Guidance Notes for Juniors, Seniors, and their Parents

By Debra J. Anderson, H.S. Guidance Counselor danderson@centralcityps.org Work: 308-946-3086 October 1, 2015

Financial Aid Planning Workshop

Please note that at the request of many parents and students, we will be having a **Financial Aid Planning Workshop** (important for college bound juniors and seniors, and especially parents) this fall on Monday, November 9th 2015 at 7 pm in the Performing Arts Center. It will be put on free of charge by the EducationQuest Foundation at CCHS. Students and parents from other schools are also invited to attend.

EducationQuest College Access Grant

Even though the college going rate of CCHS seniors has been higher than the state average we were still lucky enough to be awarded a College Access Grant through the EducationQuest Foundation which started in August of 2014.

The EducationQuest Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska. Headquartered in Lincoln, EducationQuest provides free college planning services, need-based scholarship programs, grants that help high schools increase their college-going rate, and outreach services for community agencies statewide. For more information, call 800.303.3745 or visit EducationQuest.org.

Parents - perhaps you would like to visit the EducationQuest Foundation Office with your son or daughter. You may call and make an appointment at 800-666-3721 (for the Kearney office), 800-303-3745 (for the Lincoln office), or 888-357-6300 (for the Omaha office). If you have e-mail available, sign up through the EducationQuest Foundation for the free **Countdown to College** e-mail service for monthly planning tips (for students grades 9 -12 and parents). The EducationQuest Foundation webpage also offers an on-line activities resume for students to keep their achievements current, a college-search, and scholarship matches. All of this and more can be accessed at <u>www.educationquest.org</u>.

The Nebraska Career Information System

The **Nebraska Career Information System** is full of interest inventories, occupational information, military information, scholarship information, and links to colleges across the nation. Please take time to check NCIS out. Here is the information that you will need for Internet NCIS:

URL: <u>http://necis.intocareers.org</u> NEW USERNAME: 09centralhs NEW PASSWORD: H005709

Most of our students already have a Portfolio established and can log in at:

URL: <u>http://necis.intocareers.org</u> USERNAME: (first four letters of their first name, first six letters of their last name) PASSWORD: (first initial, last initial, student ID number)

If a student is new to the district, the student can become a new user and establish a Portfolio using:

URL: <u>http://necis.intocareers.org</u>
USERNAME: (first four letters of their first name, first six letters of their last name – all lowercase – and two number graduation year)
PASSWORD: (Bison and school id number)

College Information

Over the years I have noticed that some programs of study that are popular to take, fill up quickly at some of the community colleges around the state. At Southeast Community College in Lincoln the programs that fill quickly and require special admission standards are: Microcomputers; Graphic Design; Practical Nursing; and Associates Degree of Nursing. At Southeast Community College in Milford these programs include: Building Construction; Architecture; Auto Collision; Computer Programming; and Automotive Technology. At Northeast Community College in Norfolk, admission to the Lineman Course is often limited. Interested juniors should go ahead and apply to these specific programs so that they can enter them in the fall after they graduate from high school.

Central Community College prides itself on not having waiting lists; however, please be advised that some of the health related programs are competitive and require special admissions standards (for more information, please contact the Admissions Office). These programs include Associates Degree of Nursing and Practical Nursing on the Grand Island and Columbus campuses, and the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program on the Grand Island campus. They also include the competitive programs of Medical Laboratory Technician, Health Information Management (Medical Records), Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, and Medical Assisting located on the Hastings campus.

The best way for students to learn about the colleges that they are interested in, is to **visit the colleges** during the school year. A college visit while CCHS is in session is considered an excused absence or a "white slip" activity, however, these days still count against a student's attendance for the semester. College visits do not count for early out purposes in May when documented with the office. October 16, 2015 is a day this fall that our students do not have school, so you may wish to schedule a college visit then. Simply call the Admissions Office of the college that you wish to visit a few weeks ahead of time to schedule a tour.

College Entrance Exams

COMPASS Tests are given to students through community colleges and technical schools for admission and placement purposes. Admissions Offices of specific colleges will inform those requesting information of the testing that is necessary for the various programs of study. Call the Admissions Office at the community college to be informed about the programs of study that you are interested in, and to set up a tour a few weeks in advance. Contact the Testing Department at the community college to schedule the COMPASS Test a few weeks before you would like to take it. Although the COMPASS Test is not timed, it normally takes between 1.5 to 2 hours to complete. You may take the COMPASS Test for free at the community college you apply to. Also Mr. Detlefsen and I have now been trained to give the COMPASS Test here at CCHS, so if you would rather take it here simply schedule a time to take it through me.

