

VOORHEES GUIDANCE

Sophomore Newsletter

2016-2017

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COUNSELORS:

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Welcome Back!

You have now become a seasoned Voorhees Viking. We have an exciting three years in store for you! Now is the time to prepare for your future; the guidance staff and faculty are here to help and guide you along the way. We hope you become a regular visitor to the Guidance Office and get to know your counselor. We have many resources that are available to you.

Guidance Appointments— Please stop by the guidance office and fill out a pass and place it in your guidance counselor's mailbox (located on their door). Your counselor will schedule you for an appointment and send the pass back to you in your Mods 1-2 class. If for some reason you need to see your counselor right away, please get a pass from your teacher. Be sure to sign in on the Guidance Sheet so you are excused from class. Our door is always open!

Schedules— All sophomores must be scheduled for English, math, Chemistry, History, PE 10 and Driver Education, along with electives. If there are any problems with your schedule, please see your counselor. College bound students are strongly encouraged to challenge themselves academically and take a world language.

Tips for a Successful Sophomore Year

*Frequently log onto ASPEN to check your grades.

*Take advantage of extra help every Mon-Wed-Thurs. from 2:30-3:10.

*Stop by the guidance office and get to know your counselor.

*Create an account on Collegeboard.com and practice for the SAT. It's FREE!

*If you are struggling in a class, get help right away...don't wait!

*Be involved-sports/clubs/activities!

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. Students who lose credit for a course will have to complete credit restoration during the summer. Loss of credit in a course negatively impacts your GPA and may prevent you from graduation if the course is a graduation requirement. See your counselor if you have any concerns.

Career Exploration

All sophomores will be taking part in Career testing through **Naviance**. This is an internet career exploration and planning tool that can be used to help explore potential careers, determine areas of interest and provide parents/students with valuable career information. Parents are encouraged to talk with their son/daughter about post high school plans. **Naviance** -accessed from the guidance website *input user name and pw.

PSAT

On Wednesday, October 19th, the PSAT test will be administered during the school day to all 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. All students who plan to pursue college should also take the PSAT again during their junior year since 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.

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 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.

IMPORTANT DATES:

August 25– 1st day of school
August 31–Meet the Teachers Night @7:00pm
September 2–Last day for first semester schedule changes
September 5–Labor Day–**School Closed**
September 15–Fall College Night –VHS Auditorium @ 7:00pm
September 28–North Hunterdon College Fair @ 6:00pm
September 29–Mini-College Fair #1 (school hours)
October 3– Rosh Hashanah–**School Closed**
October 6–PSAT prep assembly-2:30pm
October 10–Full day staff in-service **Students Off**
October 12–Yom Kippur– **School Closed**
October 19–PSAT @ Voorhees HS grades 9 10 11 (no sign up necessary)
October 27–Mini-College Fair #2 (7-8:30pm-back gym)
November 1 -MP 1 ends
November 2 –MP 2 begins
November 3 –Military Day
November 10/11–NJEA Convention/Go for a College visit!/**School Closed**
November 17–Financial Aid Night–VHS Auditorium @ 7:00 pm
November 23 (1/2 day) through Nov. 27–Thanksgiving recess-**School Closed**
December 15–Polytech Field Trip (Snow date 12/22)
December 23 (half day) - January 1–Winter Recess-**School Closed**
January 10-13–Curriculum review in history classes (scheduling 2016-2017)
January 10-23 –Course selection in ASPEN
January 16– Martin Luther King Jr. Day–**School Closed**
January 20–2nd MP ends-1st semester ends-**Half Day**
January 22 –Deadline to submit course requests online for 2015-2016
January 23–2nd semester/3rd marking period begins
January 24–Online course selection closed
January 25–Course request verification forms due –**need parent signature.**
January 27– Last day for second semester schedule changes
February 17 (half day) thru February 20–Presidents' Weekend-**School Closed**
March 16–College Night, Part 2 –VHS Auditorium @ 7:00 pm
March 31–3rd MP ends
April 4– 4th MP begins
April 8–ACT test at Voorhees
April 14-21 – Spring Recess **School Closed**
May 1-12–AP tests
May 15-16– Career Testing
May 19 –Sophomore Career Fair (held during the school day)
May 29–Memorial Day–**School Closed**
May 30 –ASVAB testing –all 10th graders
June 15–end of MP 4–Last day of school

Have a wonderful year!