

## **Jump Start Information Night (PHEAA Financial Aid Program)**

**JUMP START  
FINANCIAL AID  
PLANNING  
NIGHT**

**PHEAA**

- **Wednesday, MARCH 6th**
- **6:00-7:30 PM**
- **SENIOR HIGH AUDITORIUM**

**GRADES 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Parents & Students**



**Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024**

**Location: Senior High School Auditorium**

**Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm**

No Registration required!

**All 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents** are invited to a Jump Start Information Night on the financial aid process. A representative from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) will present on understanding higher education costs, applying for scholarships and financial aid, and the timeline of the financial aid process.

### **Sign up for the PreACT Today!**

The Intermediate High School will be giving the PreACT to sophomores on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Taking this test is a good way for students to prepare for the ACT, an admissions exam accepted at most colleges and universities. The PreACT lets students know academic strengths, career interests, and how well they are prepared for colleges they may be interested in attending.

By becoming familiar with the math, English, reading, and science sections of the PreACT, students typically score higher on the ACT, which can enhance admissions and scholarship opportunities. In addition, the PreACT highlights student strengths and weaknesses by providing personalized feedback on academic skills and post-secondary planning.

Visit [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) for practice questions and additional information. If your child is interested in taking the PreACT, please complete a registration form linked to our website **HERE** and return completed form with payment to the IHS Guidance Office no later than Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the Guidance Office at 724-452-6042 ext. 2065 for more information. Thank you!

## Seniors – Scholarships

### Ruth Varner Otto Memorial Scholarship – Available now!

- The RVO can be accessed by joining on TEAMS with a join code that was posted on the Senior Teams page. The RVO TEAMS icon is below:



Ruth Varner Otto Memorial  
Scholarship (RVO)

- The Ruth Varner Otto (RVO) Memorial Scholarship is for seniors planning to attend a post-secondary school next fall. Scholarship applications will be available on TEAMS with instructions and mailing information. Students return the completed RVO application (MUST BE IN THE ACCOUNTANT'S OFFICE not just postmarked) by Tuesday, **March 19, 2024**, to the address provided on the instruction letter in TEAMS.
- **Update regarding the RVO Scholarship:** The FAFSA Student Aid Index (SAI) has undergone some changes for 2024. These changes have resulted in delays and some incorrect estimates being issued from the department. For these reasons, evidence of the FAFSA SAI is being removed as a requirement for the Ruth Varner Otto Scholarship in 2024, and students are not expected to submit such evidence of their SAIs with their application materials. The SAIs will not be considered.

Students are advised to submit a complete and accurate application where application, academic standing, extra-curricular involvements, and citizenship will be considered.

Reach out to your counselor with any questions.

### FAFSA UPDATE for CLASS OF 2024:

Filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is necessary in order to receive financial aid. **The 2024-25 FAFSA has been updated** in format and with different questions in comparison to prior years.

**ATTENTION:** The updated FAFSA IS NOW OPEN. In anticipation of completing the FAFSA, students and parents can each create their own Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID) now by visiting [www.StudentAid.gov/fsa-id](http://www.StudentAid.gov/fsa-id). It is recommended that you allow 4 days to create your FSA account before access to complete the FAFSA.

Please access the following link **FAFSA UPDATE** which provides information regarding the opening of the FAFSA.

## **SAT TESTING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The **SAT's** will be administered to **registered** students on Saturday, **March 9, 2024**, at Seneca Valley Senior High School. Students are to park or be dropped off in the **student parking lot (upper parking lot) and enter the building on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor** of the senior high school. Students must bring "Admission Ticket, government issued photo ID or school year photo ID, two #2 pencils with erasers, and an approved calculator". Students will **not be admitted** to the testing room without their **SAT Tickets and Photo IDs**. **PLEASE ENSURE THE COMPUTER YOU ARE TAKING YOUR TEST ON IS FULLY CHARGED BEFORE REPORTING ON TEST DAY. THERE IS NOT OUTLET CAPACITY FOR DEVICES TO BE CHARGED ON TEST DAY.**

Students are also advised to **leave cell phones in the car or at home** as the College Board's policy is to **collect ALL CELL PHONES & WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY** in the testing room. Students should arrive by 7:30 am and no later than 7:45 am. The SAT exam should conclude by 11:30 pm. Some good advice is to get plenty of rest the night before, eat a good breakfast and bring snacks for the breaks. Good luck!

## **SAT or AP Tester – Download Bluebook:**

Students who will be taking the SAT test or the AP test will need to download Bluebook. If you are using a Seneca Valley issued computer, you can download this program by clicking Start – Install Software – Software Center. Once the Software Center opens, type "Blue" in the search box which is in the top right corner. Click on the College Board Bluebook App and then click Install.

