

News from our Counselor, Marvie Paulson

Davis School for Independent Study
December 2011

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.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT – MONDAY, DEC 12, 7:30 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Tanya Anderson, Sacramento City College

Topics to be addressed:

- Application process for Seniors planning to attend community college
- Transferring to a 4 year college from community college
- Taking classes as a high school student
- AA degrees and vocational programs

Don't miss out on this great opportunity!

This meeting will be proceeded by:

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR 11TH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS – MON. DEC. 12, 7:00 P.M.

The focus for this meeting will be on steps 11th graders should be following for meeting college entrance requirements, SAT and ACT testing and other post high school options.

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR 10TH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS

On Monday, January 9th at 6:30 p.m., we will have a meeting for all DSIS 10th graders and their parents. The meeting is not mandatory but it is strongly recommended. Primary topics for this meeting are the high school exit exam (CAHSEE) which will be given in February, and college/career information. We look forward to your attendance. If you are unable to attend, please contact me so we can arrange another time to meet.

7th to 12th GRADERS INTERESTED IN MAKING 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 or email me at mpaulson@djuds.k12.ca.us.

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.

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

The annual DSHS Financial Aid Workshop will be held on **Thursday, January 19, 2012** at 7:00 p.m. in the Instructional Performing Arts Center (IPAB) at DSHS. 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 the Cal Grant program. Students may begin applying online for the FAFSA on January 1st at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The state of California offers financial aid in the form of Cal Grants for students planning to attend a California college. Students must submit the FAFSA and a verified GPA to be eligible for a Cal Grant. **The deadline is March 2, 2012.**

Scholarship Bulletin

Seniors are encouraged to apply for scholarships. DSHS has a Scholarship Bulletin that is updated every two weeks and is available online at www.dhspta.org/dhs/scholarships. Many of these scholarships are available for DSIS students. Students can also search the web for scholarships at www.fastweb.com or www.collegeboard.com or www.finaid.org.

Seniors – GRAD Night – Great Christmas Gift Idea

Tickets for Grad Night purchased by December 31st are \$75. The price goes up to \$90 from Jan 1 to May 31. To purchase a ticket, go to www.davisgradnight.org.

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 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 registration: www.eligibilitycenter.org
- NAIA information: <http://naia.cstv.com>

SAT PREPARATION WORKSHOP

Adult Education is offering 2 workshops. One for 2/16 – 3/8 and another for 4/5 – 5/3. The tuition is \$85. If you have interest in this workshop please check the website at www.djUSD.k12.ca.us/AdultSchool or call 757-5380. The SAT college entrance exam tests grammar and usage, reading comprehension of short passages and content from third-year high school math. Instruction will include review of vocabulary and math concepts, when to make an educated guess and how to pace yourself.

SAT AND ACT SCHEDULE FOR THE SPRING – JUNIORS THIS IS THE TIME TO REGISTER

SAT/ACT Test Dates:

Test	Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
SAT 1 & 2	Jan. 28	Dec. 30	Jan 13
	March 10	Feb 10	Feb 24
	May 5	April 6	April 20
	June 2	May 8	May 22
ACT	Feb 11	Jan 13	Jan 14-20
	April 14	March 9	March 10-23
	June 9	May 4	May 5-18

You can register on-line at <http://sat.collegeboard.org> (for SAT) and www.actstudent.org (for ACT). The SAT and ACT are accepted by most colleges (UC and CSU will take either one).

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 and regarding ACT accommodations. Sophomores may apply now even if they are not taking the SAT until next year.

SPEAKER – DIANE RAVITCH, FRI., JAN 20, 6-7:30 P.M., SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY CENTER

Diane Ravitch, the Assistant Secretary of Education for the Bush and Clinton Administration, is a leading spokesperson for public education in the U.S. She has written 10 books, including the recent bestseller, *"The Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice are Undermining Education"*. Tickets are \$5 and available through the Davis Teachers Association.

