

Ft. Recovery HS Guidance/Scholarship Newsletter: April 2011

Monthly guidance newsletters are also available via the Guidance Homepage at <http://www.fortrecoveryschools.org>

GENERAL NEWS:

Around FRHS:

1. Most **local** (Ft. Recovery) **scholarship applications** are due this month.
2. **Seniors: Have you stayed true to your DARE promise to not use drugs or alcohol?** If so, you are invited to the annual DARE Luncheon on April 19, 2011 at the Elk's Club on 127 south of Celina. Students attending will leave FRHS at 10:45 a.m. and return around 2:00 p.m. Students wishing to attend should contact **Mrs. Kaiser** by **April 7**.
3. **All students: Be sure to log your service hours and activities!** This will be extremely helpful to you when filling out scholarship, job, and college applications. These hours can also be used for induction into National Honor Society. Forms are available in the guidance office. Keep in mind that commitment to a few organizations and being able to describe the contributions you have made (not just stating that you are a "member") is much more important than being a one year non-contributing member of several clubs. It's not what you are in, **it's what you do to contribute** to what you are in **that matters!**

Financial Aid Information:

4. **FAFSA:** All seniors planning to attend college this fall should file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):
 1. Go online and obtain a PIN at: www.pin.ed.gov (2 PIN's are required: 1 for the parent and 1 for the student). Parents who already have a PIN (used for a previously filed FAFSA) do not need another PIN.
 2. Fill out the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet anytime after January 1st (you will need tax info.)
 3. File your FAFSA online at: www.fafsa.gov prior to February 15. (If your tax returns are not yet completed, it is okay to estimate on the FAFSA. You can go back and edit them later via the website.)
 4. All applicants are encouraged to file online. However, paper FAFSA's (for students without internet access) can be obtained by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). It will take about 2 months to process your information if you do not apply online.
 5. If you have **extenuating circumstances** that will affect your families income in the next year (job loss, death of a parent, possible homelessness, etc.), discuss it with a financial aid counselor at your college! They can work to re-assess your financial aid award.

Jobs:

5. Cotterman & Company Roofing, Minster is looking to hire full-time and summer workers. Call 419-628-3713 for more information.
6. **Sollmann Electric Co., Sidney** is interested in giving employment to **students who plan to become electricians or be involved in the electrical trades upon completing high school**. They would like to have the students work for their company through the year, then attend an electrical trade school in the fall with the intent of becoming qualified electricians. You may call 937-492-4447 or see Mrs. Kaiser for more information.
7. **Need a job?** The Workforce Investment Act office in Celina has opportunities for youth and adults. Students on an IEP are eligible for additional services. More information can be found at www.Area8Workforce.com. Contact Bea Kriegel (bkriegel@jobworksinc.org), Youth Employment and Training Officer at 419.586.6409 or 419.584.8522.
8. There is a need for **skilled labor positions** (construction, pipe fitting, sheet metal, electricians, ironworkers, HVAC, heavy equipment operators, cement and masonry, etc.). See Mrs. Kaiser for more information on Apprenticeship Programs and how to earn a Journeyman's Card.

Miscellaneous:

9. The Mercer County Health Department is offering vaccination clinics on April 12 and April 25. **They suggest that all MS/HS students receive 6 vaccines.** Call 419-586-3251 ext. 1270 for more information.
10. The US Army is hosting a **Health and Fitness Expo** at Greeneville High School on April 20. See Mrs. Kaiser if you are interested in attending.
11. State of the Heart Hospice is offering a workshop on Spirituality and End of Life Care on April 25 and 26. Call 1.800.417.7535 for more information.
12. State of the Heart Hospice offers several bereavement services:
 - Children, Pre-Teen, Teen and Adult Grief Groups
 - Remembrance Gathering
 - Camp Harmony (weekend retreat for families)
 - Camp BEARable (for kids ages 6-15)Call 800.417.7535 for more information.
13. **Need counseling?** I have lots of information on private counseling services in the area...just ask!
14. **All students who plan to go to college should take a college entrance exam.** An ACT (or SAT) test score is a requirement for admission to many colleges and universities. In general, colleges in the Midwest prefer applicants to take the ACT, while those on the coasts may prefer the SAT. Many colleges accept either the ACT or the SAT. **FRHS students usually take the ACT (1-3 times).**
STOP BY THE GUIDANCE OFFICE AND PICK UP A YELLOW INFORMATION SHEET, INFORMATIONAL FLYER, AND A PRACTICE TEST PRIOR TO REGISTERING!

