geospatial

For more information and to register visit [www.hacc.edu/programdays](http://www.hacc.edu/programdays)

**Luzerne County Community College** will be offering an **EMS-101 Basic Emergency Medical Technician Class** – this class is designed to serve as the initial basic emergency care training program which directly follows the National Standard Curriculum and concludes with the Pennsylvania State Certification as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Emphasis is on accurate observations, evaluation of emergency situations, effective communications with the medical network, and high skill proficiency. The class also serves as a required building block to the Paramedic Class. It is preferred candidates are at least 17 years old (18 years old when ready to take the national certification test).

**Start Date:** August 20, 2016

**End Date:** December 16, 2016

**Days:** Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

There will also be a few select Saturdays (TBA)

**Time:** 6pm to 10pm

**Where:** Northumberland Regional Center, Room 403, in Shamokin

For more information or to register, contact:

Nicole Edmondson, Director

LCCC Northumberland Regional Center

2 East Arch Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Shamokin, PA 17872

Phone: 570-648-2544

Email: [nedmondson@luzerne.edu](mailto:nedmondson@luzerne.edu)

**Luzerne County Community College's Young Scholars Program** - Qualified Juniors and Seniors can take college courses at Luzerne County Community College through the Young Scholars Program and take advantage of a reduced rate on tuition. Contact the Shamokin Campus at 648-2544 or the Guidance Office for more information regarding registration and courses.

For 37 years, over 35,000 students have embarked on the internationally acclaimed **Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW)** experience. Any 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade student in good standing with their school is eligible to apply. Every student accepted will be awarded a full scholarship to attend PFEW. The Final Deadline is April 8, 2016. Lycoming College and Pennsylvania College of Technology will offer scholarships to all PFEW graduates who register and are accepted to those colleges. Lycoming College offers a total of \$20,000 (\$5,000/year over 4 years) and Pennsylvania College of Technology offers \$8,000 (\$2000/year over 4 years).

The PFEW 2016 dates are:

Week I	July 3 - 9
Week II	July 10 - 16
Week III	July 24 - July 30
Week IV	July 31 - August 6

**Susquehanna University** will be hosting the following **Summer Programs** this year:

Leadership Institute for Entrepreneurship  
June 26 to July 2  
Apply at [www.susqu.edu/life](http://www.susqu.edu/life)  
Deadline is April 1

Writers Workshop  
June 26 to July 2  
Apply at [www.susqu.edu/writers](http://www.susqu.edu/writers)  
Deadline is May 1

Stream Ecology  
July 10 – 16  
Apply at [www.susqu.edu/sei](http://www.susqu.edu/sei)  
Deadline is June 12

### **Juniors – College Preparation**

Have a file, (a folder or binder) to manage your paperwork i.e. test scores, college application data, financial aid information, etc.

## **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS:**

SAT I, SAT II (Subject Tests), ACT

Register: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) (SAT I, II)

Register: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (ACT)

You will need to sign up for an account at CollegeBoard and have a user name and password.

\*Please send scores to at least four (4) schools. If you do not send scores directly from CollegeBoard there could be problems with admission documents being received at colleges.

### **PREP FOR ADMISSIONS TESTS**

Prepare to take college admission tests (SAT I, SAT II, ACT) two to three times. Colleges will consider all scores but document highest scores.

SAT Prep (Reading & Math) Bloomsburg University. These classes are typically Sunday afternoons. Inquire in the Guidance Office.

Method Test Prep Program (Until the end of February 2016)

Review PSAT from 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

Order Official SAT Study Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition from [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

Review SAT Question of the Day daily, also from the CollegeBoard website.

Begin thinking about and working on a college essay and resume.

Consider asking two (2) high school teachers to write a college recommendation for you. (Try to ask teachers who can attest to your performance in the classroom (attendance, work performance, effort))

### **COLLEGE VISITS**

List of Favorites (Based on admission requirements, majors, location, size, cost, environment, extracurricular activities that are important to you) (List of 3-5 schools).

Take advantage of college websites to investigate facts about a college, however, this is not in place of actually visiting your college choices.

Include a state university on your list (\$\$ lower). Guidance has a list of state schools and information about each.

Keep in mind that private colleges cost more but they may offer more in academic merit scholarships.

College Open Houses (usually on Saturdays in March and April) – register online.

These are ideal because you do not have to miss school and parents/guardians may be off from work commitments.

**You are allowed three (3) college visits on school days during junior/senior year and you must do the following for these visits:**

- \* make up any class work missed
- \*Bring a parent note in day before you are going and indicate the date you will go on college visit.
- \*Get a note from the college that you were there to visit, and bring that back to attendance officer when you come back to school.

