

CAPER NOTES

This newsletter will be mailed home every month. It will contain information about scholarships as well as other information important to seniors and their parents. Most of the local scholarships will be offered after the first of the year. It is the student's responsibility to obtain a copy of the application and to return it completed to the guidance office.

As always students and parents are invited to visit with the Guidance Counselors:

Senior assignment as follows:

Ms. White	All Freshmen
Mr. Courtney	A-Fe
Ms. Markovitz	Fi- K
Ms. Nelson	L-Pr
Ms. Novitskie	Pro-Z

~NEW RESOURCE~

Naviance is a new career and college search tool available to all students. Take career surveys, research occupations, perform college searches, and look up scholarships from your personalized Naviance Family Connection account. For more information on how to register, contact your guidance counselor.

IMPORTANT

When you register for the SAT/ACT, you must list our high school code or scores will NOT be sent to LCMRHS and therefore will NOT be listed on your transcript.

**LCMRHS HIGH SCHOOL CODE:
310210**

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

Seniors who plan to attend a four-year college and have not taken a college admissions test need to do so very soon. Those who have tested may choose to retake either test in order to try for a higher score. The registration packets for the SAT I, SAT II Subject, and ACT tests are now available in the Guidance Office. You may check the college catalogs or talk with your counselor if you are unsure which test(s) to take. The high school code number for Lower Cape May Regional High School is 310210. Students planning to attend a community college will not need to take the SAT or the ACT. The testing schedule for the 2010-2011 school year is listed below.

SAT I & SAT II SUBJECT TESTS

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINES
OCTOBER 9, 2010	SEPTEMBER 10, 2010
NOVEMBER 6, 2010 *	OCTOBER 8, 2010
DECEMBER 4, 2010	NOVEMBER 5, 2010
JANUARY 22, 2011 *	DECEMBER 23, 2010
MARCH 12, 2011	FEBRUARY 11, 2011
MAY 7, 2011	APRIL 8, 2011
JUNE 4, 2011 *	MAY 6, 2011

*TEST GIVEN AT LCMRHS

ACT

TEST DATE

October 23, 2010
December 11, 2010 *
February 12, 2011
April 9, 2011
June 11, 2011

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

September 17, 2010
November 5, 2010
January 7, 2011
March 4, 2011
May 6, 2011

**given at LCMRHS*

The cost of the ACT without the writing component is \$33.00 and with the writing component is \$48.00. Please check the registration packet for test site locations.

ASVAB TESTING

There are opportunities available to young men and women who can qualify for today's ARMED FORCES. Each branch of the military offers programs of training and technical schooling as well as an excellent college scholarship program. Any senior interested in taking the vocational test for the armed services needs to sign up for the test in the Guidance Office. The test is free and will be administered at LCMRHS on **April 12th.**

ADMISSIONS: EARLY DECISION OPTION

If you are considering early decision for admission, check immediately with your college of choice for their specific requirements. These deadlines are rapidly approaching and you must plan now if this option is important to you.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Now is when you should be in contact with colleges, securing their applications, filling out their applications, and submitting the different kinds of paperwork required. All colleges have deadlines, some in the fall and others early in the new year. Check your catalogs and don't be caught by a passed deadline. **It is your responsibility to determine where you want to apply and what the specific requirements are.** Information is available in the Counselors' Office to assist you.

Note: It is important that you give teachers and/or counselors 2-3 weeks notice if you want them to write a letter of recommendation. Please plan ahead so you won't miss any deadlines.

COMMON APPLICATION

The Common College Application is available through the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Students need only to complete this application once when applying to any of the participating independent colleges and universities who utilize this form. The list of schools using the common application is available in the Guidance Office.

ATTENTION SENIOR BOYS

Something to add to your list of things to do today-you need to register with Selective Service. It is not the Army, it's not the draft, no one's going to your house-it's just one of the things a man's gotta do. If you are 18, you have to register within 30 days of your 18th birthday. It's the law! If you are 17, you can submit registration information and when you're 18, you'll be registered automatically. Registering keeps you eligible for Federal college loans, grants, and student aid in most states. You can register on-line at www.sss.gov, you can fill out a registration card at any U.S. Post Office or you can send back the registration card you may have received in the mail. If you have any questions, check with your Guidance Counselor.

WHAT DO THEY LOOK AT?

Admissions officers consider these factors in roughly the following order of importance: Grade Point Average/Difficulty in Curriculum SAT I & SAT II scores. Class Rank, Application essays, Extracurricular activities, Recommendations, Interviews, Intangibles

Of course, every college is different. The larger the school, the less time it has to spend with your application (sometimes less than five minutes). Big state schools rarely reach number three on this list. Small schools may look past weak grades or test scores if they see something special about you.

RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY INSTANT DECISION DAYS:

The Office of Enrollment Management is proudly hosting Instant Decision Days for academically talented high school seniors! **IDD** offers you the opportunity to connect with College administrators, deans, faculty and students, learn first hand about academic, social and campus life AND walk away with a college acceptance in one day!

Space is limited - by reservation only!

Friday, November 19, 2010 (limited seating)

Friday, December 3, 2010

Friday, December 10, 2010

Friday, December 17, 2010

Requirements:

- High school senior - grade 12 beginning September 2010
- Expected high school graduation - June 2011
- 1,130+ SAT Critical Reading & Math combined
- Top 20% class rank - calculated at end of junior year
- **IDD Application** signed by your guidance counselor and faxed to the Admissions Office

At the end of the day you will receive your **letter of acceptance for admission to Stockton College for Fall 2011!** You may also receive a scholarship award if eligible. This is a **non-binding decision** - you are under no obligation to submit an enrollment deposit. You will have until May 1, 2011 to confirm acceptance for Fall 2011.

****Go to Stockton.edu for more information.**

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

As scholarship information is received in the Counselors' Office, it will be publicized through the "Caper Notes" and/or announcements. It is important to pay close attention to information on eligibility criteria, deadlines, etc. If you are interested in any of these scholarships, please contact the Counselors' Office for applications and/or additional information.

IT IS THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO

- 1. READ THIS NEWSLETTER,**
- 2. OBTAIN THE APPLICATION,**
- 3. FILL OUT THE APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY**
- 4. ATTACH ANY REQUESTED DOCUMENTS (OR REQUEST IN WRITING THAT THE DOCUMENTATION BE ATTACHED BY THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**
- 5. RETURN THE APPLICATION TO GUIDANCE PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE SET BY THE GUIDANCE OFFICE.**

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Jersey Youth Soccer Scholarships:

- *Paul and Donna Hausser Scholarship:* \$1000 awarded to students pursuing a career in education and that have played for an affiliated NJYS club.
- *Jeanine Willis Scholarship:* \$1000 awarded to students that intend to go to college or technical school and have played in the NJYS Cup program for two seasons.

Deadline is **December 3, 2010.**

The National CO-OP Scholarship Program:

Awarded to students with a GPA of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. Must be accepted to at least one of the following schools: Drexel, Johnson & Wales, Kettering, Rochester Institute of Tech, University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo, and/or Wentworth Institute of Tech. Students can get application materials at www.co-op.edu. Deadline is **February 8, 2010**

American Red Cross Penn-Jersey Blood Services

Scholarship: Awarded to a student who has participated in a high school blood drive in his/her senior year. 500 word essay answering the question "How does your school's blood drive have a positive effect on your community as a whole?" Letters of recommendations required. Deadline is **March 24, 2011.**

The Morgan Hand, III Memorial Scholarship

(Rutgers): Awarded to a student with a GPA of at least a 2.5 and pursuing a degree at Rutgers University. Preference given to students majoring in engineering, however all may apply. Deadline is **April 8, 2011.**

New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Scholarship:

Two \$2500 scholarships to a graduating senior who writes an essay on his/her visit to the NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. Deadline is **April 8, 2010.**

Christopher J. Loftus Memorial Scholarship: \$1000 awarded to a student who has been personally affected by violence. A one page essay is required explaining what you have done to turn your life around and what you have done to turn those negative experiences into positive actions.
Deadline is **April 14, 2011**.

Most universities offer scholarships for students planning to attend that school. You should contact the financial aid office at each of the schools that you are interested in attending.

COLLEGE APPLICATION REMINDERS

1. Register and take the SAT or ACT as quickly as possible, if needed. **NOW!**
2. After investigation, narrow your college list to a manageable number. **NOW!**
3. Write, call, fax, or go on-line with each college to request information and applications for admissions, scholarships, financial aid, housing, etc. **NOW!**
4. Complete and submit application for admissions well in advance of deadlines. Do the same for housing, scholarships, and financial aid. **SOON!**
5. Attend the **Financial Aid Meeting in December** at LCMRHS (date to follow). The **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** will be distributed at the meeting and will be available in the Guidance Office following the meeting. This form is to be mailed on or after January 1, 2011. (Note: some private schools use the CSS Profile application also. Follow your school's instructions.)

Remember: The best source of information about a particular college is their own catalog. Also, the best source of financial aid information is the Financial Aid office of the college to which you are applying.

TIPS FOR A KILLER ESSAY

With more colleges asking unique essay questions, the student's job of writing an interesting essay has become more challenging and more time consuming. Those students applying to multiple colleges are no longer able to simply rehash the standard question for each school. Here are seven tips to guide you through the evolving world of the college essay.

1. Allow yourself at least a month to think about, write, review, and revise your essay.

1. Outline your ideas first, so you know where you're going.
2. Make sure you answer the question completely, providing specific examples to back up your points.
3. Use your own voice, and don't just respond with what you think a college would like to hear.
4. Get a second opinion on your first draft—from a friend, family member, or teacher.
5. Proofread carefully, and submit a neatly typed version.

