



CENTRAL COLUMBIA

4777 OLD BERWICK ROAD
BLOOMSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17815-3515

District Administration Office

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12th Grade: Post-Secondary Planning

Hello. We would like to reach out to all of you to share some insights as to what is, and should be, happening during your student's Senior year in high school. We have listed numerous websites that can be used, no matter what post-secondary track your student pursues, to help navigate the difficult task of choosing a path after high school.

During the Senior year of high school, many students will solidify the plans for the future that they have thought through and researched over the course of their high school careers. These students will commit to a college, the military, or a particular career path. In addition, many students will still be "on the fence" with what they want to pursue in the future. This is normal and not a cause for concern. If these students are "on the fence", that means they are actively considering future options, which is positive. Finally, there are students who have absolutely no idea and/or motivation to contemplate a future career path.

All types of students will benefit from the topics that are covered in Senior Seminar, a "course" consisting of multiple structured meetings with me throughout the course of the school year. Senior Seminar covers topics that help students no matter what their future path, including a five-year post-secondary action plan, resume writing, job searching, interview practice, scholarship searching, and financial planning. Below we will identify what will/should happen for each of the 3 types of students that we spoke of earlier (Solidifying their plan, On the fence, No idea). Please have a discussion with your student to find out what category that they fall in.

- **Solidifying their plan**
 - If *continuing their education*, these students will apply to their college or university of choice in the fall of their senior year.
 - Pay attention to application deadlines
 - Early Decision vs Early Action vs Regular Admission vs Rolling Admission
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying-101/college-admission-glossary>
 - If students are unhappy with your SAT scores, you have the opportunity to take them again during the fall, or register for the ACT.
 - <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register>
 - www.act.org
 - Attend the financial aid presentation at Bloomsburg High School on September 3, 2019.



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- Students and parents should attend the **FAFSA completion session** at CCHS. The date is still uncertain, but will likely be the first week of October. We will communicate the date as soon as it is secured.
- If you received a fee waiver for the SAT, you are eligible for **application fee waiver**. Please see Mr. B
- Examine your family's financial resources and gather information about financial aid from the schools in which you're interested. You want to make sure that you can afford the school you select.
 - www.mysmartborrowing.org
- Apply for scholarships.
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.collegeboard.com
 - Check out the Guidance section of the CCHS website.
- If entering the military, check your enlistment options with your recruiter.
 - <http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/compare-military-enlistment-choices.html>
- If entering the workforce, some will already have employment lined up. For others...
 - Make an appointment at Career Link to search for employment opportunities.
 - Meet with your School Counselor to work on updating your resume.
 - Discuss your employment options at home and at school. Active exploration will get you far.
 - Work on making yourself marketable.
 - Join a club, volunteer your time, find a part-time job.
- **On the fence/No Idea – reference all of the above information plus...**
 - These students should actively have discussions at home and school about what options they are considering, taking into account the financial impact of their options, future job market, and training options.
 - www.pacareerzone.org
 - www.cpwdc.org
 - <https://collegeboard.roadtripnation.com>
 - <http://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Schedule a job shadow or multiple job shadows to get a better idea of different career directions. The best way to learn about careers is through experience.
 - If leaning *college*, make sure that you follow the information included in the previous section.
 - If leaning *military*, meet with your counselor to schedule a meeting with a recruiter to discuss your options.



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- If leaning *workforce*, meet with your counselor to discuss taking additional interest, abilities, and values inventories AND set up hands-on experiences (job shadow, work experience, internship) to help steer you in the right direction.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to your counselor with any questions. Below is a general timeline for your student's senior year of high school. Hope this helps!

Summer

- Make sure that your graduation requirements are scheduled (everyone)
- Gain volunteer or part-time work experience (everyone)
- Apply for scholarships (post-secondary education)
- If you plan to participate in Division 1 or 2 athletics, make sure that you have registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse (post-secondary)
- If you are taking college classes, make sure that you have thoroughly considered the value of AP classes as well (post-secondary)

Late Summer through Fall

- Discuss ideas for your future plans at home (everyone)
- Meet with your counselor to discuss your future plans, and the senior-year process associated with your plan (everyone)
- Attend a Career Connections Expo at Bloomsburg University (everyone)
- Speak with your recruiter (military bound)
- Finalize your college visits (post-secondary education bound)
- Attend the FAFSA completion session at CCHS (post-secondary education bound)
- Examine the financial impact of your post-secondary action plan (everyone)
- Fill out college applications (post-secondary education bound)
- Take the SAT/ACT, if you would like to increase your scores OR if you have not yet taken the SAT/ACT (post-secondary education bound)
- Apply for scholarships (post-secondary)

Late Fall through Winter

- Discuss your futures plans at home (everyone)
- Meet with your counselor to review your plan again, and begin developing your Post-Secondary Action Plan (everyone)
- Finish college applications (post-secondary)
- Begin revising your professional resume (everyone)
- Search for current and potential position openings, and put yourself in the best position to get the job (workforce bound primarily, but everyone would benefit).



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- Apply for Scholarships (post-secondary)

Late Winter through Spring

- Discuss your current plans at home (everyone)
- Finalize your Post-Secondary Action Plan (everyone)
- Finish revising your professional resume (everyone)
- Professional interview practice (everyone)
- Continue job applications (workforce)
- Complete the Senior Exit Interview (everyone)

Hope this helps!

Mr. B & Mrs. Fairchild
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