

# VOORHEES GUIDANCE

## Junior Newsletter

2016-2017

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COUNSELORS:

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## An important year ahead of you!

The Guidance Office is a valuable resource that can assist you in planning for your future. Your counselor is there to help.

**Graduation Credits**– All students should know the credits they need to graduate. If you are in doubt, please check with your counselor.

**College Visit Process**– College visits are considered excused absences as long as you follow proper protocol. Stop by guidance, pick up a form 3 days prior to your visit, fill it out and submit it to attendance. You must show proper documentation on the college/university letterhead with the date of your visit in order for it to be excused. See your counselor if you have any questions.

**Guidance Website**—Please visit our Guidance Website for college resources, financial aid information, forms, and a number of other resources to help you plan for your future.

### College? Vocational School? World of Work?

#### Start planning for your future today!

- \*Attend College and Career Fairs
- \*Use your Naviance account to help determine safety, target and reach schools and search Career interests!
- \*Take advantage of free SAT Test Prep sessions after school.
- \*Schedule College Visits
- \*Attend College Night/Financial Aid presentations at Voorhees.
- \*Get involved-volunteer-make a difference!
- \*Log onto ASPEN –weekly check-in

## Important Dates:

August 25—First day of school  
August 31—Meet the Teachers Night—7:00pm-9:00pm  
September 2—Last day for schedule changes –1st semester  
September 5— Labor Day-**School Closed**  
September 15—Fall College Night @ 7:00 pm Auditorium  
September 28 —North Hunterdon College Fair @ 6:00pm (Gym)  
September 29 –Voorhees—College Fair #1 (during school hours-back gym)  
October 3—Rosh Hashanah– **School Closed**  
October 6—PSAT prep assembly –2:30pm  
October 6—ASVAB test for selected juniors/seniors  
October 10-Full Day Staff In-Service/**School Closed**  
October 12—Yom Kippur– **School Closed**  
October 19—PSAT at Voorhees—Grades 9-10-11 (no sign ups necessary)  
October 22—**ACT test at Voorhees**  
October 27—VHS College Fair #2 (7:00pm-8:30pm)  
November 1—1st MP ends  
November 2-2nd MP begins  
November 3—Military Day  
November 10/11—NJEA Convention/Great time for College visits/**School Closed**  
November 17—Financial Aid Night—VHS Auditorium @ 7:00 pm  
November 23 (1/2 day)-November 27 inclusive-Thanksgiving Recess-**School Closed**  
December 15—Polytech visits (snow date 12/22)  
December 23 (1/2 day) -through January 1-Winter Recess-**School Closed**  
January 10-13 Curriculum review in history classes (Scheduling for 2017-2018)  
January 10-23—Course selection in ASPEN  
January 16-Martin Luther King Jr. Day– **School Closed**  
January 20—end of MP 2/1st semester—**Half Day**  
January 23—2nd semester/3rd marking period begins  
January 24— Course selection in ASPEN-closed  
January 25-Course verification forms due 2017-2018-**parent signature required**  
January 27—last day for drop/add-2nd semester  
February 7—Military visits (Senior Mall area)  
February 17 (1/2 day) through February 20-Presidents' Day-**School Closed**  
March 13-24 –College Planning Meetings (contact guidance counselor to schedule)  
March 16—College Night, Part 2 –VHS Auditorium @ 7:00 pm  
March 31—3rd MP ends  
April 3—4th MP begins  
April 8—**ACT test at Voorhees**  
April 14-21 – Spring Recess-**School Closed**  
April 25—AP Pre-gridding 9 am  
May 1-12—AP testing  
May 19– Career Fair (held during the day in the back gym)  
May 29– Memorial Day-**School Closed**  
May 31/June 1—EOC Biology test  
June 15—end of MP 4-last day of school

## **ATTENDANCE:**

**Please keep a close eye on your attendance.** Remember that more than **6 unexcused absences in a semester course or more than 12 unexcused absences in a full-year course** will result in a loss of credit which will impact your GPA. **\*\*If credit is lost in a class required for graduation, the student will not graduate** until credit restoration is completed. Please see your counselor if you have any questions about your attendance.

