



START WITH A DREAM...*FINISH WITH A FUTURE*

GRADE 10

May 2021

From School Counselors:

This school year has been challenging on so many levels, and we recognize how deeply COVID-19 has impacted our community. We remain focused on supporting our students and families through this tough time, while keeping our eye on helping students think ahead towards their future. We have all learned to be flexible and to focus on the positive and believe that we will come out of this year stronger than before. We appreciate your flexibility and dedication to your student and recognize how your hard work has helped your student succeed.

Check out this podcast on Parenting Teens, [edgerety.com/education/podcast/](https://www.edgerety.com/education/podcast/), and keep a lookout for summer opportunities to help students thrive and stay on track. A big heartfelt thanks from the counseling team,

Ry Hoffman, Head of School Counseling

Conversations at Home

It is important to speak with your student about the cost of college/postsecondary education in relation to what your family can offer. The following should be questions that you explore with your student:

- How much can our family afford and are we willing to contribute to the cost of college/postsecondary education each year?
- How much is the student expected to contribute to the cost of college/postsecondary education?
- If loans are needed to cover the remaining costs, who will take out the loan?

Explore the cost of numerous colleges and discuss how they will also need to pay for books, supplies, housing, food, and transportation. Remember that the price that you see listed won't be the final price you pay due to financial aid. Start talking about these questions now and begin making a plan to prepare your family financially for your student's postsecondary education.

Source: The College Funding Coach

Events & Announcements

The School Counseling/Guidance Office has drop-in time available after class for any student. If students would like more of a mental health check-in/support, please reach out to Haleigh, to schedule an appointment at hwestshs@buusd.org. Your student should also feel free to set up individual appointments through Calendly with their counselor as well. Students should be receiving their 21-22' schedule soon and should reach out to counselors with any questions.

If you were unable to attend the Sophomore Night, here is a link to the slide show with valuable information:
tinyurl.com/4wz28ct8

Trades

Explore different pathways to graduation with your student. If your student is interested in the trades they could attend Central Vermont Career Center (CVCC). CVCC has a number of interesting programs available which include: automotive technology, culinary arts, building trades, cosmetology, digital media arts, electrical technology, emergency services, exploratory technology, medical professions, natural resources and sustainability, as well as plumbing and heating. Learn more about CVCC here: cvtcc.org

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a great postsecondary education option for your student especially if they are interested in the trades. Apprenticeships offer paid work experience as well as classroom training. The Vermont Registered Apprenticeship program assists Vermonters in setting up structured, flexible training programs to meet the specific needs of Vermont employers. There are nearly 700 active apprenticeships in Vermont in over 25 occupations. Employers participate in Registered Apprenticeships by “sponsoring” individuals as apprentices. Vermont Apprenticeships are available through a variety of partners including the Vermont Department of Labor (VDOL), Community College of Vermont and Vermont Technical College.

Learn more about apprenticeships in Vermont here:

VDOL Apprenticeship Program: labor.vermont.gov/apprenticeship

Vermont Technical College: tinyurl.com/x2hcmue4

Community College of Vermont: tinyurl.com/tmx43xyh

Source: VSAC EOC Program

Summer Break

Summer break is a great time to relax, gain experience, and learn new skills. Summer is a great time to **search for colleges or training programs**. Check out this webpage to get started in thinking about postsecondary education options for after high school: vsac.org/plan/searching-for-a-college

Have your student use their Scoir account to search for colleges and training programs so that their counselor can see what they are interested in: app.scoir.com/signin

If you are unfamiliar with Scoir, check out this helpful slide show: tinyurl.com/ywx8bd3a

Summer could also be a great time for students to use one of their dual enrollment vouchers to **enroll in a summer course** at a local college. Request a free voucher here: vtdualenrollment.org/

The class of 2023 needs to complete 30 hours of community service and the summer can be a great time to **volunteer** one's time. If you would like more information about community service hours, check out the Community Service Handbook here: tinyurl.com/ymjrneju

Another great option for summer is summer camps and Norwich University and Vermont Tech has a lot to offer:

Norwich Summer Camps: tinyurl.com/ysy83bzu

Vermont Tech Summer Camps: tinyurl.com/t5skuh2y

Also, check out the **list of great summer opportunities** that will also be up in the hall near the guidance office here: tinyurl.com/2a4448md

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