<u>2011 ACT National Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>
April 9	March 4
June 11	May 6
September 10	
October 22	
December 10	
<u>2012 ACT National Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>
February 11	
April 14	
June 8	
<u>SAT National Test Dates 2010-2011</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>
March 12	February 11
May 7	April 8
June 4	May 6

**Students can register for the SAT online at www.collegeboard.com/sat-register. Our CEEB code is 362-165.

15. **Practice ACT and AP Exams online at:**
 - <http://www.infohio.org/ER/secure/LearningExpress.asp>. Click on "Learning Express Library". You will need to create a user account (username and password can be found on p. 34 in your student handbook). This is a very good website!
 - <http://www.actexampracticetests.com> has study tips and ACT questions with detailed answer explanations.
 - The U.S. Army sponsors a site to help with test preparation: www.march2success.com.

COLLEGE / CAREER INFO:

16. Wright State Lake Campus now has student housing available (9-month leases) for \$400-\$600 per month. Call Tom Knapke at 419-586-0300 if you have questions.
17. Interested in "Green" Construction and Hands-On Training? You can call Questech, Inc. at 1-800-229-0018 to request a free catalog to learn more.

18. Ohio Northern University is officering a new major, **Engineering Education**. Students with this major can earn a secondary math license. To learn more, call 419-772-2260.
19. **Here are A FEW Upcoming Open Houses and College Exploration Days and Summer Camps:**
- **IT / ET Visit:** April 1 & 15, Rhodes State College
 - **IT Works-Ohio Cisco Academy:** April 7 & 8, Columbus State
 - **University of Akron Spring Visit Day:** April 16
 - **IPFW Spring Visit Day:** April 17, 1-3 p.m.
 - **Wright State University is offering a variety of events for HS students:**
 - **Lake Campus Open House:** April 14, 4-7 p.m. Students can apply for free and tours of the new campus housing are available. Apply for FREE!
 - **Residential Summer Camps/Academic Enrichment** (grades 6-12)—visit www.wright.edu/academics/precollege or see the poster in the hallway
 - **Pharmacy Summer Camp at University of Toledo:** June 12-15 or 19-22. Call Laural at 419/490-0362 for more information. Deadline to apply is April 8.
 - **Owens Community College “Registration Rocks”:** March and April at their Toledo and Findlay-area campuses. Make new friends from other schools, meet the faculty and staff, and take the placement test and much MORE! Register online at <https://www.owens.edu>.
20. When applying to college, **always ask if there is a separate financial aid / scholarship application and obey their deadlines!** You should try to get as many scholarships and grants as possible.
21. **Attention Juniors:** If you are applying for a **2-3 year healthcare degree program** (nursing, dental hygiene, radiology, etc.), you may want to apply in the spring of your junior year. These programs can be very competitive, and usually have waiting lists!
22. **Some HS courses can be applied to college!** We currently have articulation with several area colleges via the West Central Ohio Tech Prep Consortium (**Tri-Star, PLTW, Vo-Ag**, etc.). Also, FRHS students can take an **AP Exam** (sign up is in March) to try to earn college credits. **If you are taking an AP course, I strongly encourage you to study hard, and take the test!!** Be sure to ask your college admission counselor about transferring these credits.
23. Students applying to **OSU-Lima** for next fall can contact Mrs. Jill Walter (walter@fortrecoveryschools.org) for a letter that can be used to **waive the application fee.**
24. **At select universities** (Bowling Green is an example), **seniors can take the ACT at any time** for the purpose of increasing their scores for merit-based scholarships. Students must be accepted to that university, and their scores will only be used at that particular university. Also, some schools will **waive their application fee** if the student applies online or tours their campus (Ohio Northern is an example). See an admissions counselor for details.
25. **John Jay Center for Learning** (affiliated with Ivy Tech State College and Indiana Wesleyan) in **Portland, IN** offers beginning-level college courses at a very reasonable cost. Call 260-729-5525.
26. Several Colleges offer **FREE** (or reduced) **tuition** for students who meet low income qualifications. Here are a few examples:
- **Miami University Access Initiative:** Miami University will provide tuition and fees for all new first-year students from Ohio entering the Oxford campus who have family incomes of less than \$35,000. The program will continue to provide tuition and fees for eligible students for up to four years.
 - **Harvard University** will pay the tuition of a student whose family earns less than \$40,000 per year.
- YOU need to ASK the college (or check their financial aid site) if they have such a program. **Don't be afraid to apply to your dream school!**
27. **Prospective College Athletes** who plan to play Division I or II sports must register with the appropriate clearinghouse. Both eligibility centers require that test scores (i.e. ACT) be sent directly from the testing agency. SEE MRS. KAISER IF YOU NEED TO REGISTER WITH EITHER OF THESE ATHLETIC CLEARINGHOUSES!
- **NCAA Clearinghouse:** www.eligibilitycenter.org. The website provides important information and key steps for high school student-athletes and parents as they begin the initial-eligibility process. The cost to register with the Eligibility Center is \$65.
 - **NAIA:** www.playnaia.org. Cost is \$60.
28. **Interested in joining the military after graduation?**

