

News From Our Counselor, Marvie Paulson

Davis School for Independent Study

October 2007

SENIORS

October and November are the months for college applications to four-year colleges and universities. If you will need a letter of recommendation, please let me know by November 1st. I have forms that should be completed to assist with this process. Students are encouraged to complete all UC/CSU application on-line. The UC application is available at www.universityofcalifornia/apply. The CSU on-line application can be found at www.csumentor.edu/AdmissionApp/.

Seniors are reminded to take any required admissions examinations by the December dates. For UC these exams include the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT with writing and two SAT Subject test. Students who are applying to a CSU should take the SAT Reasoning test or the ACT with writing. See below for the specific schedule of exams and the websites for the SAT and ACT.

Representatives from many colleges and universities are visiting the DSHS campus this year. If you would like to attend a presentation, but it is during your meeting with your DSIS teacher, or during a class at DSHS, you must first get permission from your teacher. For a list of the visits scheduled please contact the Career Center a DSHS at 757-5400, ext 140. I also have a list of these visits in my office. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about schools you may be interested in.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Following is the SAT/ACT schedule for the fall. For seniors applying to four-year colleges, the tests must be taken before December.

<u>Test</u>	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>
SAT 1 & 2	November 3, 2007	October 2, 2007	October 11, 2007
SAT 1 & 2	December 1, 2007	October 30, 2007	November 8, 2007
ACT	October 27, 2007	September 21, 2007	September 22 – October 5, 2007
ACT	December 8, 2007	November 2, 2007	November 3-15, 2006

SAT/ACT brochures are available in the DSIS school office or you may go on-line at www.collegeboard.com (for SAT materials), or www.actstudent.org (for ACT materials). The SAT and ACT are accepted by most colleges (UC and CSU will take either one). Students applying to a UC must take the SAT 2 (Subject tests) in addition to the SAT 1 or ACT.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Career Center at DHS publishes a Scholarship Bulletin every two weeks. It is available in the Career Center, the DHS library, the counseling office at DSIS, and online at <http://dhs.djUSD.k12.ca.us>: click on bulletins, and then click on the scholarship line. The Scholarship Bulletin lists a broad range of scholarships at the national, regional and local levels. Scholarship information can also be requested from colleges and universities, organizations you belong to, the Internet at www.fastweb.com, www.finaid.org, businesses, foundations, or other sources. It is not recommended that you send money to scholarship search services that advertise or send information to you. The same information is available for free at the Career Center or online. Descriptions in the Scholarship Bulletin are brief. The Career Center will provide more details on any scholarships that interest you. Students and parents may also speak to me re. scholarship opportunities.

FEE WAIVERS

Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch also qualify for many other scholarships and fee waivers. Fee waivers/scholarships for SAT and ACT tests, college application, Grad Night, Senior Ball and more are available in my office. Please contact me if you have any questions.

SPLIT SITE STUDENTS AT DSHS – LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS

The last day to drop classes, without academic penalty, is Friday, October 26th. If you do not want a class to show up on your transcript, you must drop the course by this date. You must contact me with this request and I will be in communication with the other school site.

PSAT – JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES

PSAT – The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) is a preview of the SAT 1 and helps forecast future performance. It is also used to qualify for Scholarship competition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. The PSAT will be given Saturday, October 20th at Davis Senior High from 8 a.m. to approximately 10:45 a.m. Sign-ups for juniors will be on Tuesday, October 9th through Thursday, October 11th during lunch time in the Career Center at DSHS . Note: The PSAT/NMSQT must be taken in the junior year to qualify for National Merit scholarship consideration. If you took the test as a sophomore and did well, consider taking it again to get a junior NMSQT selection score. Priority registration is given to juniors. Sophomores may sign up on Thursday, October 11th, on a space available basis.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL PROFICIENCY EXAM (CHSPE)

The CHSPE is an examination, which assesses a student's proficiency in the basic reading, writing and mathematics skills taught in the public high schools. If a student passes the examination, the California State Board of Education will award a Certificate of Proficiency, which by state law is equivalent to a high school diploma (although not equivalent to completing all coursework required for regular graduation from high school. The test is being offered this fall, on Saturday, October 20th. The regular and registration deadline is past. The emergency registration deadline is October 16th) receipt date, and the cost is \$145. For more information or to register on line, visit the website at www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/chspe. Registration materials are also available in the entry at DSIS.

STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOP FOR SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS

On Thursday, November 14th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. the DSHS counselors will host the annual Student Success Workshop. This workshop covers topics such as study skills, resources on campus, time management, learning styles and educational alternatives. Take advantage of this opportunity to increase success in school. The workshop is in the library and surrounding classrooms.

PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT – COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

On Wednesday, November 7th at 7:30 p.m. in the DSHS library, DSHS PTA will present its first parent education night of the year. Sally Springer and Marion Franck will speak on Calming the College Admissions Frenzy: Eight Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them.

Springer and Franck are authors of a highly regarded book on the college application process, *Admission Matters, What Students and Parents Need to Know About Getting into College*. Springer is associate chancellor at UC Davis and psychologist with over thirty years of experience in higher education as a professor and administrator. Franck is a weekly columnist for the Davis Enterprise and a featured writer in UC Davis' publication for parents.

The session will last about 90 minutes and include an opportunity for questions. Come listen to these experienced voices and have your questions answered about the college admissions process.