If you are not using an SV issued laptop, make sure your device meets the requirements. Then you can download the software here:

<https://bluebook.collegeboard.org/students/download-bluebook>

## **9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students interested in the Healthcare or Education Profession:**



Robert Morris University is partnering with Seneca Valley and several other high schools with a virtual **Healthcare AND Education Professionals High School Mentoring Program** during the 2023-2024 school year. The goal of the program is to enlighten and educate students about the varied career opportunities in the healthcare and education industry. Students will participate with professionals and current RMU students devoted to sharing information about the particular healthcare or education topic. A question-and-answer period and networking will be available at the end of each session. Students

can earn certificates after participating in all Zoom sessions. The sessions will be taped and available to view to earn credit.

### **HEALTHCARE SCHEDULE:**

**March 20, 2024** - Pre-Medicine

**TBD 2024** – RMU visits SV for student certificates & final recognition

### **EDUCATION SCHEDULE:**

**March 21, 2024** - Multi Language Learners & Study Abroad

**April 16, 2024** - **ACADEMIC IMMERSION EXPERIENCE at RMU**—Final Program/Presentation (permission form required—see guidance office)

Students register for either interest by following the instructions:

- Login to SchoolLinks/CLICK on SCHOOL EVENTS TAB (at top): Find RMU HEALTHCARE or EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS, CLICK on the topic and “REGISTER FOR THE EVENT”
- The virtual meeting link will UNLOCK at event start time (11:30 am or 1:00 pm)
- IN-PERSON students meet in the SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 229 or 2B (2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR)—Bring your laptops, earbuds/headphones. CYBER STUDENTS can join at event time from home.
- STUDENTS MUST FILL OUT A BRIEF SURVEY ON SCHOOLINKS AFTER PARTICIPATING.
- THESE SESSIONS WILL BE TAPED! Students who cannot attend day/time can request and view the taped version to get credit.

*Contact your school counselor with any questions.*

## **Advanced Placement Exams**

**AP Exams** will be administered at Seneca Valley from May 6<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>. Students will receive their exam schedule (exam date, time, and location) by the end of April. This message will be sent to the email address used when registering their Total Registration account.

The last possible date to order an exam is March 8, 2024. No exam will be ordered after this time. The registration site can be accessed the following ways:

- the direct web address: **HERE**
- the **Total Registration** icon on the senior high guidance webpage (select **Testing** then choose **AP**)
- the **AP Registration** link in “*site shortcuts*” on the senior high webpage.

Students who wish to drop an exam they already ordered can do this by selecting the cancellation link in their Total Registration account. Cancellation requests received by March 8, 2024, are entitled to a refund of the exam fee minus a **\$50 per exam** processing charge – late fees are non-refundable. No refund will be provided for cancellations submitted after this date.

For more information, please visit our website: [HERE](#)

## **\*\*SV COLLEGE & CAREER SCHOOL FAIR \*\***

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>**



**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and interested Seniors will have an opportunity to attend our fair on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, during the lunch periods.**

The **College & Career School Fair** runs from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, in the senior high school gymnasium. Approximately 60-70 school representatives/institutions will be in attendance from state universities, private colleges, community colleges, technical, beauty, nursing, art, business schools and military recruiters. 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and interested 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be able to attend the fair over assigned lunch periods. Parents are also welcome to attend during the fair hours. There will be more information about this upcoming event in April with a list of registered representatives posted on the guidance website [HERE](#).

**\*\*SIGNUP W/STRIVESCAN:** Students can sign-up now and receive a barcode to share contactless information w/participating fair representatives of interest during the fair courtesy of our STRIVESCAN PARTNER <https://www.strivescan.com/>.

**\*\*Sign-up for a barcode NOW in advance of the fair USING A PERSONAL EMAIL (Use a personal email designed for college correspondence & college applications–DO NOT USE YOUR SV EMAIL):**

REGISTER FOR YOUR BARCODE

1. ON YOUR PHONE, GO TO:  
**WWW.STRIVEFAIR.COM**  
or  
  
SNAPCHAT  
Press and hold down  
  
CAMERA  
Scan with your camera app
2. FILL OUT A SHORT REGISTRATION FORM TO GET YOUR BARCODE
3. SCAN YOUR BARCODE WITH COLLEGES TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

## **2023-2024 COLLEGE CHECKLISTS**

All 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students can now access a planning calendar for SV College & Career events and timeline for meeting college planning goals on the Guidance website.

Access these grade level checklists [HERE](#).

## **SAT and ACT Testing**

Check for upcoming test/registration dates to meet fall application deadlines. Check our Testing page on the Guidance website for details [HERE](#).

**Don't forget to follow the school counselors for more events and reminders on Instagram:**



**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM**

**@SVSHSCOUNSELORS**

**@SVIHSCOUNSELORS**

And/or **@SVIHScounselors** on...