### **College Expectations:**

SAT I, Scores (Critical Reading, Math, Writing). Many colleges take the highest score in each. There are colleges that take the highest total of all three.

SAT II Scores (Subject tests - Some colleges require, some students elect to take)

ACT Scores

Academic Record (Grade from grades 9 through 11)

Mid-year Senior year report card

Admission Test Scores

Recommendations from high school teachers

Application Essay (If required or optional)

Interview at college (College will request an interview if necessary)

Extracurricular Activities

Community Activities

Employment (Part-time during school year & Summer)

College classes during high school

### **WEBSITES:**

[Collegeboard.org](http://Collegeboard.org)

[Educationplanner.org](http://Educationplanner.org)

[Collegemajors101.com](http://Collegemajors101.com)

[BigFuture.org](http://BigFuture.org)

[Pheaa.org](http://Pheaa.org)

[bls.gov.oco](http://bls.gov.oco) (Occupational Outlook Handbook)

[Careerbuilder.com](http://Careerbuilder.com)

[Talbotsbook.com](http://Talbotsbook.com)

[MyMajors.com](http://MyMajors.com)

[FederalStudentAid.ed.gov](http://FederalStudentAid.ed.gov)

Studentloans.gov  
MySmartBorrowing.org

***College Financial Aid: Prepare parents that the Free Application Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available to complete after OCTOBER 1, 2016.***

**NETWORK: ASK ABOUT VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIPS THROUGH BUSINESSES, RELATIVES OR FRIENDS. INQUIRE ABOUT MAJORS/CAREERS FROM YOUR PARENTS, RELATIVES, AND FAMILY FRIENDS.**

Plan senior high school courses to coordinate with interests (major)  
Keep grades up (Some colleges will ask for midyear senior grades)

View college websites and the college's application for admission for the 2016-2017 school year. Most schools will post application in late August.

\*If you plan to apply for Early Decision, you will be required to have admissions documents ready by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Deadline for all Seniors for top three college applications will be first week of November.

***Give serious consideration of your qualifications for admission to colleges of your choice. Narrow your choices to three or four institutions that you feel reasonably certain will grant you admission and will be affordable to you. Look at the basis for selection for the college(s) that you are interested in.***

You should be prepared to apply to colleges when you return to school in August.  
***HAVE A PLAN!***

**FREE HELP** is available to complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. The 2016-2017 FAFSA can be completed after January 1, 2016. FAFSA and PHEAA deadlines are listed below. Remember students must complete the FAFSA to receive financial aid.

- **FEDERAL** – The deadline for applying for Federal Student Aid (PELL grants, loans, work-study) using the 2016-2017 FAFSA is June 30, 2017.
- **PENNSYLVANIA** – The financial aid deadline for PHEAA grants is May 1, 2016 for ALL renewal applicants and new applicants who plan to enroll in a college, university or college-transferable program. The deadline is August 1, 2016 for first time applicants who plan to enroll in a community college,

business, trade or technical school, a hospital school of nursing, or a two-year terminal (non-transferable two-year degree) program at a junior or four-year college.

- **CAMPUS BASED** – Check with the school where you hope to enroll for their deadline for submitting financial aid forms for any available campus aid. Each one is different. Some are as early as February 15, 2016.

Appointments are available at various locations in the area. To schedule an appointment contact:

Educational Opportunity Center, Inc. (U.S. Department of Education TRIO Program)

Phone: 570-316-3818

Email: [elaines@eocinc.org](mailto:elaines@eocinc.org)

Website: [www.eocinc.org](http://www.eocinc.org)

Address: Gregg Plaza

16 Sherwood Drive – Suite B

Bloomsburg, PA 17815

*”He enjoyed the camp. He liked the activities throughout the weekend. He liked being able to talk with his Big Buddy about his Pop-Pop. **Camp Courage** would be highly recommended by me for any child to help with the grieving process.”*

**Geisinger Columbia Montour Hospice** extends an invitation to children and teens ages 7-18 to attend **Camp Courage free** on May 20-22, 2016 or October 7-9, 2016. The camp is held at Camp Victory in Millville, PA. Children or teens who have experienced the death of a significant person(s) and have come to this weekend camp, have fun while learning how to deal with their grief in a safe and supportive environment. Camp weekend will find campers around the camp fire eating hot dogs and s’mores. Other activities include making a memory box, balloon release, anger management, music and/or art therapy sessions. Free time on Saturday afternoon can be spent cuddling pet therapy dogs, paddle boating, rock wall climbing, zip line, archery and fishing. Please call the Guidance Office for more information regarding Camp Courage.

