



Ellsworth High School Counseling Newsletter *November/December 2017*

Parent/Teacher Conferences Term 2 / Junior Parent Meeting –

Conferences at the high school will be Monday, Dec. 4th from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. **Parents of Juniors** will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the IMC for a Junior Class meeting. Students are welcome to attend!

Career Cruising

Ellsworth High School has a new online program available to students, called Career Cruising, for students to use for post-secondary planning. Students can access the website from any computer with an Internet connection and will have access even after they graduate. Career Cruising will help students answer the following questions:

- What occupations match my interests, skills and values?
- What education/training do I need for specific careers?
- What can I expect to earn in a specific occupation?
- Which schools have the major I am looking for?
- And *much* more! Career Cruising also has resume maker, links to school websites, and many other useful tools. You can also search for colleges by degree type, major, size, athletics offered, and more.

Students can log on by being in their school email and then clicking on the Career Cruising link on the EHS website. We encourage *all* students to use their account for planning purposes.

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program –

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Exploration Program offers both aptitude and interest assessments for students who are currently juniors and seniors. The program is designed to:

- Help students identify, understand, and organize information about their interests, abilities, and personal preferences.
- Determine which occupations best match their personal characteristics.
- Use career information resources to explore the occupations they select.

The aptitude test is a major component of the career exploration program because it is designed to predict future occupational and academic success. The military services use the ASVAB scores to help determine the qualifications of young people for enlistment and to place them in military occupational specialties. **This test is required for students considering the military, however, students are NOT required to release their scores to the military.**

The ASVAB will be given at EHS on November 15, 2017. Students need to sign up in advance in the Counseling office by November 10, 2017. There is no cost for the test.

ACT Aspire

All 9th and 10th graders will take the ACT Aspire test in April/May 2018.

EHS Daily Announcements –

We encourage you and your child to read the daily announcements at EHS. The Counseling Dept. puts in numerous items on a daily basis about student opportunities, scholarships, schedule changes, etc. Announcements are read daily over the PA before first block, are on the EHS website and also emailed home daily.

NCAA Eligibility –

Any junior or senior considering playing athletics at a Division I or II college should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. If you have submitted materials and have not heard back from the NCAA, check with your counselor. If you haven't completed an application, they are available online at www.ncaa.org. Click on "Register to Become a Student-Athlete". You can also find the NCAA link on the Counseling web page.

Congratulations to these students for being nominated as NHS Officers:

President – Kiley Smith
Vice President – Madelynne Paquet
Treasurer – Ben Walz
Secretary – Anna Olson

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

November 2 nd	MN State College SE-Red Wing in Counseling Office during EXCEL
November 3 rd	St. Mary's University - Winona in Counseling Office during EXCEL
November 7 th	Chippewa Valley Tech College in Counseling Office during EXCEL
November 14 th	North Dakota State University in Counseling office during EXCEL
November 15 th	ASVAB test – Military Entrance Exam (Juniors or Seniors only)
November 22 nd – 24 th	No School
November 28 th	Army during lunch in cafetorium
December 4 th	Parent Teacher conference 4:30 – 7:00 Junior Parent meeting at 6:30 in IMC
December 8 th	Senior Wisdom Retreat – all day
December 9 th	ACT test
December 21 st – January 3 rd	Christmas Vacation
January 12 th	ACT postmark deadline for February 10 th test
January 12 th	End of 2 nd quarter
January 15 th	No School

ATTENTION PARENTS:

The end of 1st term was October 26th.

Report cards for 1st term will be **handed out to students** on November 3rd. Please ask your child for their 1st term grades.

Student Opportunities:

2018 Profile in Courage Essay Contest: *This contest provides students the opportunity to develop research, writing and critical thinking skills as they explore the concept of political courage. Students in grades 9 – 12 are eligible to apply. Seven scholarships will be awarded. For more information on this contest go to: www.jfklibrary.org Deadline is Jan 4, 2018.*

2018 Badger Girls State program: *The Ellsworth and Bay City Legion Auxiliaries are once again sponsoring two female EHS junior students to participate in the summer 2018 Badger Girls State program. The program is from June 17 – 22, 2018, on the UW-Oshkosh campus. Candidates for eligibility must be: US citizens, have an interest in government and citizenship, rank in the upper half of her class, be in good health, have leadership qualities, dependability, and participation in extra-curricular activities. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about government and the political process, to meet new people and learn about scholarship opportunities. The legion auxiliaries cover the costs of the week. For more information see Ms. Bruesewitz in the Counseling office.*

**Any Junior boy interested in Badger Boy State should see Mr. Stoesz.*

New Scholarships

Seniors should remember to check the scholarship binder in the Counseling office on a weekly basis. New scholarships are added weekly.

Elks National Foundation 2017 Most Valuable Student Scholarship – www.elks.org/scholars
Due: November 27, 2017

Engineers Foundation of Wisconsin – www.wspe.org/efwi.shtml
Due: December 18, 2017

Student Excellence Scholarship

Purpose: The purpose of the Herb Kohl Excellence Scholarship program is to recognize student leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. It is the goal of the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation to encourage Wisconsin youth to pursue post-secondary education in a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. The Foundation awards \$10,000 scholarships to 100 Wisconsin high school graduates each year.