- There is information in the guidance office on all branches of the military.
 - Military recruiters visit FRHS (and homes) throughout the year. For additional information about a career in the military, visit <http://todaysmilitary.com/careers>.
 - NROTC (full-tuition) scholarships are available.
 - Attention Juniors: Thinking about attending a Military Academy after graduation? You might want to attend a Summer Seminar to see what life as a cadet is all about. Go to the website of the academy of your choice and look under “Admissions” for more information.
 - Anyone interested in entering the Air Force Academy can contact Maj Steven Babcock, USAFA Admissions Liaison Officer at: 937-431-2198 (H), 937-255-1282 (W), or Steven.babcock@wpafb.af.mil for more information
29. **Looking for a college or a career that’s right for you?**
- **TOP PICK!!** Ohio Career Information System: <http://ocis.ode.state.oh.us> (username and password can be found on p. 34 of your student handbook). To find colleges with your desired major, click on “undergraduate school sort” and follow the prompts.
 - Check out <http://www.collegeboard.com/> Click on “For Students” and then “College Search”. Follow the prompts to reveal a list of schools that have just what you are looking for.
 - Another good website is www.voluntarysystem.org It gives you statistics about many colleges across the nation. These are great websites to help you narrow down your choices!
 - <http://www.college.gov/wps/portal> was designed by students for students, and features first-person accounts of students who have overcome challenges such as peer pressure, lack of family support, and financial barriers, to go to college.

SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS / LOANS:

These are in order by due date. See Mrs. Kaiser for additional information.

