

# Counselor

## Connection

### 2012-2013! SENIOR YEAR!!



"We do not need magic to transform our world. We carry all of the power we need inside ourselves already."

~ J.K. Rowling



South Stokes

Counseling Department

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click on Counseling Center on the left

Welcome to the 2012-2013 school year; your FINAL year Seniors!! We are very excited to be back and back into the swing of things. Although I'll be sad to see you go, I'm also incredibly excited to send you off into the next chapter of your lives and am looking very forward to helping you as you put the final necessary steps in motion.

Beginning very soon I will begin meeting with each of you to finalize your current plans and begin college applications and/or job planning. Don't panic that I'm not here quite yet. I'll be back by the beginning of September and most colleges won't start accepting applications before the middle of September.

Below you will find things that you need to be doing, as well as helpful websites and dates, as you begin to navigate this last year in your high school career. If you have questions about anything to get you started don't hesitate to e-mail me while I'm out or go to Mrs. Cheek or Mrs. Reynolds.

**BE SURE TO LOG ONTO THE COUNSELING CENTER WBSITE AND COMPLETE THE SENIOR CONTACT INFORMATION UNDER NEWS**

<http://sshscounselors.weebly.com/senior-info-form.html>

## Time to get going.....

- ◆ Review Graduation Requirements, transcripts, and Senior Contracts that you will receive in the first few weeks of school.
- ◆ Clarify short-term and long-term goals: Am I going to a 4 year college, a community college, or going straight to work? What are some college majors and/or occupations that interest me? What do I need to do to achieve these goals?

### STUDENTS GOING STRAIGHT TO THE WORKFORCE

- ◆ Investigate careers online or in the Resource Room ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org))
- ◆ Consider taking the ASVAB this year
- ◆ Consider part-time work and/or internships to gain work experience
- ◆ Learn about developing resumes, preparing job applications, and tips for successful job interviews

### STUDENTS GOING TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE/TECH SCHOOLS

- ◆ Investigate colleges and careers online or in the Resource Room ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org); [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))
- ◆ Determine how to pay for college
- ◆ Complete the FAFSA in January to qualify for state and federal financial aid
- ◆ Consider taking the ASVAB this year
- ◆ Check admission requirements for the degree programs you are considering and take the necessary steps to complete admission (applications, information sessions/orientations, etc)
- ◆ Visit colleges and ask questions about admissions and programs
- ◆ Prepare for the College Placement Test that will be offered throughout the school year. The first test will be offered in the fall.
- ◆ Consider pre-college summer program and/or summer job or volunteer experience.

## STUDENTS GOING TO FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

- ◆ Take realistic, challenging courses that will prepare you for the rigors of colleges as recommended by your teachers and counselor
- ◆ Keep studying—colleges want to see that you're serious about your education and are willing to challenge yourself throughout high school
- ◆ Investigate colleges and careers online or in the Resource Room finalizing your choices of where to apply—most early decision and early action applications are due by October 1 and November 1
- ◆ Do any last college visits early in the fall semester—check websites for open houses
- ◆ Register for the SAT and/or ACT this FALL and have scores sent to the schools you are applying to
- ◆ Determine how to pay for college (researching scholarships online, reading this Counselor newsletter to learn about local scholarships, checking financial aid websites at the colleges you are applying to, etc)
- ◆ Consider taking the ASVAB this year
- ◆ Check admission requirements for the schools you are considering applying to and plan to apply to 3-8 schools this fall (REMEMBER: Reach, Realistic, and Safety schools)
- ◆ Remember to request transcripts and recommendations several weeks before application deadlines
- ◆ Complete the FAFSA in January. Some schools also require the CSS/PROFILE, a supplemental financial aid form, so make sure you check to see if your schools require this additional information

# WEBSITES

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

www.ncpublicschools.org  
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/graduation/>  
<https://www.stokes.k12.nc.us/policy/manual.html>

### CAREER INFORMATION

www.cfnc.org  
 www.nccareers.com  
 www.myfuture.com  
 www.soicc.state.nc.us/SOICC

### COLLEGE INFORMATION

www.cfnc.org  
 www.collegeboard.org  
 www.collegeview.com  
 www.campustours.com  
 www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool  
 www.mymajors.com

### COLLEGE ENTRANCE TEST PREP

www.collegeboard.org  
 www.actstudent.org  
 www.number2.com  
 www.cavhs.org  
 www.princetonreview.com  
 www.proprofs.com  
 www.ivywest.com  
 www.ets.org  
 www.freevocabulary.com  
 www.march2success.com  
 www.kaplan.com

### SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

www.cfnc.org  
 www.fastweb.com  
 www.schoolsoup.com  
 www.wsfoundation.org

### SAT Administration & Registration

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
October 6, 2012**	September 7, 2012
November 3, 2012	October 4, 2012
December 1, 2012	November 1, 2012
January 26, 2013	December 28, 2012
March 9, 2013	February 8, 2013
May 4, 2013**	April 5, 2013
June 1, 2013	May 2, 2013

\* Indicates that SAT will be administered at South

Register at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

### ACT Administration & Registration Deadlines

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
September 8, 2012	August 17, 2012
October 27, 2012**	September 21, 2012
December 8, 2012	November 2, 2012
February 9, 2013	January 11, 2013
April 13, 2013**	March 8, 2013
June 8, 2013	May 3, 2013