



**HARBOR CITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

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**www.harborcityschool.org**

September 20, 2016

Dear HCIS Juniors and Parents,

I hope your junior year is off to a good start!! For many students the junior year is a big transition year as you move from having mostly required classes in 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade to more electives of your choosing, and from planning out your high school years to now looking seriously at post-high school plans. My purpose in writing to you today is to inform you of some events coming up this year that may impact and help you (both juniors and parents) in your future planning.

- 1) The PSAT Test – This is an optional test offered to juniors who would like to enter the National Merit Scholarship contest. Juniors who score within the top 1% in the nation are eligible to move on in the National Merit Scholarship contest. **The PSAT test is offered in school on Wednesday morning, October 19th. There is a \$15.00 fee to take the test.** Students and parents were given information via email on this test. Visit [www.collegeboard.com/school/](http://www.collegeboard.com/school/) for more information regarding the PSAT.
- 2) National College Fair – The Minneapolis Convention Center will be hosting a National College Fair October 4-5. Many colleges from around the nation will be there, so **especially those students looking at colleges outside Minnesota may be interested.** For more information, go to: [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com). The school will not be providing transportation to this event.
- 3) Financial Literacy Night – We will be hosting an event for those interested in learning of the opportunities to pay for college. What does that process look like and when does it start are just a couple of the questions that will be addressed this night. This event is Thursday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, from 5:15 – 6:30pm in the HCIS theater.
- 4) Scholarship Night - Typically a night for seniors to get information and start completing scholarship applications; however, a great idea for juniors and parents to attend to know what they will be looking forward to and how best to prepare for scholarships. This event is Tuesday, November 1st, from 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the HCIS theater.
- 5) College and Career Fair Day – We will be taking all of the juniors to a “Career Awareness & College Fair” at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College on Wednesday, March 15th. This is a morning event allowing students the opportunity to visit many career area presentations of their choosing.

- 6) Junior Parent Night – We will have an evening meeting for all parents of juniors sometime in March or April. We will cover a number of topics including the college search, applying to college, financial aid, ACT/SAT testing and resources for each of these. A reminder letter will go out a few weeks before the meeting.
- 7) College Entrance Exams – This year the State of Minnesota will be paying for all Juniors to take the ACT college entrance test in school on Wednesday, April 19. The ACT test is required by just about all 4-year colleges throughout the Midwest. Also, if students score well on the ACT, their scores can be used in place of the Accuplacer test at all Minnesota community and technical colleges. More information will be coming on this in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
- 8) College Reps and College Visits – We have a number of college representatives who visit our high school guidance office to meet with prospective students. These visits from reps are always advertised in the daily bulletin at school at least a few days in advance of the visit, and of course juniors are welcome to come. There is a signup sheet on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor “College” bulletin board for those interested in visiting with a representative.  
Also, especially in the spring when juniors start thinking more seriously about college choices, making a visit to a college campus might be a good idea. Start making calls to set up visits during school breaks.

If you have questions about any of the above items, please contact me 218-722-7574 x402 or [tneubarth@harborcityschool.org](mailto:tneubarth@harborcityschool.org). Have a great school year!

Mrs. Tricia Neubarth  
Licensed School Counselor