

NOVEMBER
2015

WINDSOR LOCKS HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING COMMENTARIES



IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES

- * November 3rd – Election Day - No school for students – PD for staff
- * November 5th – deadline for regular registration for December 5th SAT testing
- * November 5th – Parent/Teacher conferences 1-3pm, 5-8pm
- * November 7th – SAT testing –
- * November 11th – Veteran's Day – No School
- * November 25th – Early Release
- * November 26th & 27th – Thanksgiving Break
- * December 1st – Financial Aid Eve Media Center – 6pm

Important Events in the School Counseling Department

All Grades: The first marking period has come to a close and report cards will be distributed this **Thursday, November 5th**. As we move into the 2nd Quarter, it is so important to review all your grades in each of your classes.

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held this **Thursday, November 5th from 1-3pm and 5-8pm**. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to hear about their student's progress in each class and if necessary where improvement and continued success can be made.

Freshmen, Sophomores & Juniors: All of these grades sat for the newly designed PSATs on October 14, 2015. Scores for these tests will be available in December. **It is important for Gr. 9-11 students to go to sat.collegeboard.org to make an account so that they can see their scores and get resources to help them as they move toward taking the newly designed SATs. If you have questions, please touch base with your school counselor.**

Seniors: Please make sure to continue looking on Naviance for updated **Scholarship information**. You can also go to **Fastweb.com** to look for additional scholarships nationwide. Early in the second semester, there will be information handed out to you on Dollars for Scholars which is our local scholarship board.

Juniors: Looking forward to December, the school counseling department will begin meeting with juniors and their parents to begin the college and career planning process. School counselors will meet with juniors during Advisory the first week of December to introduce them to a resource guide which will assist in the planning process. **The school counselors will also host a Junior Parent Planning Meeting on Wednesday, December 9th at 6pm in Media.**

WINDSOR LOCKS HIGH SCHOOL

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FINANCIAL AID EVENING DECEMBER 1ST

Attention Junior and Senior Parents:
On Tuesday, December 1st at 6pm in the Media Center, the School Counseling Department will be hosting a Financial Aid Evening for senior parents preparing to apply for financial aid and for junior parents who want to know more about the process ahead of them.

Carolyn Karno of Educational Funding Strategies will be our presenter for the evening. Carolyn is a seasoned financial aid professional with a wide range of higher education experience. Before starting her own consulting business, she was the Manager of College Planning and Financial Aid at the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation. She has been working with school counselors and families for several years providing college planning and financial aid workshops.

IMPORTANT EVENTS CONTINUED

Seniors and the College/Career Application Process

The Windsor Locks School Counselors have been meeting with their seniors through October and into November for their senior planning meetings. This meeting is an important opportunity for seniors to finalize their plans moving forward after they graduate and for many it can be overwhelming. The counselors encourage parental involvement in this process. If parents are unable to attend a meeting, it is best to touch base with your student and the counselor to make sure everyone is on the same page with the senior plan.

Seniors applying to 2 and 4 year colleges/universities should be working to create accounts on Common App (www.commonapp.org) for their college applications and they should also be updating their information on Naviance. Counselors will be sending all documentation for colleges electronically through Naviance and unless the student has done their part on Naviance and Common App, documentation will not be sent until all is ready to go.

SAT Preparation and Review Class

Starting on Tuesdays from 11/24 thru 2/2 Mr. Carroll will offering an SAT prep and review class in room 228 from **2:15-4:15**. The cost of the class is \$60 and it includes an SAT test book. There is an application which can be found in the school counseling office. Deadline to sign up is **November 17th**. If you have questions, please see Mrs. Ramirez.



*A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE*

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What Are You Thankful For?

At this time each year we celebrate a day of giving thanks; thanks for our families and friends, and thanks for the good things in our own personal lives.

It is also important to reflect on giving thanks outside of our own personal circle – Some ways you might give thanks are:

- Thanking your teachers for writing letters of recommendations by sending a personal thank you note.
- Thanking your teachers and coaches for the help they provide so that you grow into educated individuals.
- Saying thank you to the people in your life who do little things to support your day.

**Remember To Be Thankful!
Wishing everyone a Happy
Thanksgiving!!!!**

pathways @ Windsor Locks

Make an appointment with Mrs. Nelson in Guidance and let her help you discover what's next after you graduate from Windsor Locks!

The following college representatives will be at Windsor Locks High School Guidance Conference Room for November:

University of Hartford – Wednesday, Nov. 4th @ 8:30am
University of Bridgeport – Thursday, Nov. 5th @ 12:30pm
Johnson & Wales – Thursday, Nov. 12th @ 12:30pm

Listen for announcements and sign up information from Mrs. Zaine to see these college representatives.

ASVAB testing will be made available for our Grade 11 and 12 students on Wednesday, December 2nd beginning period 1. See Mrs. Nelson for details.

WINDSOR LOCKS HS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Deborrah Ramirez – Director Last names: S-Z	860-292-5725	dramirez@wlps.org
Kristen Smith – Counselor Last names: A-G	860-292-5739	ksmith@wlps.org
Antoinette Grant – Counselor Last names: H-R	860-292-5748	agrant@wlps.org
Allison Nelson – Transition Coordinator	860-292-5881	anelson@wlps.org
Emily Owens – Psychologist	860-292-5726	eowens@wlps.org
Jeanne Russo – Social Worker	860-292-5718	jrusso@wlps.org
Jodi Zaine - Secretary	860-292-5717	jzaine@wlps.org

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

Malcom X