

REDCOAT COUNSELOR

COMMENTS

JANUARY 2014

The BHS School Counseling Dept. supports the high school's mission to help all students **ACHIEVE** - the following events will take place in January:

- **January 7, 2014 - Financial Aid Eveing** - Carolyn Karno will speak on how to fill out the FAFSA and she will highlight other financial aid options. 7:00 pm in the cafeteria.
- **January 21-24 - Mid Year Exams**
- **January 25, 2014 - SATs** - not at BHS - students can still sign up as late registrants until January 14th.
- **January 26, 2014 - College Goal Sunday** - 1:30-4:30 pm located at 15 area college sites; See information in the enclosed article.

Important Events in School Counseling

College Goal Sunday - Connecticut

Connecticut's College Goal Sunday will take place on **Sunday, January 26, 2014, from 1:30- 4:30 pm.** This program is designed to assist prospective college students and their parents in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The programming will run at fifteen sites throughout the state including Manchester Community College, East Hartford High School,

Windsor High School, the University of Hartford, and Eastern Connecticut State



**Berlin High School
Counseling Department**

University (Willimantic).

To register for College Goal Sunday, visit:

www.collegegoalsundayct.org and click on the **"Students Register Here"** tab to select a specific location and register.

In addition to receiving assistance in filling out the FAFSA, participants will receive general information regarding state and federal financial aid programs. There will also be one \$200 scholarship raffled off at each site.

Mid-year and Final Exams January 21-24, 2014

Every student at Berlin HS will take mid-year exams the week of January 20th. This will mark the end of the first semester; with the second semester beginning on Monday, January 27, 2014.

Some tips to consider when preparing for Mid Year Exams:

- **Prioritize** - use the study guides provided by your teachers.
- **Meaningful Organization** - group ideas into meaningful categories.
- **Recitation** - state information out loud to yourself.
- **Visualization** - make a mental picture of what you are studying.
- **Association** - memorize facts by making associations to things that are familiar to you or use Mnemonics; memory training devices.
- **Summarize** - put text material into your own words.
- **Repetition** - the more you go over material, you will increase your memory of that material.
- **Time Management** - find the best time for you to study; make a calendar or schedule to manage your time wisely for studying.
- **Do Your Best! Good Luck!**

College Transcripts and Supporting Documents *Deadlines 2013-2014 School Year*

For Application Due:

Wednesday, January 15

Saturday, February 1

Saturday, February 15

Saturday, March 1

To School Counselor By:

Thursday, January 2

Friday, January 17

Friday, January 31

Friday, February 14

Students must fill out the “Green Transcript” form that is located in the guidance suite in our form tower. Please make sure to include your major, the names of your teacher recommenders, and if your school is a common application school.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS

State law requires that all Connecticut full-time or matriculating students provide proof of adequate immunization against measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) and varicella (chickenpox).

- All incoming freshmen are required to show proof of two doses of the MMR. The doses should be separated by at least 28 days with dose number one being given on or after the first birthday.
- All incoming freshmen are required to show proof of two doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. The doses should be separated by at least 28 days with dose number one being given after the first birthday.
- Parental or self-report of varicella disease is no longer considered acceptable evidence of immunity, as naturally occurring infection has declined dramatically and clinical illness has become more difficult to recognize.

In addition, seniors who plan to attend college within Connecticut and live in on-campus housing must be immunized against meningitis.

Please be sure to follow up with your pediatrician to make sure that these immunizations have taken place.

**Berlin High School Counseling
Department**

Deborrah Ramirez -

Department Director
Dramirez@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 163

Karen Crawford - School Counselor

Kcrawford@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 137

Andrea Maule - School Counselor

Amaule@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 159

Patrica Pires - School Counselor

Ppires@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 161

Jill Taradeina - School Counselor

Jtaradeina@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 162

Mary Pacyna - Counseling Secretary

Mpacyna@berlinschools.org
860-828-6577 X 158

Non-Local Scholarships Available

All scholarship information is located in the Counseling Office in our Scholarship Bucket; See Mrs. Pacyna for non-local scholarship applications. Scholarship information can also be found on Naviance. Students should go to <https://connection.naviance.com/berlin> and enter their username and password in order to find scholarship information.

Local Scholarship information will be coming in the month of February; all senior students will be given a packet at a scholarship assembly. Please listen for announcements regarding this assembly.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION: The 2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) must be completed online by all seniors who are seeking financial aid. This form determines eligibility for all federal monies. The family completes this form, indicating the colleges to be informed of the results. After it is processed, the student receives a Student Aid Report (SAR). The FAFSA must be submitted online after January 1, 2014 at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

**** Parents and students should visit the website in advance of filing the FAFSA to request a PIN because there is some "wait time" before the number is assigned. A separate PIN is required for parents and students. This PIN is necessary to electronically "sign" your application. Electronically signing the application allows you to save time in the filing process.**