Many seniors who are college bound have already taken the **ACT**. Many of our seniors plan to take the ACT again in October, or December. The December test date is the last date that will <u>typically</u> meet scholarship guidelines for seniors (October test date for Wayne State). It is very important to know if a certain ACT score is needed for acceptance into a specific college or program of study that a student may be wishing to pursue. College bound juniors (and some gifted sophomores) will choose to take the ACT a number of times this school year. College bound students should take the ACT <u>three or more times</u>, to have the best composite score.

ACT has an optional Writing Test. Students should plan to take the Writing Assessment also if they have excellent writing skills and wish to demonstrate these to prospective colleges or if the college the student is interested in attending recommends it. At this point most colleges in Nebraska do not require the optional writing test, but to be sure, a student may log onto <u>www.actstudent.org</u> to check the recommendations for specific colleges.

Some of our seniors are also planning to take the **SAT** Reasoning Test. (Few schools in this area require the SAT Subject Tests.) Some students score even better on the SAT than on the ACT, depending on their particular strengths. Some out-of-state schools require the SAT instead of the ACT. Most Nebraska colleges will use either an ACT or SAT score. Scholarship committees and colleges always ask for the best scores that a student has achieved, even if a student has taken the ACT or SAT a number of times.

With both the ACT and SAT deadlines are very important. If a student chooses to register after a registration deadline, there are additional costs. I have registration materials available in my office. Most students register online for the ACT at <u>www.actstudent.org</u> or the SAT at <u>www.collegeboard.com</u>, but they **must** remember to put in our high school code which is **280-440**. Now, because of testing security issues, students must also upload or mail in a head and shoulder picture of them when they register.

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline
ACT	October 24	September 18
ACT	December 12	November 6
ACT	February 6	January 8
ACT	April 9	March 4
ACT	June 11	May 6
SAT	October 3	September 3
SAT	November 7	October 9
SAT	December 5	November 5
SAT	January 23	December 28
SAT	March 5	February 5
SAT	May 7	April 8
SAT	June 4	May 5

All students who plan to take the ACT or SAT should complete at least one practice test prior to testing. These are free to students and are available in my office, including a number of them from different years. Also, if a student goes to their Portfolio in the Nebraska Career Information System, there are excellent materials available to study with from Peterson's online, free of charge. Contact me if you need assistance.

ASVAB

Sophomores, juniors and seniors, especially students interested in entering the military, should take the **ASVAB** or **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery**. This test is required for students interested in any branch of the Armed Services and is free of charge. The ASVAB also includes a great career assessment to help all students have a better idea of what their interests are. The ASVAB will be given at CCHS on February 4th 2016 (a teacher professional development morning), but a recruiter can schedule the ASVAB for any student in Kearney or at MEPS. See me for assistance.

College Bound Athletes

Students who wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics should visit the NCAA and the NAIA websites for information about the high school core classes that they need to be enrolled in for the NCAA and the NAIA. It can be difficult for some students to meet the requirements. There is also a cost for registration with both the NCAA and the NAIA. The NCAA website is <u>www.ncaa.org</u>; and the NAIA website is <u>www.PlayNAIA.org</u>.

NCAA Division I colleges in Nebraska are: The University of Nebraska in Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Creighton University in Omaha. NCAA Division II colleges in Nebraska are: The University of Nebraska at Kearney, Chadron State College, and Wayne State College. There is one NCAA Division 3 college in Nebraska: Nebraska Wesleyan University. NAIA colleges in Nebraska include: Bellevue University, Concordia University, Doane College, Hastings College, Midland University, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Peru State College, College of St. Mary, and York College. Community Colleges in Nebraska are often members of the NJCAA, the National Jr College Athletic Association.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact CCHS Counselor Debra J. Anderson danderson@centralcityps.org

Scholarships and Related Information

Please remember that in general the very best scholarships come from the colleges themselves, plus state and local scholarship opportunities. <u>Apply to the colleges</u> that you are interested in this fall and thoroughly research their scholarship opportunities (via the internet, college brochures, and college financial aid offices). Make sure that you apply for the <u>Merrick Foundation Scholarships</u>, which will be due the first part of February. Our community has been very generous to our youth with scholarships in the past. Plan to have you and your parents complete their taxes and submit a <u>FAFSA</u> for grants and low interest loans. Check with community organizations, your church, and your parent's employer too!

