



RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

100 School Lane, Blairsville, PA 15717

Mr. Michael Leasure, Principal



October 11, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of 10th-12th Graders,

We wanted to reach out to communicate guidance happenings through the end of December. We also want to send this communication to this group of guardians so you can see what will be happening throughout your child's high school years as they progress from grades 10-12.

12th Grade:

-We will be meeting with all seniors, individually, to discuss post-secondary plans. Your child will come home with a detailed copy of information discussed at this meeting. SATs will be discussed at this time. Please review this information with your child. We are hoping to have all of these individual meetings completed by mid-November.

-If your child did not pass the ASVAB Test in grade 10 (passing score is a 31), they will have the opportunity to take the ASVAB Test again on December 18th in the High School Auditorium, starting at 7:30 a.m. The ASVAB includes tests in 10 areas: general science (GS), arithmetic reasoning (AR), word knowledge (WK), paragraph comprehension (PC), mathematics knowledge (MK), electronics information (EI), auto information (AI), shop information (SI), mechanical comprehension (MC) and assembling objects (AO).

-Financial Aid Night is scheduled for October 25, 2023 from 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Auditorium. If you cannot make it, please email Tammy Buffone (buffone.t@rvsdpa.org) and she will send you a link for a pre-recorded Financial Aid webinar that you can view. Please bring your child with you to Financial Aid Night. It's important for your child to hear this information as well.

-A FAFSA (Financial Aid Form) Completion Workshop is scheduled for March 26, 2024 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the HS Computer Lab. Again, please bring your child to this as well. There are big changes to the FAFSA Form this year and it will not be released until the very end of December. We have someone coming in from PHEAA that evening and she will assist you filling out the FAFSA.

-We have had several students in our office asking for assistance with The Common Application, college applications, scholarships, phone calls to admissions offices, SAT registration, etc. This makes us happy because the students are listening to what we told them when we met. We have met with seniors on September 1st and October 4th.

-You should have received information about The Challenge Program sent out from the Guidance Office.

All seniors are invited to participate in The Challenge Program. A student assembly was held on October 4th and a follow up email was sent.

-We have met with interested student athletes regarding registering for the NCAA Clearinghouse and we have emailed detailed steps on how to sign up.

-Please have your child check their email daily, if possible. We are sending valuable information to students via email. We also continue to remind students to check their email.

11th Grade:

-We will be meeting with all juniors, individually, to discuss post-secondary plans, SAT registration, etc. Your child will come home with a detailed copy of information discussed at this meeting. SATs will be discussed at this time. Please review this information with your child. We are hoping to have all of these individual meetings completed by December.

-Your child will be taking the ASVAB Test on December 18th starting at 7:30a.m. in the Auditorium. The ASVAB includes tests in 10 areas: general science (GS), arithmetic reasoning (AR), word knowledge (WK), paragraph comprehension (PC), mathematics knowledge (MK), electronics information (EI), auto information (AI), shop information (SI), mechanical comprehension (MC) and assembling objects (AO).

-Financial Aid Night is scheduled for October 25, 2023 from 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Auditorium. If you cannot make it, please email Tammy Buffone (buffone.t@rvsdpa.org) and she will send you a link for a pre-recorded Financial Aid webinar that you can view. Please bring your child with you to Financial Aid Night. It's important for your child to hear this information as well. **We are aware that only seniors can fill out the FAFSA form, but it's never a bad idea to attend Financial Aid in preparation for next year.**

-You should have received information about The Challenge Program sent out from the Guidance Office. All juniors are invited to participate in The Challenge Program. A student assembly was held on October 4th and a follow up email was sent.

-We have met with interested student athletes regarding registering for the NCAA Clearinghouse and we have emailed detailed steps on how to sign up.

-PSATs will take place on October 26th at 7:30a.m. in the cafeteria. Interested students were asked to sign up with Mrs. Faulk.

-Please have your child check their email daily, if possible. We are sending valuable information to students via email. We also continue to remind students to check their email.

10th Grade:

-Your child will be taking the ASVAB Test on November 15th starting at 7:30a.m. in the Auditorium. The ASVAB includes tests in 10 areas: general science (GS), arithmetic reasoning (AR), word knowledge (WK), paragraph comprehension (PC), mathematics knowledge (MK), electronics information (EI), auto information (AI), shop information (SI), mechanical comprehension (MC) and assembling objects (AO).

-You should have received information about The Challenge Program sent out from the Guidance Office. All sophomores are invited to participate in The Challenge Program. A student assembly was held on October 4th and a follow up email was sent.

-We have met with interested student athletes regarding registering for the NCAA Clearinghouse and we have emailed detailed steps on how to sign up.

-PSATs will take place on October 26th at 7:30a.m. in the cafeteria. Interested students were asked to sign up with Mrs. Faulk.

-Please have your child check their email daily, if possible. We are sending valuable information to students via email. We also continue to remind students to check their email.

As a reminder, we both will serve as the school counselors for grades 6th through 12th. We will not be splitting students by grade or alphabetical order. This enables the students to connect with either counselor or the first available counselor. Although we are not splitting student caseload, we will be dividing duties. Please contact the below named counselor for questions regarding these specific topics:

Ms. Buffone: Junior and Senior Letters, Financial Aid Night, FAFSA Completion Workshop, ASVAB Testing and Interpretation, NCAA Eligibility Center, attending Special Education meetings, The Challenge Program, Military Services, PowerPack Program

Mrs. Faulk: PSAT, Dual Enrollment/College in the Classroom, AP Testing, attending Gifted IEP Meetings, PA Smart Futures, Scholarships, IUP Career Fair

Sincerely,

Tammy Buffone

Ms. Tammy Buffone

River Valley MS/HS School Counselor

buffone.t@rvsdpa.org

Bethany Faulk

Mrs. Bethany Faulk

River Valley MS/HS School Counselor

faulk.b@rvsdpa.org