

The Guidance Newsletter

Seniors:

- Congratulations to those of you who have been accepted to college! Remember, it's still early - we look forward to the good news in March and April!
- If you've been accepted Early Decision, please remember to WITHDRAW your other applications. Failure to do so could reverse your ED acceptance. Please see your counselor if you have any questions.
- Be sure to keep your counselor and teachers who wrote your letters informed about your admission decisions
- Write your teachers thank-you notes for writing your letters of recommendation
- Be sure to periodically check Naviance and the blue binder in the Guidance Office for more scholarships in the coming months!

Important Dates:

1/10 - Grade 9/10 Parent Forum in Media Center:
8-10 AM or 7-9 PM

1/11 - End of Semester 1

1/17 - Semester 2 Independent Study proposals due

Week of 1/14 - Semester 1 Independent Study presentations

1/16 - HS Parent Curriculum Night in Auditorium, 7-9 PM

1/31 - Class of 2021 Parent Meeting, 8-9:30 PM in the Media Center

Sophomores & Freshmen

- Parents: Don't forget to attend the 9th and 10th grade Parent Info Session on January 10th from 8-10 am or 7-9 pm in the WHS Media Center
- We encourage all students to get involved in Activity Block on Thursdays following lunch block. It's a great opportunity to try something new and get to know new people!
- **Freshmen: If you have not met with your counselor or registered for Naviance, please do so ASAP!**



Juniors:

- Junior Guidance Seminar classes will be starting on 1/14. We look forward to working with each of you as we begin the process of post-secondary planning!
- **Parents: sign up for your Naviance account! Naviance is a useful tool for the college process and all junior parents should have an account. Please e-mail Victoria Gower (gowerv@weston.org) or Steve Thuot (thuots@weston.org) for assistance.**

FAFSA Day

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Days in Massachusetts are ongoing into the new year, and will be held in several locations across Massachusetts. FAFSA is a required form for any family/student wishing to receive college financial assistance from the federal government. FAFSA Day in Massachusetts is a great opportunity for families of college-bound students to receive free assistance completing their FAFSA. Volunteers will walk you through the process step-by-step. There are a few things you will need to bring with you to expedite the process:

- FAFSA ID
- Social Security Number
- Driver's license
- Most recent federal tax return
- Most recent W-2 or year-end pay stub
- Untaxed Income records
- Bank statement(s)
- Business and investment records
- Alien Registration Card (if not a US citizen)

Every family needs to create a FAFSA ID in order to fill out the application. To register for FAFSA Day in MA, visit the following website:
<https://www.masfaa.org/fafsa-day-register/>

Interested in Pursuing a Gap Year?

A Gap Year is a great option for students who are pursuing a path other than college directly after graduating from high school. On 1/14, Brookline High School will be hosting a gap year fair from 6-8:30 PM. This fair promises to provide a wealth of information about numerous post-secondary opportunities available to high school graduates. For more information and to register, visit: <https://usagapyearfairs.org/fair/brookline/>

If you are unable to make this fair but are interested in learning more about gap years, there are two other upcoming events in MA:

- 1/12 from 1-4 PM at Noble and Greenough School

- 1/13 from 10 AM - 1 PM at Andover High School.