**Schoolguides.com** is a good resource link for college-bound students. Students and parents can check college profiles, financial aid information, scholarship tips, college fairs and college news.

The **Pennsylvania Bullying Prevention Consultation Line** is a toll free number available to school staff, students and parents across the commonwealth. The



Consultation Line offers discussion of effective strategies and resources available to deal with school-based bullying. Messages can be left 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will be returned Monday-Friday during normal business hours. The Consultation Line is 866-716-0424. For more bullying prevention information, please visit the PA Department of Education website.

## **ATTENTION JUNIOR PARENTS:**

### **Reporting Income on the FAFSA**

The Department of Education has announced that students will file the FAFSA with Prior-Prior Year income tax information starting with the 2017-18 FAFSA. This impacts students who are currently juniors (graduating in 2017) and beyond.

The process will enable students to file their FAFSA earlier, with more accurate information (no need to estimate taxes anymore), and aligns more directly with the admissions process. Students will be able to receive earlier notification of their financial aid eligibility and, hopefully, make better decisions regarding the affordability of their final school choice.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS – Students should come to the Guidance Office for more information regarding these scholarships.**

**American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary #73 Scholarship** – for a senior from Shamokin or Coal Township, whose parent or grandparent has served or is currently serving in the United States Military. Deadline is May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Anthracite Area Penn State Club's Edward M. Griffiths II Memorial Scholarship** – for students who have been accepted and will attend Penn State University or any of its branch campuses, including Penn Tech, for either the Summer or Fall Semester of 2014. There will be two \$750 scholarships offered. Deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship** is a \$1,000 scholarship awarded to students interested in pursuing an animation career path at an accredited post-secondary school or college. To find eligibility information along with the online application, interested students can visit <http://www.animationcareerreview.com/>

The scholarship will be on the right side of the page and click on it. The deadline is June 1, 2016.

**Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship** is a \$1,000 scholarship that will be awarded to students that are interested in pursuing a fashion degree at an accredited post-secondary school or college. Interested students can visit this link [www.fashion-schools.org](http://www.fashion-schools.org) and find the scholarship located at the bottom of the page and click on it. The deadline is June 1, 2016.

**Metzger Wickersham's Road to Safety Scholarship Contest** asks students to submit a creative project about the dangers of drunk and/or distracted driving. The contest is open to graduating, college-bound high school seniors in Pennsylvania. All qualified students are encouraged to enter. Selected first place winners will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, second place winners will receive \$750 and third place winners will receive \$500. Visit [arrivealivepa.com](http://arrivealivepa.com) for details. Deadline is May 6, 2016.

**Nursing Schools Almanac** has just launched its second annual **Aspiring Nurse Scholarship**. The website will award a \$1,000 scholarship to an aspiring nurse who demonstrates:

- A track record of academic excellence, particularly in science and mathematics
- A passion for the nursing profession and the overall field of healthcare

This scholarship is open to all high school seniors who plan to pursue college education in nursing, including LPN/LVN, ADN, and BSN programs. Interested students visit [www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com](http://www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com). Deadline is June 30, 2016.

**SAT**  
**TEST SCHEDULE**  
**2015-2016**

<b>TEST DATES</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>TEST CENTERS</b>	<b>CODE</b>
<b>May 7</b>	<b>April 8</b>	<b>Bloomsburg</b>	<b>39154</b>
		<b>Lewisburg</b>	<b>39384</b>
		<b>Line Mountain</b>	<b>39321</b>
		<b>Selinsgrove</b>	<b>39642</b>
		<b>Shamokin</b>	<b>39644</b>
<b>June 4</b>	<b>May 5</b>	<b>Bloomsburg</b>	<b>39154</b>
		<b>Lewisburg</b>	<b>39384</b>

Line Mountain 39321  
Shamokin 39644

FEE - \$52.50

**ACT**  
**TEST SCHEDULE**

<u>TEST DATES</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>TEST CENTERS</u>	<u>CODE</u>
June 11	May 6	<u>Check Online</u>	

FEE - \$56.50 – Plus Writing  
\$39.50 – No Writing

**\*\*\*OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL CODE – 394-483**

**OPEN HOUSES:**

**APRIL**

4-11-18 Clarion University – Preview Visit Days  
9 California University of Pennsylvania  
9 Harrisburg Area Community College - HACC (Gettysburg,  
Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and York)  
9 La Roche College -  
9 Lock Haven University  
10 Villanova University – College of Nursing  
13 Empire Beauty School – Shamokin Dam – Experience Day  
16 Clarion University  
16 Edinboro University  
16 Shippensburg University  
24 Seton Hall University  
25 Gettysburg College – Junior Open House

PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER WITH COLLEGES BEFORE ATTENDING.