30. Most **local** (Ft. Recovery) **scholarship applications** are due this month.
31. **If you are interviewing for a Midwest Electric, Darke-Rural Electric, Touchtone Energy, etc. scholarship**, students **MUST** provide Mrs. Wenning with a copy of the letter they receive stating their interview date and time to be excused from school.
32. **Application advice:**
- **If you choose to complete a paper application: Any/all applications you complete should be done in INK (or typed).** Do not use pencil—appearance is important.
 - **Don’t wait too long to complete your applications!** You never know when school will be delayed or cancelled, so ask for letters of recommendation, transcripts, etc., well in advance!
 - **OBEY DEADLINES!**
33. **Imagine America Scholarship for 2011 graduates:** FRHS can select up to three students to receive this \$1000 scholarship. Only recent high school graduates who are qualified applicants and who meet the following recommended guidelines should apply: Likelihood of successful completion of postsecondary education, high school grade point average of 2.5 or greater, financial need, and demonstrated voluntary community service during the senior year **High school graduates of 2011** can start applying on **January 1, 2011**. Students must plan to attend a “**career college**” (such as **Lincoln Tech or Kaplan**) to be eligible. Students should visit the website for more information and a list of participating schools. Apply online at www.imagine-america.org. ..
34. **Rhodes State Scholarship Opportunities:**
- “Rhodes to Success” Achievement Scholarship, available in the guidance office (deadline: May 1).
 - Tech Prep (Tri-Star, PLTW, Ag) graduates are also eligible for a \$1000 Tech Prep Scholarship. These awards are renewable for all tech prep students who complete their first year at Rhodes with a 3.0 cum GPA or higher.
35. **Applications for the Paul Lefeld Agricultural Scholarship (\$1000)** should be available from the Ag and Tri Star teachers.
36. **The University Women’s Club of Mercer County** has 2 programs available for females planning to continue their education in pursuit of a baccalaureate degree:
- **Annual Scholarship Loans** for \$700 (renewable for 4 years) Repayment of these interest-free loans begins one year after termination of college.

- **15th Annual Scholarship Grant for \$1000**

Only one application is necessary for both programs. Call Kelly Hone at 419-852-2117 if you have questions. Applications are due April 1, 2011.

37. **Mercer County Retired Teachers:** This scholarship is open to students majoring in **education** (2 or 4 year program). Applicants must have a G.P.A. of 2.8 or higher and demonstrate financial need. Applications are due April 1.
38. **Legislative Scholarship Program:** The Ohio Association of Career Colleges and Schools is awarding 275 scholarships to 2011 graduating seniors. These awards range from \$2,000-\$12,110. Applicants must plan to attend one of the specific career-technical colleges listed on the application (Art Institute of Ohio, ITT, National College, Miami-Jacobs, Virginia-Marti, etc.) to be eligible for these scholarships. All are associate's degree or diploma programs...see poster for degree programs. Deadline is April 1.
39. **James Kura Memorial Scholarship Essay Competition,** sponsored by the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is open to seniors with a 2.5 GPA who are accepted to an accredited 4 year school for 2011-12. See Mrs. Kaiser for the writing prompt. Applications are due by April 1.
40. **The West Central Ohio Safety Council** is awarding two \$500 scholarships for seniors (with a minimum 3.0 GPA) planning to pursue a career in the field of Occupational Safety and Health, Industrial Hygiene, Environmental Science, Risk Management, or a related field. Applications must be received by 4 p.m. on April 4.
41. **William D. Squires Scholarships:** The William D. Squires Scholarship is primarily need-based and is only for students from Ohio. (Each applicant must have an EFC (from FAFSA/SAR) of less than \$8,000.) A minimum GPA of 3.2 is required. Applications are available at: www.wmdsquiresfoundation.org. Deadline for this scholarship is April 5.
42. **Mote & Associates Scholarship** (Greenville, Ohio): The scholarship is for a commendable student seeking a post high school education or enrolled in an accredited college program in the field of **engineering, surveying, architecture, or a closely related field of study.** Applications can be completed on-line at www.moteassociates.com; or may be requested by contacting the company at 937-548-7511. Applications must be returned to the office of Mote & Associates, Inc., 214 West Fourth Street, Greenville, Ohio by April 8, 2011.
43. **Lincoln College of Technology Scholarships:**
 - **2011 High School Select-** a \$1,000 guaranteed tuition scholarship to a senior from FRHS (Tri-Star also can award a \$1000 scholarship). Applications are due to Mrs. Kaiser by April 15.
 - Students take a **scholarship test** when they visit Lincoln Tech for additional awards
 - Apply for the Imagine America scholarship (see above)
44. **Nursing Scholarship:** The JTD Hospital Foundation will be offering \$1,000 renewable scholarships to local residents studying nursing (full time) for the 2011-2012 academic year. To be eligible for the scholarship, the individual must be a high school senior, current college student, or adult returning to school who is a resident of Auglaize of Mercer counties or graduate of a high school in those counties. Joint Township Hospital and Grand Lake Health System employees are not eligible. **Final applicants will be chosen and must be available for interview on June 11.** Applications can be found at: www.grandlakehealth.org by clicking on "scholarship application" on the lower right hand side. Due date is April 15.
45. **2011 Alexander Hamilton Citizen Achievement Award:** available to HS **Juniors** who have a strong record of community service and academic achievements. This \$500 scholarship comes with attendance at the Hamilton Leaders Academy. Due date is April 15.
46. **C.R. Meyers Memorial Scholarship:** Applicants must be (or will be) enrolled in a major relating to **environmental sciences or environmental education** at an accredited Ohio college, university, or technical school. Applications can be found at www.oalprp.org (left hand side—near the bottom) and are due April 15.
47. The Ohio Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity is offering six **Balanced Man Scholarships** totaling over \$12,000 to the outstanding freshman males entering the following Ohio colleges: **OSU, Miami, UC, and Toledo** next year. Applicants are in no way obligated to join the fraternity. Application deadlines vary by school (April 29-September 23). See www.sigepbms.com or Mrs. Kaiser for details.

