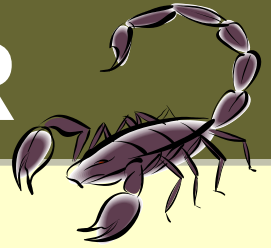


# SENIOR NEWSLETTER



Oakland Mills High School, 9410 Kilimanjaro Rd. Columbia, MD 21045

## Welcome Back

Welcome back to school, Class of 2012! Let this year be the most memorable and successful one yet. Throughout the year seniors will be receiving information about postsecondary opportunities and will be required to meet countless deadlines. Be informed and responsible!

## COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENTS

Last Names beginning with A-Da—Mrs. Ueckermann  
Last Names beginning with De-I—Mr. Quinn  
Last Names beginning with J-M—Mrs. Hart  
Last Names beginning with N-R—Mrs. Phillips  
Last Names beginning with S-Z—Mrs. Fick

## Graduation Requirements

Seniors planning to graduate with the class of 2012 must earn 21 credits (4 English, 3 social studies, 3 science, 3 math, 1 Life Fitness/Health, 1 fine arts, 1 tech ed., 2 foreign language or 2 advanced tech or 4 completer program units, 3 electives; complete World of Work activities, (participate in simulated job interview, write a resume), complete 75 hours of community service and pass the HSA's for those assessed courses completed in a Maryland public school.

## Counseling Center

The Counseling Center also includes the **College and Career Center**. Students with passes obtained prior to the lunch hour are permitted to visit the College and Career Center during their respective lunch shifts. We are fortunate to have many parent volunteers who are here during that time and who are willing to help students individually with college and career searches

## Selective Service System

Legally, all men must register with the Selective Service System within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Those who don't register may be denied benefits including student loans and federal job training.

## Senior Conferences

Counselors will be scheduling individual conferences with seniors starting immediately. Career decisions, college choices, financial aid, graduation requirements, post-secondary plans and other topics of concern may be discussed during the conferences. Counselor recommendations will **NOT** be written without a conference. Students must sign up for appointments. Sign up sheets are posted on the counselors' doors.



## Preparation for College

College Applications: Students planning to attend college during the fall of 2012 should be obtaining and completing applications. Carefully review the admissions guidelines established by each college.

## Entrance Tests

Students are responsible for checking college guides and catalogues for required entrance examinations (SAT I, SAT II--Subject Tests, ACT, SAT). Testing information and forms are readily available in the College and Career Center.

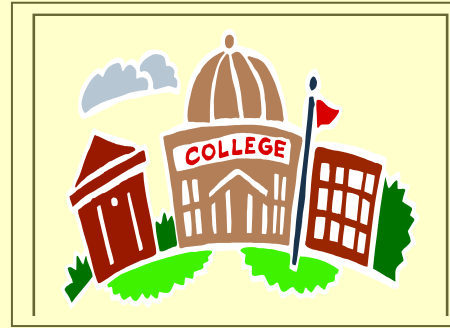
**School Code:** The OMHS School Code (also referred to as CEEB, ATP, ETS, ACT Code) is 210411.

## Transcripts

All colleges and universities will request transcripts from applicants. **TRANSCRIPTS ARE PREPARED AND MAILED BY THE REGISTRAR.** Each institution must be recorded on a transcript request form to be submitted to the **Registrar**. A 10X13 envelope with \$1.32 postage (3 stamps) is required for each institution. A fee of \$4.00 must be submitted for each transcript at the time of the request. **Portions of applications requiring counselor recommendations should be turned in with the transcript request form.** Allow ten (10) school days for processing.

## College Fairs

The Howard County Public Schools College Fair is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th at Atholton High School from 1-4pm. Schedules for other college fairs are posted in the Counseling Center.



*Your school, Fall 2012*

## Recommendations

Letters of reference may be a requirement for college admission and/or financial awards. Always personally ask individuals to serve as references. Please refer to the Teacher Recommendation Request Packet you received in June.

*Find out more about colleges by attending the College Rep presentations. Check the OM announcements for the current schedule.*

## Mid-Year/Final Grades

Many colleges and universities request first semester grades and all request final grade reports from applicants. Seniors are therefore reminded to continue to maintain good academic and attendance records during the school year.

## Financial Aid

Applications for federal and state financial aid should be available online in late November. The process can be started early by logging on to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and obtaining a pin number after supplying the information requested. Please note that the FAFSA cannot be submitted before January 1, 2012, but must be submitted no later than March 1 in order to access Maryland state financial aid. Current information on a variety of scholarships and other awards can be found in the College and Career Center.

## NCAA

Students planning to participate in intercollegiate sports must satisfy specific NCAA eligibility requirements. NCAA is encouraging students to complete the Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse Student Release Forms on line. The website is [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). See Mr. Quinn for more information.



## 12 Grade Calendar

This calendar may be useful in preparing for college.

**September**—Select 3 or more colleges which meet your needs. Now is the time to request applications from admissions personnel.

**October–December**—Complete college visits if possible. College admissions offices will be busy processing applications in January.

**October–February**—File applications for admission to the 3 or more colleges you, your parents, and counselor have agreed are suitable for you. Early filing of applications is most essential where there is limited housing available since rooms are usually assigned in order of receipt of application. This is also true of most out-of-state, public supported institutions which can admit only a small percentage of applicants from other states.

**October–March**— Take the SATII if it is required by colleges you have selected. Consult your counselor if there are questions about the SATII.

**November, December, or January**— Take the ACT or the SAT if these tests are required by the colleges of your choice.

**January**—File applications for scholarships and other financial aid. **BE MINDFUL OF ALL DEADLINES.**

**February 15**— Mail the last of your applications.

**March, April, or May**—Examine the acceptances you have received with your parents and counselor. Make a decision as to which is your final choice. Notify promptly all the institutions concerned regarding your decision. Make the required deposits and necessary arrangements for housing.

**June**—Submit a stamped envelope (with your return address in upper left hand corner) addressed to your chosen college to the **Registrar** to make certain that the final grades are forwarded as soon as possible after graduation. **Acceptances become final only upon receipt of the final grades.**