

Central Valley School District  
Monaca Jr/Sr High School

# Guidance Newsletter

## Scholarships

### 2009-2010 SAT DATES

| Date    | Reg. Deadline |
|---------|---------------|
| Jan. 23 | Dec. 15       |
| Mar. 13 | Feb. 4        |
| May 1   | Mar. 25       |
| June 5  | Apr. 29       |

### 2009-2010 ACT DATES

| Date    | Reg. Deadline |
|---------|---------------|
| Feb. 6  | Jan. 5        |
| Apr. 10 | Mar. 5        |
| June 12 | May 7         |



The Pittsburgh National College Fair will be February 4th and February 5th at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh.

For information on colleges/universities that will be in attendance see Mrs. Winter

**Available Workshops:**  
College Essay Writing  
The College Selection Process  
Financial Aid Process  
NCAA

THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN SPORTS HALL OF FAME will award \$4000 scholarships to 5 high school seniors. The requirements are high academic achievement, financial need, and athletic ability. Applications are available in the Guidance Office. Deadline for entries is January 31st.

CCBC awards both the PRESIDENTIAL AND THE ACADEMIC EXCELLANCE SCHOLARSHIPS to Beaver County students. Information is available in the Guidance Office on the criteria for both scholarships. Application deadline is April 23rd.

THE AXA ACHIEVEMENT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP awards numerous \$2000 scholarships to high school seniors. You can download an application at [www.axa-achievement.com](http://www.axa-achievement.com). Apply by February 15th.

THE KFC COLONEL'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM is accepting applications for scholarships up to \$5000 per year of college. To qualify, you must be a graduating senior with a GPA of 2.75 or higher and pursuing a 4-year college degree in the 2010-2011 school year. Students complete their application online at [www.kfcscholars.org](http://www.kfcscholars.org). The application will be available from December 1st through February 10th.

THE PENNSYLVANIA MASONIC YOUTH FOUNDATION offers scholarships to Masons, their siblings, children, grandchildren and members of the Masonic related youth groups. A listing of available scholarships is available in the guidance office and online at [www.pmyf.org](http://www.pmyf.org).



## Free Application for Federal Student Aid

The paper FAFSAs are no longer available in bulk for schools to order.

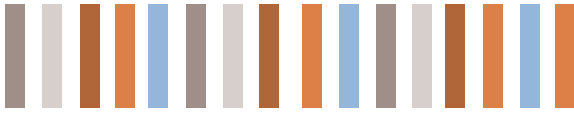
Students can obtain a paper FAFSA at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)

A PDF version of the 2009-2010 FAFSA can be accessed at [www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov](http://www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov) for online filing.

Students are encouraged to obtain a PIN for online filing as soon as possible. Log on to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) to request a pin.

Students may see Mrs. Winter for assistance in completing their application.

**Applications can be submitted beginning January 1, 2010.**



Students looking to participate in a Division I or II collegiate sport must register with the NCAA

Eligibility Center during their junior year. Students must request that their ACT scores be forwarded directly to the center by entering code “9999” as a reporting selection when registering for the test.

For more information on the NCAA’s core course requirements, GPA computation, and contact information and to complete the amateurism questionnaire, visit [naaa.org/eligibilitycenter](http://naaa.org/eligibilitycenter).

## Winter Action Plan for Seniors

### Application Details

- Some early admission decisions will be available, so check with any schools to which you submitted an application.
- Most regular applications are due between January 1 and February 15. Keep copies of everything you send to colleges.
- Have your high school send your transcript to colleges.
- Contact colleges to make sure they've received all application materials.
- Prepare for the FAFSA, because it will be available January 1. Visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) to get a head start on the process.

### Financial Aid: Apply Early. Apply Right.

- You and your family should save this year's pay stubs to estimate income on aid forms that you'll file early next year.
- Submit your **FAFSA** as soon after January 1 as possible. Men 18 or older must register for the selective service to receive federal financial aid.
- Many priority financial aid deadlines fall in February. To get the most attractive award package, apply by the priority date. Keep copies of everything you send.



## Questions to Ask Your School Counselor

Your school counselor is one of your best resources as you plan for college. Your counselor has information about admissions tests, college preparation, and your education and career options. Here are some basic questions to help get your conversation started:

What are the required and recommended courses—for graduation and for college prep?

How should I plan my schedule so I'll complete them?

Which elective courses do you recommend?

Do you have college handbooks or other guides that I can browse or borrow? Do you have a copy of the free *SAT Preparation Booklet™*, which has a practice test in it?

What activities can I do at home and over the summer to get ready for college?

What kinds of grades do different colleges require?

Are there any college fairs at this school, or nearby?

Where do other kids from this school attend college?

Do you have any information to help me start exploring my interests and related careers?

If my colleges need a recommendation from you, how can I help you know me better, so it can be more personal?

Are there any special scholarships or awards that I should know about now, so I can work toward them?

Can I see my transcript as it stands now, to see if everything is as I think it should be?

Do you have any forms I need to apply for financial aid?

How does our school compare to others, in terms of test scores and reputation?

### **Reality Check**

Your school counselor may be the most wonderful and accessible person on the planet, or may be juggling a thousand students and barely know your name. So remember that the person who has the biggest stake in your academics is you. It's up to you to stay on top of opportunities and deadlines, to take control of your future.