48. **Will to Win Scholarship** for seniors with asthma: Applicants must have a 3.5 GPA and have achieved a level of excellence in performing or visual arts, community service, athletics, or science. Deadline is April 30.
49. **Mercer County Farm Bureau Scholarship**: High school seniors entering college in the fall of 2011 majoring in Agriculture are eligible. Parents of the applicant must be members of the Mercer Co. Farm Bureau in good standing. A \$500.00 scholarship will be given and student must maintain a 2.0 GPA for the quarter/semester. Applications are due by May 1.
50. **OCUF Scholarship** for seniors who are members of an Ohio-based credit union. Applicants must make a short video advertisement about money management techniques. Deadline is May 20.
51. **Dayton's CW Televisions and WSU Scholarship**: Win a 4-year scholarship to **Wright State University** by writing an essay with a maximum of 200 words entitled "How will your degree affect the legacy you leave at the end of your career?" See Mrs. Kaiser for more information and applications. Deadline for entry is May 27.
52. **The Mercer County Civic Foundation** has a small pool of **student loan funds** available to undergraduate students. These low-interest \$900 college loans are renewable, and the 4% interest rate does not begin to accrue until 6 months after graduation from college, and are interest-free if repaid within that time. Call 419-586-9950 for an application. Applications due by June 1.
53. **Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants Scholarship**: To apply for this \$1,000 scholarship you will need to write an essay on the topic found on the website. The A&F Scholarships are available to all high school **juniors and seniors** as well as all students currently registered in any accredited post secondary institution who are between the ages of 16 and 30. More information can be found at <http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm>. Registration deadline is June 18, 2011.
54. **BigSun Scholarship**: The BigSun Organization is offering a \$500 scholarship to a **student athlete**. The successful applicant will be a high school senior participating in a sport OR be attending a post secondary institute and currently involved in some sport at that institution. Visit our website at <http://www.bigsunathletics.com> to learn how to apply. Deadline is June 23, 2011.
55. **AES Engineers Scholarship (open to all majors)**: Applicants must answer one of the essay questions from the website at <http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm>. Their belief is that achieving a high grade point average should not be the only criteria for determining who deserves to be helped. For that reason they are offering a scholarship that will be awarded on the basis of character, as determined by evaluating the essays that are submitted. Deadline is October 7, 2011.
56. **The Northwest Ohio Allied Health Consortium's** four partner schools (Rhodes State College, Marion Technical College, Northwest State Community College, and Urbana University) combine their resources to provide more degree options and a seamless educational experience. Students complete a degree from any of these four schools at the location closest to them. **The Consortium also offers a generous scholarship** opportunity (\$3310 per year) for students who apply and are admitted to the consortium. Details can be found on their website <http://ohioalliedhealth.com/> (click on students>financial aid).
57. **The American Cancer Society's Youth Survivor Scholarship** Program is designed to provide young cancer patients or survivors assistance in pursuing higher education from an accredited school. Applicants must be under the age of 25, plan to attend an accredited university or community college, live in Ohio, and have been diagnosed with cancer before age 21. To obtain an application or for more information, contact your American Cancer Society (888.227.8405). *Disclaimer: this scholarship was sent to me a few years ago, and I'm not sure if it is still available.*
58. **Ft. Recovery Post 345 American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships**:
Disclaimer: these scholarships were available last year, and I am unsure if they are available...
 - **Girl Scout Achievement Award (2,000)**: Candidates must have earned the Girl Scout gold Award and be a high school junior or senior. Applications are due to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit by April 1.
 - **Past President's Parley- Nurses Scholarship**: Candidates can be a veteran or must be a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of a veteran who has served in a war and a resident of Ohio. Applicants must plan to study nursing. Applications are due to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit by May 1.

