

Ft. Recovery HS Guidance/Scholarship Newsletter: October 2011

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

GENERAL NEWS:

Around FRHS:

1. **Cooper Farms is sponsoring it's "Turkey Trot"** on Saturday, November 5 at it's St. Henry plant. Visit www.cooperfarms.com for more information.
2. **Don't get scammed on practice tests and financial aid/scholarship apps--watch for warning signs!**
 - You have to pay a fee or "taxes"
 - Credit card or bank account information required
 - Money-back offers or guarantees
 - Provides "exclusive" information
 - Unsolicited emails or phone callsReport scams to the proper authorities (BBB, Attorney General, National Fraud Information Center, etc.).
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!**
4. **Nominate a teacher for the Golden Apple Award!** Indiana's NewsCenter is looking for nominations from students about why you feel your favorite teacher should be the recipient of the monthly Golden Apple Award. If the teacher you nominate wins, Indiana's NewsCenter will visit the school and feature that teacher on a future newscast. Nomination forms can be found at www.incnw.tv (click on Features, then Golden Apple link).

Miscellaneous:

5. **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. Most 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!** (*IEP/504 students requesting extended time must see Mrs. Kaiser 2 weeks prior to the registration deadline.*)

2011-12 ACT National Test Dates

October 22, 2011
December 10, 2011
February 11, 2012
April 14, 2012
June 9, 2012

Registration Deadlines

September 16, 2011
November 4, 2011
January 13, 2012
March 9, 2012
May 4, 2012

**Students can register for the ACT online at <http://www.actstudent.org>. Our CEEB code is 362-165.

2011-12 SAT National Test Dates

November 5, 2011
December 3, 2011
January 28, 2012
March 10, 2012
May 5, 2012
June 2, 2012

Registration Deadlines

October 7, 2011
November 8, 2011
December 30, 2011
February 10, 2012
April 6, 2012
May 8, 2012

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

6. **FREE Practice ACT and AP Exams are 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. 33 in your student handbook). This is a very good website!
 - <http://www.actexampracticetests.com> has study tips and ACT questions with detailed answer explanations.
7. **Need counseling?** I have lots of information on private counseling services in the area...just ask!

COLLEGE / CAREER INFO:

8. **Seniors planning to attend a 4-year college should apply by the end of November.**
 - ASK if there is a separate financial aid / scholarship application (You should try to get as many scholarships and grants as possible)
 - COMPLETE applications online, in ink, or type. Do not use pencil—appearance is important.
 - GIVE DETAILS
 1. don't just say you're a member of a club, tell what you do in that club
 2. give the number of hours you have contributed
 3. explain what challenges you have had, and what you've done to overcome obstacles
 4. if the application doesn't allow you to give details, mail a letter requesting it be added to your file
 - SUBMIT 1-2 LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION **if** the admission process is competitive
 - OBEY DEADLINES!
9. **Students planning to attend OSU and UC must apply by December 1** to be eligible for their full-range of scholarships. These schools do not accept test scores on student transcripts; scores must be received directly from the testing company (i.e. ACT). The writing portion of the ACT/SAT is required.
10. **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.
11. **Catalogs are available in the guidance office that highlight ALL of Ohio's 2-Year, Private and Public Colleges.** These books are excellent resources for students to make comparisons between schools...they let you know enrollment, tuition rates, admission policies and fees, locations, and much, much more! These catalogs can also be accessed online:
 - **Ohio's Public Universities:** <http://www.OPUAC.org>
 - **Ohio's Private Colleges and Universities:** <http://www.aicuo.edu> (click on "resources", then "2011-12 Counselor's Guide")
 - **Ohio's Two-Year Colleges:** <http://www.ohiocommunitycolleges.org/> (click on "resources", "publications", then scroll down to "A Guide to Ohio's Two-Year colleges")
12. **Public or Private College?** Keep all of your options open, and don't rule out Private Colleges based on the cost! In many cases, you can afford the tuition...apply for the scholarships and grants available to you. Sometimes, you can attend a private school for the same price as a public one. Studies show that students who attend private colleges often graduate 1-2 years earlier than those who attend public colleges. In the past, the Ohio Student Choice Grant is an automatic award to students opting for private universities.
13. 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 that has 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** (and others) has similar programs. Be sure to ask if you are eligible!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!
14. 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.
15. **Upcoming College Fairs:**
 - **Students with Learning Disabilities:** a college fair will be held at Gahanna Lincoln High School (Columbus Area) on October 5, 2011 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
 - **Lima Campus College Fair:** over 60 colleges present as well as financial aid/college planning session, Rhodes State Cook Hall Gymnasium on November 1, 2011 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
16. **College Visits at FRHS (grades 11-12):** Several College/University/Military Representatives visit FRHS each year. Check out the calendar outside the office (or on the school website>Guidance Homepage) for upcoming visits. Juniors and seniors may sign up for a visit in the guidance office. (This must be done at least two days prior to the visit.)
17. **Fall Open Houses:** most colleges have special visit days—many on Saturdays. See Mrs. Kaiser for details Here is a very short list...
 - **Explore Findlay Week:** Oct. 10-15
 - **Wright State (Dayton):** November 5 and February 25, 9-noon
 - **Explore Rhodes State:** Nov. 3 from 5:30-7:30