**College Visits are considered excused absences.** Be sure to complete the form and bring back proper documentation from the college (otherwise, the absence will not be excused). The form must be completed 3 days prior to your college visit. Forms can be found online (guidance website) or in the Guidance Office.

**PSAT**—On Wednesday, October 19th, the PSAT test will be administered during the school day to all 9th, 10th and 11th grades. The PSAT score from junior year serves as a screening device for the National Merit Scholarship program. Sign-ups are not necessary.

**SAT Prep**—Take advantage of SAT prep from 2:30-3:10pm—it's FREE! Math is on Mondays in room 326 with Ms. Tusa and English is in room 232 on Wednesdays with Mr. Crane. Create an account on collegeboard.com –there are sample SAT questions, free practice tests, test taking strategies and lots of other great resources to help you be successful.

**NAVIANCE**— Be sure to use your NAVIANCE account ! It is a valuable resource for career and college planning and can be accessed through the guidance website. Using your GPA and test scores, along with previous data from Voorhees alumni, you can determine target, safety and reach schools. If you have any questions, please see your guidance counselor. Use your username and password to log on to your account.

**Junior Questionnaire/Parent Brag Sheet**—To be completed at the end of your junior year. Forms are available in the Guidance Office or online at the Guidance Website.

**NCAA—Student/Athletes**—Students who wish to continue participating in sports at a Division I or II college should register on the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) at the end of their junior year. Please see your counselor if you have any questions with this process.

**College /Career Planning Meetings**— In March, a college and career planning meeting with parent/guardian & student will be scheduled. An email will be sent with information about the scheduling options. Call your guidance counselor to set up an appointment.

**National Honor Society**—Students interested in pursuing the National Honor Society must have a GPA of 3.5 and documentation of 100 hours of community service hours/100 hours of extra curricular/50 hours of leadership since their freshman year. There may be overlap in all three areas. Check out their webpage on the school website.

**Student Assistance Program**— Mr. Jeff Hunt, our Student Assistance Coordinator, is located in the guidance office. His door is open to all. Confidential support is available on an individual basis, as well as group support for a number of student concerns. Check out his webpage for lots of student/parent resources.

**College & Career Coordinator**—Ms. Jessica Gorton is located in the Athletic Office. Stop by and see her to discuss future scholarship possibilities, summer opportunities and possible job shadowing experiences. Please visit our guidance website to find valuable information and resources for post-secondary opportunities. Ms. Gorton can be reached at [jgorton@nhvweb.net](mailto:jgorton@nhvweb.net) or at (908) 638-2168.

**Clubs/Activities**— Get involved! Check out the list of clubs and activities at Voorhees High School on our school webpage.

If you plan to take the SAT or ACT, please take note of the following list of dates. Students should register at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (SAT), or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (ACT). Juniors are encouraged to register for the spring test dates. We recommend that students sit for the test at least 2 times - once in the spring of their junior year and then again in the fall of their senior year. Ideally, they should be doing some test prep in between the 2 test dates. \*\*Some colleges require SAT II subject tests. Please check your college materials, the college's website or call the college admissions office to determine if you will need to sign up for the SAT II testing. See your counselor if you have questions.

### **SAT DATES**

<b>Test Dates</b>	October 1	November 5	December 3	January 21	March 11	May 6	June 3
Registration Deadlines	Sept 1	Oct. 7	Nov. 3	Dec. 21	Feb. 10	April 7	May 9

### **ACT DATES**

<b>Test Dates</b>	Sept. 10	<b>October 22 *at VHS</b>	December 10	February 11	<b>April 8 *at VHS</b>	June 10	
Registration Deadlines	August 5	Sept. 16	Nov 4	Jan 13	March 3	May 5	

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## **Have a wonderful year!**