Several of these applications can be found at: <http://www.legion-aux.org/scholarships/index.aspx>, or by contacting an auxiliary member.

59. **The Ohio Board of Regents** (<http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/index.php>) sponsors several programs for college-bound students (deadline dates may change: see the website for the most up-to-date information):
- **Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund:** for children and spouses of peace officers, fire fighters and certain other safety officers who are killed in the line-of-duty. Applications must be requested from the Ohio Board of Regents or the college financial aid office.
 - **Ohio War Orphans Scholarship:** for children of deceased or severely disabled Ohio veterans who served in the armed forces during a period of declared war or conflict. (Death or disability need not be a result of/or related to military service.) Applications are available from the Ohio Board of Regents. Due: July 1.
 - **Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program:** \$3,000 for up to four years of study, but must agree to work as a nurse in the state of Ohio for a minimum of five years after graduation, must file the FAFSA, then apply online for the NEALP. Must apply before July 15.
 - **Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship:** Recipients may receive up to \$1,500 each year for undergraduate studies. Recipients are selected on class rank, GPA, ACT scores, and activities. Nominations are made by the high school and the scholarship is awarded equally across Ohio's congressional districts.
 - **Choose Ohio First Scholarships:** are available at many Ohio colleges. These scholarships are for students majoring in a STEM (**Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Medicine**) career or planning to teach disciplines related to STEM. Students wishing to apply for these scholarships must do so through the university's financial aid office.
 - **Ohio Teachers Corps Program:** The intent of the program is to provide financial incentives to first-year teachers who opt to commit to a minimum of five (5) years of service at an Ohio school defined by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) as hard-to-staff. Specifically, the program seeks to support first-year teachers who are appropriately licensed and assigned to teach in the subject area of foreign language, science or mathematics. Applications available from the Ohio Board of Regents.
 - **Additional Questions?** Contact State Grants and Scholarships at 888-833-1133.
60. **Loans for Future Medical Students:** The Medical Educational Foundation Academy of Medicine of Lima and Allen County is offering no-interest loans to assist with tuition while students are in medical school. If interested, see the flyer in hallway or call Susan L. Hubbell, M.D. at (419) 226-9810.
61. Check out schoolsoup.com, fastweb.com, and big33.org (through Feb. 12) for additional scholarship and college information.
62. **If you are lucky enough to receive a scholarship**, be sure to send a **Thank-You note** showing your appreciation.

UPCOMING DATES:

- April 19 DARE Luncheon
- May 2 HS Awards Banquet
- May 2-12 AP Exams
- May 22 FRHS Commencement (2 p.m.)

If you have additional questions, please stop by the guidance office or email me at: kaisera@fortrecoveryschools.org

-Mrs. Kaiser