

College and Career Bulletin

November, 2011

www.northmontschools.com/hs/counselors

Ohio Career Information System

From November 18 and continuing through November 22, the counselors assisted junior students in using the **Ohio Career Information System** (OCIS) in the high school's computer lab. OCIS is a web-based computer application developed by the University of Oregon and administered by the Ohio Department of Education. Junior students use OCIS to research colleges, universities, technical schools, occupational opportunities, and scholarships. OCIS is accessible at: www.northmontschools.com/hs/counselors
Username: Northmont, Password: ohiocis03

PSAT Results Coming!

Students who took the **PSAT** in October will receive their results in December.

Need College, Career, Scholarship and Financial Aid Information?

Parents and students are making extensive use of the Counseling Center's website at www.northmontschools.com/hs/counselors for information on a variety of topics. A sample of the information available includes links to **college applications** on the Web, links to many college information sites, ACT and SAT registration links, the high school transcript request form, the profile, how to apply for **financial aid** for college, links to **scholarship** search sites, how to plan a career, military opportunities, **NCAA** eligibility, and many other topics.

Miami Valley Career Technology Center Update

On Tuesday December 6, sophomores will take a **field trip to the Miami Valley Career Technology Center**. Those students who signed up in September during the MVCTC orientation program will have the opportunity to explore two career programs. Northmont counselors will escort the students to the MVCTC on Northmont buses. The MVCTC also will host an **open house** and free spaghetti dinner on December 8 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for parents and students who wish to tour the facility and meet with instructors. Those students who plan to apply for admission may pick up **application** materials in the Northmont Counseling Center on or after December 9. Completed applications should be returned to Northmont no later than January 20. Students will receive information regarding their admission status by April 20.

Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program

The PSEO program allows students to take college classes to supplement their high school courses. Each college has eligibility requirements and sets the number of spaces available. Students will be receiving more information during scheduling in February. Any student interested in participating during the 2012-2013 school year must turn in a state mandated intent form by March 30, 2012. Following that, there will be a mandatory meeting for students/parents.

Scheduling for 2012-2013

High school students will choose their courses for the 2012-2013 school year during the month of February 2012. Students will attend an orientation session led by their counselor where graduation requirements and scheduling procedures will be discussed and the program of studies will be distributed. Students will then bring these materials home so that **parents can assist with course selection**. Students then will return a card listing the selected courses to their counselor. Tips for scheduling:

- A minimum of 5½ credits is required each year (5 for seniors).
- Alternate (second choice) courses must be listed on the scheduling card.
- Students involved in athletics should schedule at least 6 credits.
- **Parents must sign the schedule card.**

Dates for 2012-2013 Scheduling

Juniors	Orientation	Feb. 6
	Card return	Feb. 8,9
Sophomores	Orientation	Feb. 13
	Card return	Feb. 15,16
Freshmen	Orientation	Feb. 21
	Card return	Feb. 23,24

ACT/SAT Information

Which college entrance test should a student take? Most colleges will accept either the ACT or the SAT. Taking both tests gives students additional opportunities to score well.

How are the scores used in determining admission to a specific college? Test scores are one of several criteria that may be used for determining admission. Students' choice of courses, cumulative grade point average, class rank, and involvement in school and community activities may also be given consideration in the admission process.

When should students take the ACT/SAT?

Northmont counselors recommend that students take the ACT and SAT in the spring and/or early summer of their junior year. Most students also repeat these tests early in the first semester of their senior year.

Financial Aid Information

Thursday, December 8, 7:00 p.m.

Northmont Community Auditorium

Junior and Senior Parents Welcome!

All seniors are encouraged to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online as soon after January 1 as possible at **www.fafsa.ed.gov**. A few steps to take before January 1 (first date to file) are listed below.

- **Get a PIN** (personal identification number) to make processing faster. To sign your FAFSA electronically, student and parent both need a PIN. If you do not already have one, apply now at <http://www.pin.ed.gov/>
- **Print the "fafsa on the web worksheet"** – some find it helpful to complete this worksheet before actually completing their online FAFSA. To print this worksheet, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov
- **Complete information** may be found on the Northmont counselors' website: my.northmontschools.com/hs/counselingcenter/finaidlinks.shtml

Northmont Counselors

A – C	Beth Kessler	832.6021
D – Ha	Amy Peters	832.6019
Hb – L	Erica Marsden	832.6018
M – P	Rich Sommer	832.6023
Q - S	Kent McIntire	832.6022
T – Z	Glenn Patton	832.6020