

SOPHOMORES – JANUARY NEWSLETTER

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Hello from the Counseling Center at Moon Area High School. My name is Julie Sitko and I am the College and Career Counselor. My role is to advise and support students and families in the college search and to help identify “best fit” colleges and universities, and to assist students in realizing their post-secondary goals. This monthly newsletter will keep you on track for post-secondary planning. Please reach out to me with any questions.

College Counseling Series at Moon Area HS: Throughout the spring, I’ll be hosting monthly college counseling programs, held virtually, in the evenings. All programs will be recorded and posted the Moon Area Counseling Center website. Here’s what’s coming up:

Post Secondary Education Planning Night

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

6:30 PM

Recommended for grades 10-11

This is a program for parents and guardians to understand the basics of post-secondary planning. Join college counselors from Moon and Pine Richland High Schools along with guest speaker, Jennifer Winge, Vice President for Enrollment at the College of Wooster, as they share helpful tips for a successful launch to your college search process. This will be a general presentation for all students who are thinking about attending a four – year college.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BUVsQNYSRpiO7Ap-HbX92A

Emails from Post-Secondary Schools:

If you have not yet, you will be getting inundated with emails from colleges. I have a few suggestions on how you can manage the emails.

1. Create an email address just for post-secondary planning. That way, all of the emails you get from colleges won’t flood your regular inbox.
2. You can create a folder in your email and filter emails from the colleges you think you want to look at later. You can also create a folder of schools that you are interested in, so you don’t miss any important messages from them.
3. Check this email account once a week or every few days. Delete messages you’re not interested in. You’re going to be overwhelmed with information from colleges and managing the emails is necessary, so you don’t miss anything important.

Summer Programs:

[PA School for Excellence in Agricultural Studies at Penn State](#), [University of Pittsburgh Health Careers Scholars Academy](#), [Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive at Lehigh University](#), [Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University](#), and the [Governor’s School for Global and International Studies at Pitt](#): These are excellent enrichment opportunities for high achieving current sophomores and juniors. Click on the name of the program for more information. Application and information can be found on individual program websites. All applications are due in mid-February. But don’t wait, turn them in ASAP!

[Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week \(PFEW\)](#) is a one-of-a-kind summer program that offers in-coming high school juniors and seniors a unique and challenging opportunity to see what it is like to run their own business. Participants will make up an "imaginary" management team where they will learn first-hand about the Free Enterprise System. Their task - turn their failing company into a financial success. They will develop their own marketing strategies, design a website and, make all the decisions that are demanded of real-life company executives. This weeklong program is at Lycoming College, in Williamsport and students have the option to choose between four different weeks. PFEW is FREE, although there is a \$295 non-refundable registration fee.

[Carnegie Mellon](#) is offering several in-person Summer Pre-College Programs in architecture, art, computational biology, design, drama, music, gaming, and game design, and writing and culture. They also offer the following programs at no-cost; computer science, summer academy for math and science, and an artificial intelligence program called AI4ALL. For more information about any of these programs, you should attend an [information session](#).

[The Wildlife Leadership Academy](#) enriches Pennsylvania teens and empowers them to become certified conservation ambassadors through a five-day residential summer field school program. Program costs \$500 for the week, and scholarships are available.

[Duke University](#) offers summer academic opportunities for students. Rising seniors are invited to take classes with Duke Professors, where you can earn college credit. Students also have an option to take personal enrichment courses, with a global perspective, through the Summer Academy.

[Hillman Academy](#) is a summer research opportunity for rising juniors and seniors through UPMC. Participants will perform an authentic cancer research project and receive mentorship from university faculty and trainees. Applications are due February 11, 2024

[The Ice-T Project](#) is an initiative of The Citizen Science Lab, Black/African-American High School Youth will learn the computational and experimental techniques required to examine the physiology, biochemistry, and voltage potential of microbial fuel cells (MFC), a living battery made powered by bacteria. Once participants learn the basics they will then build and create their own device powered by these living batteries. More information will be shared on the website as it becomes available.