

August 2008

Dear Seniors,

Congratulations!! You are now a Senior at BFA. This will be a year of decision-making, as well as a year of really focusing on your hopes and dreams. There are some things happening this year that you need to be aware of and some dates to be mindful of.

For those of you planning to enter the work force, there's T.I.P.S. – Training Interns & Partnering for Success. This program provides an opportunity to learn and develop pre-employment skills, participate in an internship at a Franklin County business and apply for paid summer employment. See Mr. Buckingham or Ms. Branch if you are interested.

For those of you considering college, you need to take the ACT (actstudent.org) or SAT (collegeboard.com), if you have not already done so. See the chart below for dates and deadlines. You will need to know the school code, which is **460 140**. Paper forms are available in Guidance if you do not wish to register online.

ACT	Registration	Late Deadline
Test Date	Deadline	Additional Fee
October 25	September 19	October 3
December 13	November 7	November 20
February 7	January 6	January 16

SAT	Registration	Late Deadline
Test Date	Deadline	Additional Fee
October 4	September 9	September 16
November 1	September 26	October 10
December 6	November 5	November 18
January 24	December 26	January 6

Many college reps will be visiting BFA this fall, mostly during work blocks. We encourage you to visit with these reps if you are even remotely interested in their college. There will be a posting of the colleges visiting each week on the white board outside the Guidance Office.

In the Guidance Office there are view books and catalogues from many colleges. Please feel free to take them home and look at them. We encourage you to visit any college you are interested in. A visit tells a lot. Teachers' convention weekend is a great time for college visits – October 23-25. Many colleges are now sponsoring Open Houses, and they all have open admissions sessions. Web sites that may be useful for college selection:

www.vsac.org

www.collegeboard.com

www.petersons.com

www.usnews.com

www.collegenet.com

www.princetonreview.com

Be sure to check the application deadlines. Some colleges have a rolling deadline for their applications; others have a firm deadline. You will receive more information about the college application process during September.

Some upcoming events you will want to note:

College Fair at St. Mike's - Friday, September 19, 9:00-11:30 AM. You will need to sign up in the Guidance Office and pick up a permission slip. You can also visit in the evening on Thursday, September 18, 7:00-9:00 PM.

VSAC Paying for College Night - Monday, October 27 at 6:30 PM in the multipurpose room. Please encourage your parents to attend this night, as it is full of information about the financial aspects of college.

Military Fair - at BFA during the school day on **Wednesday, October 15**. Many branches of the military will have reps available. We are required to give the military a list of juniors and seniors with contact information, which we will do on October 15. If you wish to remove your name, contact Karen in the guidance office.

CCV (Community College of Vermont) is introducing a new free course, Introduction to College Studies, designed for high school juniors and seniors who are considering attending college. This course will run from September 12 through December 12 on Wednesdays, 3:45-5:45 PM at the CCV site in St. Albans. The only cost is the textbook, about \$50.00. At the successful completion of this course every student will receive a waiver for a free CCV class, which must be used before graduation from high school.

There are opportunities for seniors to take a CCV class this year. If you would like to take a CCV class, either in the fall or the spring, please see me for a listing of classes and registration information. Fall classes start the week of September 4th.

Males are required to register with the Selective Service within a month of their 18th birthday. You may get a form at the Post Office, Guidance Office, or register online at www.sss.gov.

Finally, we will be offering Seniors workshops on the college admission process during the first quarter. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this learning opportunity. More information will be available during the first week of school.

We are looking forward to a great year, and wish you all wonderful Senior experiences. Please stop in often, to say hello, give us any news, to ask questions, or to schedule a time to talk.

Sincerely,

Beth Cole
School Counselor

Dave Buckingham
Director of Guidance