

September/October 2016



Welcome Back Everyone!

The High School Counseling Department would like to extend an official “WELCOME” to you, the Class of 2020!

You are about to embark upon an exciting and fruitful journey—the journey through high school.

Many opportunities are available to you, many potential challenges await you, and many, many choices and decisions will determine your success in high school and beyond!

The Counseling Office is located in Suite F-306. You will meet with your counselor repeatedly over the next four years. We look forward to seeing you in the Counseling Office very soon!

The High School Counselors

9th Grade Individual Guidance Plans

9th Grade IGP (Individualized Guidance Plan) Meetings with ninth graders and their parents will begin mid October.

Some of the items that will be discussed include:

- Academic and social transition to high school
- Involvement in school activities
- Planning a schedule of courses
- Graduation requirements
- Career and post secondary educational interests and goals

Please use the B-9 entrance near the Fine Arts Theatre. You will need to check in and pick up a visitor’s badge before coming to our office. We look forward to meeting you!

Mt. Lebanon High School Counseling Bulletin

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Upcoming College Fairs

[Bethel Park, Mt. Lebanon, Peters Twp & USC College Fair—October 4, 2016](#)

See colleges attending the Fair on October 4, 2016 [here](#).

Read [this article](#) before you go to help you navigate the College Fairs efficiently.

College Visits Are Underway!

Between now and November representatives from over 100 colleges and universities will visit our school. All 11th and 12th grade students have an opportunity to talk in small groups with the visiting representatives. Since these conferences are time-consuming students should be selective in choosing which visits to attend. Military representatives also visit frequently and are available through individual requests.

Parents and students should view the list of visiting colleges in Naviance under the Colleges tab. When students add colleges of interest and/or colleges they are applying to, Naviance will automatically send an email if this college has scheduled a visit. **It is very important that students check their student email and login to Naviance on a regular basis during the school year to keep abreast of upcoming events and deadlines.** College visit information will also be available on the TV screens during lunch periods, on the morning announcements, and posted in their homerooms.

As a reminder, these are the student responsibilities for college meetings:

Students must sign in on iPad when attending a college meeting. This verifies attendance at the college meeting.

Students must secure the approval of the teacher whose class will be missed **prior** to the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, students should read about the particular college in Naviance to gather facts and information about the school and SIGN UP in Naviance if they plan to attend.

Students should have some questions in mind to ask the representative.

It is the student's responsibility to make up class work missed as a result of attendance at college meetings.

College meetings are to be taken seriously and are an excellent opportunity to determine if the college may be a good fit for you!



College Board Recommendations from the Counseling Office



**NEXT SAT TEST @ Mt. Lebanon High School
December 3, 2016. Register at [College Board](#).**

The PSAT will be given on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. All 10th and 11th graders will take the test during the school day. There are NO student fees or need to pre-register however all students should create an account on College Board. Students should be extra mindful when entering their date of birth and email address. This is very important in order for test results to be matched with your student College Board account. [Click here](#) to create an account if you have not already created one. Watch for more information on this from Mr. McFeeley's office in the near future.



Official PSAT & SAT Practice is available thru KhanAcademy for free. Please [click here](#) to start practicing using the world-class, personalized practice available to all students.



ACT Test on October 22, 2016. (Not at MTL)

Mt. Lebanon is **not** a testing site for the ACT test. However, Mt. Lebanon students wishing to take this test are encouraged to go to authorized test sites nearby.

It is recommended for students to take this test in

addition to the SAT. Please see your school counselor for information about the test.

**MTLHS
Code: 393730**

To register for an ACT test please click [here](#) or go to: www.actstudent.org

For test dates and registration deadlines click [here](#).

JOB BOARD



Are you looking for an after school job? We might be able to help you!

Local businesses and residents frequently send us information on job opportunities for students.

Check out the Job Board located in the hallway across from the Nurse's office!

Need Help? Just Ask Us!

Help is available in our Math Lab and Writing Center.

The Math Lab is in Room B 616. It provides tutorial, remedial and enrichment services. Email [Mrs. Trumbull](#) or stop by her room to make an appointment.

The Writing Center in Room B521 offers essay and other writing assignment help before, during and after school. Email [Mrs. Shine](#) or stop by her room to make an appointment.



Junior Individualized Guidance Plan (IGP) Meetings

Individualized Guidance Plan (IGP) conferences have been traditionally well received by parents and students. Recent feedback indicated a desire to implement the 11th grade conferences earlier in the school year. In response to this feedback, 11th grade conferences will take place during December and January. Please watch for more information to follow. We encourage you to participate in this important conference!

Some of the items that will be discussed include:

- Initializing plans for the 2017-2018 schedule
- Reviewing credit status toward graduation
- Sharing current QPA and other official transcript information
- Discussing and planning timelines for college entrance exams
- Discussing career and post secondary educational interests and goals
- Reviewing the Naviance career and college search software tool



Financial Aid Evening — October 19, 2016

For Seniors, college may be right around the corner. It's not too early to get yourself acquainted with some of the things you'll need to sail through the process a little more smoothly.

Get ready to complete your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), which is needed for federal and most state grants, scholarships, low-cost student loans, work-study programs & other state programs.

Master the five simple steps toward financial aid! Check out what you need to do to access money for your higher education. Learn more [here](#).

The [Federal Student Aid website](#) has FAQs on the FSA ID and a link to create your ID in order to complete the FAFSA Application.

Attend the Financial Aid Evening

October 19, 2016 @ 7 p.m.

Fine Arts Theatre

Presenter: Mrs. Michelle Duffy

Financial Aid Director - Washington & Jefferson College

Senior Meetings

CLASS OF 2017



Counselors met with all Seniors during the second & third weeks of school to discuss the college application process. This meeting included how to use the Common Application to submit applications to member colleges, how to use Naviance to request transcripts and letters of recommendation, test scores from College Board and ACT, and other important details.

Many resources including video tutorials are available to you on the **School Counseling website under Naviance**. Still need help? Stop by and see your counselor!

Parenting Series

Tweet, Tweet! Blog, Blog!

[2016 Free Fall Parenting Series](#)



You can now follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)!

Outreach
Teen & Family Services, Inc.

Mt. Lebanon Office
666 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228-1913
Phone: 412-561-5405

Get A Head Start On Scholarship Applications!

Login to your [Naviance account](#) and explore national and other scholarships that are available for consideration. Some scholarships already have applications ready for your completion. All scholarships will be posted as they become known to us. Be sure to check back regularly to see what is new!



HS Counseling Dept.

Room F-306
155 Cochran Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Phone: 412.344.2053
Fax: 412.344.2028