Who Is Eligible to Apply? Applicants must be graduating high school students who intend to enroll in a postsecondary institution, which may be a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. Students who are residents of the State of Wisconsin, are in good standing, and who demonstrate probable success in postsecondary education are eligible to apply. This is a competitive scholarship.

Eligibility is not limited by GPA, class rank, or any other school or program conferred status (ex. National Honor Society). Any student who meets the above eligibility criteria may apply.

Selection Criteria: Students will be evaluated on their leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. In addition, students will be evaluated on their ability to clearly articulate goals in each of four areas: future educational goals, personal life goals, community/society service goals, and career goals.

Each student must submit three letters of recommendation, one from each of the following categories:

1. Teacher;
2. Counselor or Principal (can substitute an additional teacher)
3. Community member or family friend who is not affiliated with your school district.

Letters of recommendation will be evaluated on how well they describe the student's improvements, contributions, and successes. Letters may be from a current or previous year's teacher, counselor or principal.

Submission Deadline: Public school students must submit their completed applications no later than

Friday, November 3, 2017.

Applications can be found on this link:

http://www.kohleducation.org/studentexcellence/public/student_application_form.php

Campus Preview Days and Open Houses

November 14th
Chippewa Valley Tech College - Career Tour

November 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, December 6th, 12th and 19th from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m
Dakota County Tech College

November 9th
Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College – WITC Career Day

November 11th
MN State University-Mankato

November 10th, 11th, and December 1st
UW – River Falls

November 10th
UW – La Crosse

November 3rd & 4th
UW – Stevens Point

November 3rd & 10th
UW – Stout

November 10th
UW - Whitewater

November 3rd & 17th
UW – Oshkosh

November 10^h
UW – Green Bay

November 11th Preview Day
Viterbo

College Admissions –

Many seniors have already completed applications to post-secondary schools, however, a number of seniors haven't applied anywhere yet. College and program deadlines are quickly approaching. Most schools prefer online applications. After you apply, you must fill out a transcript request form, located in the counseling office, to complete the application process.

TIP Grant:

EHS seniors that typically would be eligible to apply for a TIP grant would be seniors that receive free/reduced lunch. If your child is planning to attend a 1, 2, or 4 year college in the Fall of 2017 in the state of Wisconsin they should definitely apply for this \$1,800 scholarship with the financial aid office of the college they are planning on attending.

Seniors should check directly with the college they are applying for admission to for available scholarships. Seniors should also register at **www.fastweb.com** for scholarship information.

Scholarship Information

Students can access scholarship information in the Counseling office and should use a number of free Internet searches including:

- FastWeb www.fastweb.com
- College Answer www.collegeanswer.com
- Absolutely Scholarships www.absolutelyscholarships.com
- Collegeboard www.collegeboard.com

BEWARE OF FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS!! A student should never pay a fee for a scholarship search or to apply for financial aid.

Financial Aid Resources

It is that time of year to begin thinking about the financial aid process. Financial aid deadlines vary greatly by college.

Where can I get more information?

1. Ellsworth High School Counseling Office
2. The financial aid office of the college you are attending
3. The federal financial aid office: 1-800-4FED-AID
or access their website www.fafsa.ed.gov
4. Online Direct Loan Servicing: www.dl.ed.gov

****Watch carefully for imitation websites that charge a fee. (example of an imitation would be “fafsa.com”) There is NO fee for the legitimate federal application.**

Tips For Applying For Financial Aid

- Apply for a PIN number now! Go to www.pin.ed.gov to sign up for a personal identification number which will allow you to sign your FAFSA electronically, review and if necessary make corrections on your application, check the status of your application and reapply for financial aid in the future. Parents can apply for

their own PIN's in order to sign their children's FAFSA electronically. *Parents who have multiple children applying for federal aid only need one PIN.*

- Apply on-line! The processing is 1-2 weeks. **www.fafsa.ed.gov**
- Apply as early as possible after October 1, 2017.
- Use **completed** tax returns.
- Meet college priority filing deadlines.
- Keep a copy of all records.
- **Do not** omit the driver license or the drug conviction question.
- Be aware that information on 2018-2019 financial aid applications may be matched with data in numerous government databases.
- **Male students who have turned 18 should complete Selective Service registration prior to applying for financial aid.**

Financial Aid Evening Programs

For parents & students

- overview of the financial aid process
- type of financial aid
- what money is available for college costs
- questions and answers

These are "generic programs" so information can be applied to any 2-4 year college, not just the specific colleges hosting the programs.

College Goal Wisconsin 2018 – get free, on-site professional assistance completing the FAFSA. The FAFSA is the form you must complete to be considered for grants and loans to help pay for college. This program will be offered at both Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire and Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College in New Richmond on November 8th at 6:00 p.m. See www.collegegoalwi.org for more info.

Financial Aid application "priority" deadlines vary from February 15th to April 15th. Check with your college.