Recommended Websites for Scholarship Searches

- EducationQuest.org
- Nebraska Career Information System
- Fast Aid
- Scholarship Monkey
- Scholarship Experts
- Student Aid on the Web
- School Soup
- Scholarships.com
- College Board
- Scholarship Junkies
- Nebraska Career Connections

Scholarships through Colleges:

Private colleges encourage students to apply early in the academic year. Scholarships are often awarded on the basis of class rank, standardized test scores, diversity, talent, and church membership.

Check out savings in tuition through the **Midwest Student Exchange Program** if you are interested in attending an outof-state college in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, or Wisconsin.

The Danforth Scholarship, which is available through **Washington University in St. Louis**, is available to students solid in academics and character. Go to <u>www.wustl.edu</u> for more information.

Most cosmetology schools have scholarships available for those interested in attending them.

The NSCS Advantage Programs are for students who plan to attend Wayne, Chadron, or Peru State College, are Federal Pell Grant recipients, and are enrolled full time. These awards are made automatically if the student applies to college by the deadline, submits their FAFSA on time, and qualifies for a Pell Grant. Simply go to <u>www.nscs.edu</u>; then click on the Students button; and then NSCS Advantage for more information.

CollegeBound Nebraska provides an amazing opportunity for students with financial need. Nebraska students are guaranteed total grant assistance equal to, or greater than, the full cost of tuition for 15 credit hours or more per semester to UNL, UNO, or UNK provided they are accepted to the University, complete the FAFSA by April 1 of each year, complete the financial aid process by June 1, and are found to be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant (federal grants for students from low-income families). Go to <u>http://collegeboundnebraska.com/</u> for more information.

UNL is launching a new early application program this year called **True Red**. If students apply early and are admitted by November 2, 2015; they will become a member of the inaugural True Red Class. True Reds will receive early scholarship notification, early access to early room selection and more. Information can be found at <u>admissions.unl.edu/truered</u>.

For a complete listing of **University of Nebraska in Lincoln** - **UNL Scholarships** go to <u>financialaid.unl.edu</u>. All students applying to UNL must request to have ACT/SAT send their official scores to UNL. Students should also submit a personal statement online. The <u>overall deadline</u> for all application materials, including the personal statement (in order to be considered for service, leadership, and global and diversity scholarships) is **January 15, 2016**. Other deadlines to be aware of for UNL are: November 2 for True Red benefits; UNL Honors Program Early Application November 15; Raikes School of Computer Science and Management Application November 15; College of Business Administration Honors Academy Application November 15; Diversity Enhancement Application February 1; University Honors Program Regular Application February 15; and FAFSA report submitted to UNL for College Bound Nebraska April 1.

Students with diverse backgrounds, who wish to apply to **UNL** should also attend a special workshop in order to be considered for an Emerging Leaders Scholarship. Go to <u>admissions.unl.edu/diversity</u> for more information.

Applications to the **University of Nebraska at Kearney** are due by February 1, 2016 for general scholarships. Check out their website for special scholarships. If you have an ACT score of 27 or higher and if you rank in the top quarter of your class there is a separate online application to also complete by February 1, 2016 for the **UNK Honors Program**.

KHOP is the Kearney Health Opportunities Program through the University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The purpose of KHOP is to recruit and educate students from rural Nebraska who are committed to returning to Nebraska to practice healthcare in the following fields: clinical laboratory sciences, dental hygiene, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and radiography. The deadline for the UNK application, plus the separate KHOP application, is November 15, 2015. For more information go to

http://www.unk.edu/academics/health_sciences/scholarshipprograms.php

The UNK Omaha World Herald/Kearney Hub Scholarship deadline is November 15, 2015. Students must plan to attend UNK, have an ACT of 30, and be in the top 10% of their graduating class to be considered. Students must complete the UNK application and a separate Honors application to be considered.

Applications to the **University of Nebraska at Omaha** must be submitted by February 1, 2016 in order to be considered for scholarships. There are also **Goodrich Scholarships** for those students who are planning to attend UNO with a financial need. They are due on February 1, 2016.

