

**News from our Counselor, Marvie Paulson**  
**Davis School for Independent Study**  
**December 2008**

First of all, I want to wish you a happy holiday season. I hope you will enjoy the winter break and will be refreshed for all the activities of the New Year. Also it is important to keep up with your studies.

**Please take time to read all that applies to you in this newsletter.**

**Financial Aid for College-SENIORS/PARENTS, DON'T MISS THIS!**

The annual DSHS Financial Aid Workshop will be held on **Thursday, January 8, 2009** at 7:00 p.m. in the DSHS Multipurpose Room on Oak Street. All seniors and their parents are invited, and encouraged, to attend. This workshop will provide information regarding financial aid opportunities, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Cal Grant programs.

**FAFSA and Cal Grant Applications**

All seniors planning to attend college who would like to be considered for federal and state financial aid need to complete the FAFSA application. Students are encouraged to apply online, **beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>**, at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). FAFSA worksheets are available in the Career Center at DSHS. The **deadline for submitting a FAFSA is March 2, 2009**, though some colleges have a February deadline.

The State of California offers financial aid in the form of Cal Grants for students planning to attend a California college. Every high school senior who has at least a 2.0 GPA, meets the basic requirements, and applies on time is guaranteed a Cal Grant award to attend a California college. Students must submit the FAFSA and a verified GPA to be eligible for a Cal Grant. Please speak to me if you have questions.

**Scholarship Bulletin**

Seniors are encouraged to apply for scholarships. DSHS has a Scholarship Bulletin that is updated every two weeks and is available in the Career Center or online at <http://www2.dcn.org/orgs/dhspta/scholarship>. Many of these scholarships are available for DSIS students. Students can also search the web for scholarships at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), or [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org).

**Seniors and Their Parents**

Buy your Grad Night Ticket now through December 31 for the lowest price of the year, \$70 per reservation. The ticket price will jump to \$85 as of January 1, so save \$15 if you buy now. How to order a ticket? Visit the website at <http://www.davisgradnight.org/> or email the ticket sales coordinator, Bela Crispin at [belacrispin@hotmail.com](mailto:belacrispin@hotmail.com). She will reply to your email and attach the order form. You print the form, enclose your check and mail it to the address on the form. It's very simple. Alternately, you may pick up a form in the office and mail it with your check. Ms. Crispin will send an email or letter confirmation of the reservation. There are reduced prices for students with financial needs. Contact Marvie Paulson for details 757-5333, ext. 170.

**SENIORS RETURNING TO DSHS FOR SECOND SEMESTER**

Please make an appointment to see me in the month of January. We will review the classes you will need to take in the second semester to meet graduation requirements and I will also explain the process for transferring back to the high school.

## **7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> GRADERS – WANTING TO MAKE CHANGES TO THEIR SCHEDULES AT DSHS OR ONE OF THE JUNIOR HIGHS FOR SECOND SEMESTER**

Please contact me if you want to make changes to your schedule at DSHS or the Jr. Highs. This can be done in the month of January. I coordinate this process with the counselors at the other sites. You can call me at 757-5333, ext. 170, or sign up for an appointment.

### **Students Planning to Play Sports in College**

If you are planning to play sports in college, it is important to research and understand the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) regulations. All junior students who want to participate in collegiate athletics must register by the end of their junior year with the NCAA and /or NAIA, depending upon which sports you play and which division. Registration should be done on-line at the following sites:

- NCAA information: [www2.ncaa.org](http://www2.ncaa.org)
- NLCA Clearing House registration: [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)
- NAIA information: <http://naia.collegesports.com/>.

### **Students with Disabilities**

It takes six weeks or longer to be approved for extended time and other accommodations on the SAT and ACT. Contact Marvie Paulson for information on the College Board services for students with disabilities. Sophomores may apply now even if they are not taking the SAT until next year.

### **Classes at Sacramento City College**

If you are interested in taking classes at the Sacramento City College Davis Center, located in South Davis, now is the time to register. Check out the website at <http://www.losrios.edu/scc/spring/davis/>. You may also come to see me the necessary forms.