

O’Gorman High School
Junior Parent Meeting
for
Post-High Planning
Monday, September 11, 2017

Class of 2019

JUNIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

- * Academic check-up
- * College and post-high planning
- * Career Exploration
- * Financing my education

ACADEMIC CHECK-UP

- * Meet with a counselor.
- * Review transcript and check high school graduation and college admission requirements (25 credits to graduate).
- * Do I meet Opportunity Scholarship requirements?
- * Should I consider the Dakota Corps Scholarship or Build Dakota Scholarship?
- * Am I taking courses related to college major or interests?

Dakota Corps Scholarship

- * Minimum of a 2.8 GPA and 27 ACT
- * Agree in writing to stay in SD and work in a **critical need occupation** after graduation for as many years as the scholarship was received plus one.
- * Deadline is February 1 (of senior year).
- * Provides tuition and fees
- * Competitive scholarship (about 50 awarded)
- * www.sdbor.edu/dakota-corps/welcome.html

Build Dakota Scholarship

- * Enroll full-time in a technical institute program determined as a high-need workforce area in South Dakota.
- * The scholarship will support tuition, fees, books and other required program expenses in the eligible programs.
- * Maintain a 2.5 GPA
- * Following graduation, work full-time in the field of study in South Dakota for a minimum of three years.
- * www.builddakotascholarship.com

South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship

- * 3.0 GPA with no final grade below a “C”*
 - * 24 ACT (must have before you enter college)
 - * 4 English, 4 math (Algebra 1 and higher), 4 science, other state graduation requirements, and 2 world language/CTE courses
 - * Entitlement scholarship
 - * \$6,500 over four years of college (\$1,300 the first three years and \$2,600 the senior year)
- OR**
- * Score 28 or higher on the ACT and meet benchmark scores: Eng – 18, Math – 22, Rdg – 22, Sci - 23

College/Post-High Planning

- * 4 year college, 2 year college/tech school, military, enter workforce.
- * Attend Fall Planning Day – College Fair at the Augustana Elmen Center: Wed., Sept. 20 from 8:00 – 9:00. PARENTS WELCOME!!
- * Meet with college reps that come to O’G.
- * Visit colleges and/or technical schools.
- * Talk to military reps or visit with a counselor about ROTC or a military academy.

College Selection Process

Factors to consider

- * Location
- * Size
- * Type
- * Admission requirements
- * Major
- * Programs
- * Cost & scholarship/financial aid opportunities
- * Faith life (Newman Centers, FOCUS)
- * Other factors: Placement rate, retention, student/faculty ratio, special programs.

More to consider...

College athletics: there are academic requirements.

NCAA: www.eligibilitycenter.org

NAIA: www.playnaia.org

Other college activities: band, vocal music, theater, ROTC, Greek life, clubs, intramurals, SAC, etc.

“Can I see myself living here for the next 4-5 years?”

PARENTS are the most important factor in helping with post-high plans! But, the counselors are here to help you with the process.

TESTING

- * ACT is offered six times a year: Feb, Apr, Jun, Sept, Oct, Dec. Register online at www.actstudent.org
- * ACT or ACT Plus Writing? Depends on what schools you are applying to. Plus Writing not required in SD.
- * PSAT: October 11 at O'G. Cost is \$20. It is the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT)
 - recommended for strong academic students
- * SAT: normally not needed as colleges will accept ACT or SAT scores. The Midwest is predominantly ACT.

CAREER EXPLORATION

- * www.SDMyLife.com Career and college information site where students can explore various careers and colleges, take an interest inventory, work on a resume, and prepare for the ACT (Method Test Prep). It's FREE...
- * Shadow opportunities/career speakers through Anatomy and Career Exploration classes.

Financing my education...

- * FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It's the basis for student aid at colleges.
- * www.fafsa.ed.gov (DON'T use the .com site!)
- * A financial aid package includes scholarships, grants, loans, and work study.
- * Scholarships come in all shapes and sizes and from multiple sources.
- * College cost: tuition, fees, room, board, personal and misc. expenses.

Financing my education 2...

- * Many students won't have to pay the “sticker price” as they will qualify for scholarships or other aid.
- * Don't rule out private schools just because of cost, they often offer very competitive financial aid.
- * Check multiple places for scholarships: academic, music, theater, athletics, other talent, ROTC, parents employers, scholarship searches, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation, banks, scholarship searches.

SFCS Community Building Rules

- * We will treat all students with respect.
- * We will help students who are not being treated with respect.
- * We will work to include students who are left out.
- * We will tell an adult at school if we know that someone is not being treated with respect.

Peer Relations Reporting

- * Students and parents are able to report bullying or safety or mental health concerns (anonymous or not, your choice)
- * Report goes directly to counselors
 - * www.sfcss.org
 - * Click O’Gorman H.S.
 - * Parents-Students
 - * Peer Relations Reporting

Thoughts & recommendations...

- * Take a challenging curriculum senior year. You will be better prepared for college.
- * Work on developing time management and study skills. You will be better prepared for college.
- * Take AP courses and/or courses for Mount Marty credit. You will be better prepared for college.
 - * Check local policy for transfer credit
- * Consider courses at the Career & Tech Ed Academy.
- * Build your resume. Step outside your comfort zone.
- * Volunteer. Service can be an important part of the admission or scholarship process.

ACT research...

- * Less preparation means more remediation. Taking less rigor in high school may put students in a position where they have to take (and pay for) remedial classes to meet requirements for beginning level classes in college.
- * 87% of students who complete 4 years of English, math, and science in high school stay on track to graduate from college compared to 62% who don't complete that coursework (from ACT stats).

Fall of Senior Year...

- * Take/retake the ACT (as needed)
- * Meet with a counselor
- * Final college visits
- * Apply by Thanksgiving
- * Meet with a counselor
- * Explore scholarships
- * FAFSA will require 2017 tax information
- * Meet with a counselor

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Counseling Office Phone

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