Seniors interested in a medical field should contact Counselor Anderson about the **Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP)** through Wayne State, Chadron State College, Peru State, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. RHOP is especially designed to encourage students who would like to practice in rural areas in the fields of medicine (Chadron and Wayne), pharmacy (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne), nursing (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne), dentistry (Chadron and Wayne), dental hygiene (Chadron and Wayne), clinical laboratory science (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne), physician assistant (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne), physical therapy (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne), and radiography (Chadron, Peru, and Wayne).

If you are interested in **RHOP** for Wayne State you must first apply and be accepted at Wayne State. Then you must apply online for RHOP through Wayne at <u>www.wsc.edu/rhop</u> by the November 15, 2015 deadline.

If you are interested in **RHOP** for Chadron State, visit <u>csc.edu/sci/healthprofessions</u>. The deadline for the medicine option through Chadron State is November 15, 2015. The deadline for the other RHOP options through Chadron State is December 1, 2015. You must also apply and be accepted to Chadron State before these deadlines.

The deadline for the Peru State **RHOP** application is November 15, 2015. You must apply and be accepted to Peru State first.

There are numerous scholarships available by completing the steps in the **Wayne State College General Scholarship** application (which includes your application to WSC, transcript, activities resume, essay on the topic provided, and two letters of recommendation - visit <u>www.wsc.edu</u>). The deadline for most Wayne State Scholarships is December 1, 2015.

Peru State College scholarship priority deadline is January 15, 2016.

The deadline for **Chadron State College** for general scholarship purposes is January 15, 2016.

The Board of Trustees Scholarship - The Nebraska State College System's Board of Trustees offers this scholarship to students who will be attending Wayne, Chadron, or Peru State College. To be considered you must score at least 25 on the ACT or 1130 on the SAT, be a graduating senior from a Nebraska high school, be a resident of Nebraska and enroll as a full-time college student in the fall semester following your high school graduation.

The **Governor's Opportunity Award** is available for students attending one of the Nebraska State Colleges (Wayne, Chadron, or Peru). To be considered, you must score between 21 and 24 on the ACT or between 1500 and 1650 on the SAT, graduate from a Nebraska high school, be a Nebraska resident and enroll as a full-time college student in the fall semester following your high school graduation.

Central Community College Scholarships are available for seniors planning to attend college in Hastings, Columbus, or Grand Island. The CCC scholarship application will become available in November. Note: If you have an ACT Score of a 21 or higher or if you have solid COMPASS scores, you should <u>apply to CCC first semester</u>. Then CCC will contact you personally about any scholarship opportunity based on your test scores, some with earlier deadlines. The deadline for CCC General Scholarship applications (and HS Articulation Scholarship - which is small part of the General Scholarship application) is in the spring.

Northeast Community College Scholarships are available for seniors planning to attend college in Norfolk. The online scholarship application is due February 1, 2016. Go to <u>www.northeast.edu</u> under Scholarships for more details.

Southeast Community College Scholarships are available for seniors planning to attend SCC in Lincoln, Beatrice, or Milford. See the SCC website for more information.

Other Scholarships for Seniors

Christian Connector provides a free Christian college information service as well as a \$2,500 Christian college scholarship drawing. Students simply log onto <u>www.christianconnector.com</u> to request information and automatically be entered in the scholarship drawing.

Discover Colleges provides a free private college information service as well as a \$2,000 private scholarship drawing. Students simply log onto <u>www.discovercolleges.com</u> to request information and be entered in the scholarship drawing.

The **Donna Reed Foundation** often has awards for students in the fine arts. Simply visit <u>www.donnareed.org</u> for more information.

NMC, in partnership with the Diesel Technology Program at Central Community College in Hastings, Nebraska, offers a two-year sponsorship coupled with an apprenticeship program at NMC Cat locations in Nebraska. Apply at <u>www.nmc-corp.com/sponsorship_application/</u>.

The **AXA Foundation** has scholarships available for well-rounded students who have demonstrated significant achievement. For more information go to <u>www.axa-achievement.com</u>. <u>Apply soon</u> since AXA only accepts the first 10,000 applications. Do not apply after December 15, 2015.