- 18. Need some advice on** how to choose a career, college, and **how much money to borrow for college?**
Check out these YouTube videos: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eatvz8Jt6G8> or <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVXI67QM2OA&feature=related>.
- 19. Requests for a US Service Academy** can be made by contacting John Boehner's office at 1-800-582-1001 (Adam Eversole) by October 28.
- 20. 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.
- 21. 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. 33 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.

- 22. 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 2012** can start applying on **January 1, 2012**. 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.
- 23. Wendy's High School Heisman Award Program** is open to athletes who have a minimum "B" average. Wendy's gift cards will be awarded to the first 41,000 students that complete an application. Info can be found at: www.wendysheisman.com and are due October 2.
- 24. 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.
- 25. Mercer County SWCD Scholarship:(Grade 12):** The Mercer County Soil and Water Conservation District, along with the Marion Mutual Insurance Association will again be offering a \$500 college scholarship to a local high school senior OR college freshman or sophomore. To be eligible, a student must be pursuing or planning to pursue a degree in environmental education, natural resources, agriculture, or a related field. Questions? call 419/586-3289. Applications are due October 26.
- 26. Coca-Cola Scholars Program:** Each year the Coca-Cola Foundation awards 250 achievement-based scholarships. Awards total \$3 million. Apply online at www.coca-colascholars.org. Applications must be received by October 31.
- 27. Voice of Democracy Audio/Essay Contest** sponsored by Fort Recovery VFW and its Auxiliary. Chance for \$30,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C. There are local, district, and state awards. Entry form is at www.vfw.org under programs. Submit entries to Sharon Link, c/o Fort Recovery VFW Post, P.O. Box 596, Fort Recovery. Deadline is Nov. 1.
- 28. 2012 Prudential Spirit of Community Scholarship:** students who have taken part in community service activities can apply online for this \$1,000 award at <http://spirit.prudential.com>. Submission deadline is November 1.

- 29. Dominion Writing Contest**, open to JUNIORS and seniors: Submit an essay online at www.dom.com keyword: strong. Under Student Writing Contest, click "Submit Your Essay" for more information. Each student winner will receive a laptop computer, and their schools each will receive a \$1000 cash award. Entries are due November 7.
- 30. Mercer County Elks is offering several scholarships--call them if I don't receive the mailing this year!**
- **Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship:** senior applicants must exhibit scholarship, leadership, and financial need. Applications need to be received by **December 2**.
 - **Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards:** eligible applicants are: any child, grandchild, step-child, step-grandchild or legal ward of a living Elk who joined on or before **April 1, 2009**, or a charter member of a Lodge that was instituted on or after April 1, **2009**. The Elk must be a paid member- up through March **10, 2012**. Great-Grandchildren are not eligible. The ENF Legacy Award Application is only available online at www.elks.org/enf/scholars, and is due by **February 1**.
- 31. Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) Chapman Scholars Program** awards full tuition, fees, room, board and textbooks for four years. Requirements are an ACT composite of 29 and ranked in the top 5% of class or an ACT composite of 32. Students can register by calling 260-481-0535. Applicants must apply to IPFW by December 15.
- 32. EFO Engineering Scholarship:** available to HS seniors who plan to study engineering at college. Requirements include a 3.0 GPA, ACT- 29 Math, 25 English (or SAT 600/500). Deadline is December 15.
- 33. 2012 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest:** Write an essay (less than 1,000 words) that demonstrates an understanding of political courage. More details can be found at www.jfklibrary.org. Deadline is January 7.
- 34.** Check out schoolsoup.com, fastweb.com, ChristianConnector.com (and big33.org through Feb. 12) for additional scholarship and college information.

UPCOMING DATES:

- Lots of College Reps are visiting FRHS this fall (check the calendar near the office)
- October 12 PSAT Test (optional National Merit Scholarship test for Juniors)
- October 19 Student Council Blood Drive (students and staff only)
- October 24-28 Fall OGT Week
- October 28 End of 1st nine weeks
- November 8 Americanism Test
- November 8 Tri-Star Presentation for Sophomores
- November 15 PLAN Test (practice ACT) for all Sophomores

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

-Mrs. Kaiser