

GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER

OCEANSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT



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Calendar

December 1:

10th Grade Interview Day

December 19:

Quarter 2 Progress Reports

January 26:

End of Marking Period

SAT Test Dates:

*12/2/17, Deadline Past

*3/10/18, 2/9/18 Deadline

5/5/18, 4/6/18 Deadline

6/2/18, 5/3/18 Deadline

*OHS is not a test site for these
SAT test dates

ACT Test Dates:

12/9/17, Deadline Past

*4/14/18, 3/9/18 Deadline

6/9/18, 5/4/18 Deadline

*OHS is a test site for this ACT



Course Selection 2018-2019:

The Course Curriculum Guide for the 2018-2019 school year will be posted on the high school web site shortly. Please review it thoroughly with your child and select electives carefully to ensure appropriate placement next year. Counselors will meet with students individually for course selection and program planning throughout the months of January and February. Students are expected to come to their meetings prepared, having reviewed and selected their electives (with alternative choices) in advance. Parents will be asked to review and sign off on their child's selection of courses after the meeting.

CLASS NOTES

NINTH GRADE NEWS

Ninth graders are encouraged to explore the many clubs and activities that are available to them in the high school. A complete listing is available in the Guidance Office, the Student Activities Office, as well as on the high school's website.

During lunch periods, ninth graders are required to sign in with security in the cafeteria. Students **are required** to have an appointment and a pass from the teacher to go to one of the academic resource centers or the library. Students are required to sign in at their destination, and this should be accomplished within the first ten minutes of the period.

TENTH GRADE NEWS

10th Grade Interview Day will be held on 12/1/17. On that day, every tenth grade student will experience a mock interview with one of our Advisory Board and/or community members. In October, every tenth grader was re-introduced to Naviance, a career and college planning database that counselors use with students and their families. All students had an opportunity to complete a career interest inventory and will fill out a job application in preparation for Interview Day. In addition, tenth grade students will have the opportunity to participate in our "Teens On The Job" shadow program scheduled for April 25, 2018. Numerous students will spend a full day shadowing business, medical, legal, educational, and other professionals. This is the 23rd year that O.H.S. has participated in this exciting program. If you have any questions about "Teens on the Job," please contact Mr. Carbonetti, Guidance Counselor, at 678-7540.

DECEMBER 2017

CLASS NOTES

TWELFTH GRADE NEWS

The Oceanside High School Counseling Department is proud to be part of this exciting time in your life. We look forward to seeing you successfully complete your requirements for graduation and go on to college or employment.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: It is very important for all seniors to continue to maintain good grades and closely adhere to the attendance policy. Many colleges will ask for first and/or second quarter grades; therefore, senior grades may affect college acceptances. **Mid-year grades will automatically be sent to colleges if a student applied using the Common Application.** If you have any concerns or questions about your academic record, see your guidance counselor as soon as possible.

All requirements for graduation must be completed prior to graduation. In addition to all of your academic requirements, it is also mandatory that the physical education requirements be completed. Seniors must have completed 1/2 credit per year for a total of two (2) credits in order to graduate in June with their class.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS: The guidance department receives information regarding numerous college scholarship opportunities. This information is posted in Naviance on an ongoing basis. For additional information, students should see Mrs. Fasano, Guidance Secretary, in Room S103A.

The Senior Honor Night award packet were recently mailed home to families. Students will also be able to access this information on Naviance under the "Student Document Folder". The deadline for all award applications is January 19, 2018. Students should see Mrs. Aiello in Room S103A regarding any honor night awards.

REMINDER: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) should be filed ASAP! To register for a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID number (electronic signature) and fill out the form, log on to: www.fafsa.ed.gov

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS: For students who are mailing paper applications, please bring all completed applications, the pink processing forms, and a 9x12 addressed envelope with 4 stamps on it directly to the Registrar's Office. Students should include their name on every check/money order. Please do not write a return address on the 9x12 envelopes that are submitted. If you apply on-line, you must still bring in a pink processing form and a stamped/addressed envelope (for those schools that do not accept electronic submission of academic records) to the Registrar so that transcripts and letters of recommendation can be sent.

STANDARDIZED TESTS: *Please Remember: It is a student's responsibility to send his/her SAT and/or ACT scores to all of the colleges to which they apply.* Students may communicate with College Board and/or ACT by mail, phone or Internet to have their scores sent to colleges. There are fees involved in this process. Please visit: www.collegeboard.org and/or www.actstudent.org for more information.

COLLEGE DECISIONS: Seniors are required to bring copies of all letters of college acceptances, denials or wait list decisions to their counselor. This information is needed to keep up-to-date statistics in Naviance. Once students make their decision, they will need to notify counselors where they will be attending college in the fall so that final transcripts can be sent and to ensure appropriate information for Oceanside High School's graduation booklet.

ELEVENTH GRADE NEWS

Counselors will be meeting with eleventh graders in small groups in December to discuss important college related topics. Students will be re-introduced to Naviance, a computer based college and career planning resource. Passes with appointment times were posted on the Campus Backpack in the Parent Portal. Contact your child's counselor if an appointment was not received or if your child can not make their appointment. Eleventh graders are also encouraged to participate in the annual Career Forum, to be held Periods 1 and 2 on March 23, 2018.

For eleventh (and tenth) graders who took the October 14th PSAT, scores will be available online between December 11-13.

Eleventh grade students are encouraged to consider taking the SAT and/or ACT this spring. The SAT Question-and-Answer Service (QAS) is available on the March and May administration dates for an additional fee of \$18. This service allows students to see which questions they got wrong so they can improve on their next try. Students who sign up for this service will receive a booklet copy of the SAT questions and a report including their answers for the specific testing administration, along with the correct answers and additional scoring instructions. The ACT offers a similar service, called the Test Information Release (TIR), that is available for the April and June test dates for an additional fee of \$20.

SAT / ACT PREPARATION



Free SAT and ACT online preparation is being offered to all OHS students through their Castle Learning accounts. Students can log on to Castle Learning (castlelearning.com) and click on “Method Test Prep - Online SAT/ACT Preparation” to access this valuable resource.

Method Test Prep allows you to:

- Watch over 500 video explanations
- Read or listen to explanations
- Complete full-length practice tests
- Track students strengths on each test
- Access 24/7 from any web-connected computer
- Utilize a student-guided, weekly practice plan

Consider taking advantage of this excellent opportunity for additional test preparation.