TEST STRATEGY

Get Familiar. Learn the content and format of the test.

Practice, Practice, Practice!!

Get your rest. Get plenty of sleep the night before the test, and leave yourself enough time to get to the test site. Arrive at least 30 minutes before the exam and bring necessary materials to the test site: admission ticket, photo identification, several pre-sharpened pencils with good erasers and a calculator.

During the test, remember to:

- read the directions and questions carefully
- pace yourself
- answer easy questions first
- use logical reasoning a process of elimination for tougher questions
- review your work
- be precise in marking your answer document
- erase wrong answers completely

The most important advice: Stay cool, calm, and collected. Don't let the test stress you out.

www.4tests.com
www.kaplanpracticetest.com
www.review.com
www.number2.com
www.collegeboard.com>satprep
www.act.org/aap/index.html

SAT VS. ACT

The road to college can be a confusing and hectic one. Choosing the right admissions test to take-SAT or ACT -doesn't have to be. While most colleges across the country accept scores from either test, the SAT and ACT are significantly different, and in many ways, they measure different skills. Check with your guidance counselor and preferred colleges, then use the information below to decide which test is right for you.

DIFFERENCES AT A GLANCE:

SAT

no science section

no trigonometry section

vocabulary emphasized

non multiple-choice questions included

guess penalty

no English grammar

Math accounts for 50% of your score

questions go from easy to hard in most sections

all your SAT scores reported to colleges

ACT

science reasoning section

math sections include trigonometry

vocabulary less important

entirely multiple choice

no guessing penalty

English grammar tested

math accounts for 25% of your score

easy and hard questions mixed within sections

report scores only from the test dates you choose



BACKYARD SCHOLARSHIPS AND HOW TO FIND THEM

By Gen & Kelly Tanabe authors of *Get Into Any College: Secrets Of Harvard Students, Get Free Cash For College: Scholarship Secrets of Harvard Students*, and founders of www.SuperCollege.com where you'll find more tips, secrets, and strategies. Copyright 2000.

Each year there are large scholarships awarded by nationally recognized companies such as Coca-Cola, Tylenol, and USA Today. While you should definitely apply to these awards, keep in mind that competition is stiff and of the thousands who enter, only a few will win. While applying these national jackpots you should not overlook one of the best sources of scholarships—your own backyard.

Think about all of groups, clubs, businesses, churches and organizations in your community. Each of these is a potential source for scholarships. Plus, because of their limited marketing budgets, many are not widely publicized. That means fewer applicants and higher odds of winning.

There are probably some great local scholarships that are just waiting to be discovered. Here's how to find them:

School Activities. One fringe benefit of participating in activities might be a scholarship sponsored by the organization. Inquire with the officers or advisors of the organization about scholarship funds. Bands, newspapers, academic clubs, athletic organizations, and service organizations often have scholarships that are awarded to outstanding members.

Community Organizations. Don't limit yourself to only organizations that you belong to. Community groups will often sponsor scholarships that are open to all students who live in the community. For example, local Rotary and Lions clubs often offer scholarships for outstanding students in the community whether or not their parents are members. They view scholarship programs as a way of serving their community. Open a phone book and call the five largest organizations in your area. Chances are that at least one will offer a scholarship.

Employers. Many businesses that employ young people offer scholarships as a way to reward students

like you who both study and work. Ask your manager if your employer has a scholarship fund and how you can apply.

Parent's Employer. Companies often award scholarships to the children of their employees as a benefit for their employment. Your parents should speak with someone in their Human Resources department about scholarships and other educational programs offered by their company.

Parent's Union. Some unions sponsor scholarships for the children of their members. Your parents should speak with the union officers about scholarships and other educational programs sponsored by the union.

Parent's Organizations. Are your parents involved in civic or other local organizations? These organizations may offer scholarships for members. Ask your parents to find out.

Church Or Religious Organizations. Religious organizations may provide scholarships for members. If you or your parents are members of a religious organization, check with the leaders to see if a scholarship is offered.

Local Government. Some cities and counties provide scholarships specifically designated for local students. Often, local city council members and state representatives have a scholarship fund. Even if you didn't vote for them, call their offices and ask if they offer a scholarship.

Local Businesses. Local business owners who want to see students in their community succeed often set up scholarship funds as a way to thank their customers and customers' children. Contact your local chamber of commerce to see if there are local businesses that offer scholarships for student in the community.

Internet. One of the benefits of online scholarship directories is that they can be updated at any time. Thus, if you search an online scholarship directory you can find up-to-date information on new scholarships.

Local scholarships are truly the hidden backyard gems of financial aid. Students often find the greatest success with smaller, local scholarships. You'd be surprised how quickly the awards add up.