

College and Career Bulletin

September, 2009

www.northmontschools.com/hs/Counselors

PSAT Testing for Juniors

Northmont High School will be giving the PSAT Saturday October 17, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Registration will take place in the Northmont High School Counseling Center from September 29, thru October 13. The cost is \$15.00 and needs to be paid at the time of sign-up. We recommend that juniors take this test as a way to practice for the SAT/ACT. Taking the PSAT gives students an opportunity to be in this type of test situation. The test results will provide each student with feedback on how they would score on the SAT compared to others who have taken the test. It can also help identify any weaknesses in academic skills. Students who score very high on the PSAT may qualify to earn scholarships and academic recognition through the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Miami Valley Career Technology Center

During their sophomore year students begin to explore program and career opportunities available at the Miami Valley Career Technology Center. This process begins in the fall when the MVCTC sends a counselor to Northmont to talk with students about the nearly fifty different programs offered there. In December students may choose to visit two programs as part of a class field trip to the MVCTC. Also in December parents and students

may attend the annual open house where instructors are available to answer questions about their programs. Sophomores who are interested in attending the MVCTC during their junior and senior years are required to submit their completed applications to the Northmont Counseling Center in January. Students will be notified of their admission status in April.

MVCTC Important Dates for 2009-10

- September 24** – Sophomore orientation at Northmont
- December 8** – Sophomore career day at MVCTC
- December 10** – Open house/dinner at MVCTC, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- December 11** – Applications available in the Northmont Counseling Center
- January 22** – Deadline for returning completed applications
- April 23** – Admission status notifications

PROGRESS BOOK

Parents who would like to track their student's grades and need log in information to access progress book should contact Amy Mangen at 832-5085.

Ohio Graduation (OGT) Tests

The OGT will be given during the week of October 26-30 at the high school. Any junior or senior student who has not passed all parts of the test is required to take the OGT. Sophomores will take the OGT the week of March 15-19.

College Week

The Northmont Counseling Center will be hosting the 31st annual College Week November 2-November 6, 2009. This is an outstanding opportunity for all juniors, seniors, and interested parents to explore or finalize college options. Representatives from 80-90 colleges and universities, community colleges, military academies, and ROTC programs will meet with Northmont students and parents to present information. Parents attending may check in at the Counseling Center for directions to the sessions each day. Northmont counselors will be visiting junior and senior language arts classes to provide registration information.

Seniors use OCIS (Ohio Career Information System) for College and Career Research

In October Northmont counselors will provide an orientation to OCIS to senior students. This Web-based program supports students in career exploration, career planning and educational decision making. Usernames and passwords will be provided for students and parents to use to access the program from home.

Finding Scholarship Opportunities

- Several scholarship directories are available in the Counseling Center Resource Room.
- Northmont's website has links to scholarship search engines: <http://www.northmontschools.com/hs> Go to the high school counseling center and click on "scholarships".
- College Scholarships are available at most institutions. Check the Counseling Center for availability of applications.
- Many privately funded scholarships make their

applications available in the Counseling Center.

- Dayton-Montgomery County Scholarship applications are available 2nd semester.
- Northmont Local Scholarship applications are available 2nd semester.

Being Prepared for College

- Take and re-take the ACT/SAT – (test dates available Page 12 of the Student Agenda Planner).
- Begin searching for and applying for scholarships.
- Secure teacher recommendations now to be used in admission process.
- Be aware of deadlines – *Application, Scholarship and Financial Aid.*
- Apply to colleges by Thanksgiving either online or by turning in the applications with supporting documents and application fees to the Counseling Center.
- Turn in a completed transcript release for each college application submitted (including online applications).
- Arrange for college campus visits.
- Make an appointment with the Northmont counselor for a college planning session.

Northmont Counselors

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