Ak-Sar-Ben Horatio Alger Scholarships are available for students who are seniors, plan to attend a college or university, have critical financial need, are involved in co-curricular and community service activities, and have a C or better GPA. Go to Counselor Anderson or <u>www.horatioalger.org/scholarships</u> for more information. There is a lot to this scholarship, so you would need to start on it by October 15, 2015. We have had students awarded this wonderful scholarship before. The deadline for the submission of all materials is October 25, 2015.

ROTC offers some outstanding scholarships through major colleges and universities. If you are interested in the military and a four year college degree, check out ROTC scholarships. We have had students receive these outstanding scholarships in the past. The deadlines are normally in the fall. Note: For information about ROTC at UNL go to: (Army) www.unl.edu/armyrotc; (Navy) www.unl.edu/nrotc; and/or (Air Force) www.unl.edu/afrotc.

The **Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation** has awards that are renewable for four years that may be applied for online at <u>www.coca-colascholars.org</u>. Use our high school CEEB code of 280-440. Applicants are evaluated on leadership in school; commitment to the community; academic achievement; and part-time employment. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 average. CCHS has had finalists before. Make sure that you apply by October 31, 2015.

For information about the Hispanic Scholarship Fund go to www.hsf.net.

The **Hagan Scholarship Foundation** was established to provide scholarships to high achieving seniors in need of financial assistance in order to attend college. Students must have a 3.5 GPA and a 23 or higher on the ACT. They must also work 240 hours prior to the start of each academic year of college. A high percentage of students who apply (a third) are awarded scholarships (up to \$5,000 per semester, renewable). We have had a CCHS student awarded the Hagan in the past. Go to <u>www.hsfmo.org</u> for additional information. Get started on completing the materials early. All materials are due in their entirety by Nov. 15, 2015.

The **World War II Scholarship** will be available to seniors starting in November. Contact me it you are interested in writing an essay about World War II.

If you are a member of the **TeamMates Program**, many state and local scholarships opportunities are available. Go to <u>www.teammates.org/postsecondary</u> for more information on state scholarships. Contact me or Kristy Clarke regarding other opportunities.

The Elks National Emergency Educational Grants are for children of deceased or disabled Elks members. Information about this may be found at <u>www.elks.org/enf/scholars/</u>. **The Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards** are four-year, \$4,000 scholarships. A parent or grandparent of a student applying for this scholarship must be a member of the Elks. Elks scholarship applications may be found at <u>www.elks.org/enf/scholars/</u>.

The Elks Club Most Valuable Student Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year, and are for seniors who have financial need, leadership skills, and volunteer community service. Go to <u>www.elks.org/enf/scholars/</u>.

Fontanelle Hybrids has an essay contest (about production agriculture) for seniors involved in 4-H and FFA. Thirty \$1,000 prizes will be awarded. Go to <u>www.Fontanelle.com/EssayContest</u>. The deadline is November 30, 2015.

All CCHS planning to attend any type of further education should complete a **Senior Scholarship Application** through the **Merrick Foundation** by the end of January. The Merrick Foundation has been most generous to our students over the years. In December visit <u>www.merrick-foundation.org</u> and go to scholarships for more information.

If you are planning to attend a publicly supported college in Nebraska (like a community college, Wayne State, Chadron State, Peru State, UNL, UNO, or UNK) and you have some financial need, make sure that you also apply for the **Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship**. A FAFSA is required for this generous scholarship, which was offered to many of our seniors in the past. The deadline for all materials, except for the FAFSA report, is February 1, 2016.

If you are interested in cooperative education and attending a college or university out of state, you may want to look into the **National Co-op Scholarships**. For complete information go to <u>www.co-op.edu</u>. These \$6,000 scholarships are renewable with a value of \$42,000. The deadline for most college scholarships is February 15, 2016; but students should apply early. For more information go to <u>www.waceinc.org</u>.

Contact Counselor Anderson for information about the \$600 **Alyssa Sandmeier Scholarship** from Aurora, Nebraska. Submissions can be made in a variety of genres. The deadline is March 25, 2016.

Southern Public Power District is sponsoring a \$1,000 **Utility Line Scholarship Program** for interested students. The deadline is April 1, 2016. Contact Counselor Anderson for an application.

Not Just for Seniors:

Students are now invited to apply for the **Visionary Scholarship**. All students in grades 9-12 are invited to apply. Go to the Counselor's page at <u>www.americancollegefoundation.org</u>.

Access College Early Scholarships are often available to current high school students with a financial need taking classes through Central Community College. Contact Counselor Anderson if you have interest in an ACE Scholarship for any of Mr. Negus's Dual Credit Classes, CCC Distance Learning Classes, or other classes available through CCC.

There will be an **American Legion Oratorical Contest Scholarship Program** in October. Each district winner will receive \$100 in cash. The four state winners will receive cash awards ranging from \$200 to \$1,000. The state winner will also receive a \$1,500 scholarship for appearing in the National Final Contest. Contact Counselor Anderson if you are interested by the end of October.

The **Prudential Spirit of Community Awards** are for Middle School and High School Students who have made a significant contribution to others through their volunteer service. CCHS and CCMS have had state winners before. Completed applications must be submitted to me by November 4, 2015. See Counselor Anderson for details.

Scholarship Warning

If you receive offers for scholarship and financial aid services, research them carefully if a fee is involved. How do you know if the offer is questionable?

Watch for this type of language...

"You've been selected."

"You're a finalist."

"The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

"May I have your credit card number or checking account routing number?"

"This scholarship will cost some money."

If you have questions about offers or invitations you receive, you may ask me or EducationQuest to research the scholarship offer more thoroughly.

One of our students asked me to simplify what they need to accomplish in order to go onto college or into the military - so I did my best! Please let me know if I can be of any help along the way! Counselor Debra J. Anderson

Short list for all Juniors and Seniors -

- 1. Pass your classes.
- 2. Make sure you are on track to graduate from high school.
- 3. Think about your interests.
- 4. Consider career options.
- 5. Investigate the path you need to be on to go into the occupation you are interested in.
- 6. Shadow/interview individuals in occupations that interest you.

Short list for Juniors and Seniors planning to enter the military -

- 1. Take the ASVAB The Armed Services Aptitude Battery.
- 2. Interview individuals currently serving in the military.
- 3. Discuss your career options with recruiters of the branches of the military that you are interested in.
- 4. Include your family as you consider your options.
- 5. Work to keep physically fit.

Short list for Seniors planning to attend a community college -

- 1. Take the COMPASS Test, but for some programs of study you may need to take the ACT/SAT.
- 2. Apply to the colleges that interest you during first semester <u>or sooner</u>. Some programs of study fill up quickly.
- 3. Write Counselor Anderson a note to send your CCHS transcript to the colleges that you apply to.
- 4. Request CCC to send your CCC transcript to the colleges you apply to, unless you are applying to CCC.
- 5. Thoroughly look over the websites of the colleges that you are applying to.
- 6. Complete your activities resume.
- 7. Ask 4 or 5 individuals like employers, teachers, neighbors (who are not related to you) to prepare for you a general letter of recommendation to "Dear Scholarship Committee". Give the individual writing about you your activities resume.
- 8. Apply for all scholarships that you qualify for from colleges that you are applying to These can be generous!
- 9. Have your family's taxes figured by early February so that your family can complete the FAFSA.
- 10. Apply for other scholarships, including the Merrick Foundation Scholarships!
- 11. Check with me every week or two about local scholarships.

Short list for Seniors planning to attend a 4 year college or university –

- 1. Take the ACT/SAT at least 3 times by the end of first semester of your senior year (Dec. 1st for Wayne State).
- 2. Apply to the colleges that interest you during first semester (Dec. 1st for Wayne State).
- 3. Write Counselor Anderson a note to send your CCHS transcript to the colleges that you apply to.
- 4. Request CCC to send your CCC transcript to the colleges you that apply to.
- 5. Thoroughly look over the websites of the colleges that you are applying to.
- 6. Complete your activities resume.
- 7. Ask 4 or 5 individuals like employers, teachers, neighbors (who are not related to you) to prepare for you a general letter of recommendation to "Dear Scholarship Committee". Give the individual writing about you your activities resume.
- 8. Apply for all scholarships that you qualify for from colleges that you are applying to These can be generous!
- 9. Have your family's taxes figured by early February so that your family can complete the FAFSA.
- 10. Apply for other scholarships, including the Merrick Foundation Scholarships!
- *11. If you plan to participate in NAIA or NCAA athletics register with the Eligibility Center and contact me.*
- 12. Check with me every week or two about local scholarships.