

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, . . . "plans to give you hope and a future."*

# Guidance FYI

Luther High School, September 2011

## Welcome to the Guidance FYI

The **Guidance FYI** is a monthly newsletter designed to keep parents and students informed about the many issues that deal with a student's "life-after-high school." Parents AND students, read it carefully and follow up on information that pertains to your individual circumstances. And as you grapple with the challenges of making decisions for the future, may you always take comfort in the fact that God has a plan for your life. The prophet Jeremiah writes: "*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* (Jeremiah 29:11)

## Guidance Counselors ready to assist

Mrs. Becky Lussky and Mr. Mark Loersch stand ready to assist parents and students with post-high school planning. Mr. Loersch will work with freshmen, sophomores and juniors, and Mrs. Lussky will advise seniors. Please contact either Mrs. Lussky or Mr. Loersch for information regarding tests, scholarships, careers, colleges and universities, financial aid, and other post-high school planning questions.

## Freshmen - grades DO count!

As entrance into four-year colleges and universities becomes more competitive, it is extremely important to maintain a high school GPA that is consistent with your ability level. As freshmen, work to achieve the best grades possible so that down the road you are not saddled with a GPA that reflects a poor work ethic during your first years of high school. It becomes very difficult to play "catch-up" in your junior and senior years.

## Seniors - college and scholarship application procedures at Luther

- request an application from the guidance office, from the school to which you are applying, or apply on-line (preferred method)
- fill out the parts of the application that you are asked to complete
- give your completed application (if you did not apply on-line) to Mrs. Radichel, along with any supporting documents requested. Mrs. Radichel will route the application to the individuals who need to sign it.
- request a transcript of your grades from Mrs. Radichel
- if you are under 18 years of age, you will need a transcript release form signed by your parents
- a transcript release form is needed for EACH transcript requested
- Mrs. Radichel will mail the application, along with the transcript and any supporting documents.
- The first transcript is free. All additional transcripts are \$3.00 each.

## Seniors - look for scholarships listed in the Guidance FYI

As scholarship information is received in the Guidance Office, it will be published in the Guidance FYI. This is the ONLY way that this scholarship information is made public. You may also find it useful to visit the guidance office of your community's public high school where local community scholarship information is available.

## **Seniors – schedule campus visits**

Plan to make arrangements for campus visits in the next several months. There is no school on Monday, October 17, or Thursday and Friday, October 27-28. In addition, Career Exploration Day on Wednesday, October 12 is an excellent time to schedule a campus visit. Students may also be excused from school for campus visits.

## **Juniors & Seniors – Bethany Lutheran College weekend get-away**

Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN is sponsoring a Get-Away Weekend October 27 – October 30, 2011. Bethany will charter a coach bus that will transport students from throughout Wisconsin to Mankato for a weekend on Bethany's campus. The bus will pick up La Crosse area students at Burger King (George Street) on Thursday, October 27 at 3:30 pm. Following an all-expense paid weekend on campus\*, students will be returned to La Crosse Sunday, October 30 at 11:00 a.m. Call the Bethany admissions office by October 17 to reserve a space: 800/944-3066. Information about Bethany is also available on-line at [www.blc.edu](http://www.blc.edu).

*\*Refundable \$40 to reserve your place.*

## **MLC Family Open Houses**

Families are invited to visit Martin Luther College during the following Open House dates: October 22, December 3, February 4, and April 28. More information is available on MLC's website: [www.mlc-wels.edu](http://www.mlc-wels.edu)

## **All students – CAREER DAY**

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 is Career Day. All freshmen will take a field trip to the campuses of UW-La Crosse and WTC. All sophomores will take the PLAN test at Luther. Juniors may choose to take the PSAT/NMSQT test at Luther. Juniors and seniors are encouraged to schedule campus visits and/or job shadow. Busses will run at 12:20 p.m. that day.

## **All students – helpful Web sites**

Find Your Dream College: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

- customized college search
- 4,000 detailed college profiles

Need Money for College? [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

- customized scholarship search
- 600,000 scholarships worth \$1 billion
- automatic e-mail updates

## **All students – WI/MN reciprocity**

Wisconsin/Minnesota tuition reciprocity continues to exist. However, there are some changes that will impact tuition for reciprocity students. In 2007, the MN/WI Interstate Tuition Reciprocity Supplement Program was created to allow students who attended MN state schools to pay WI tuition. This program is being phased out. Beginning in the 2012-13 academic year, students from WI will be required to pay the MN in-state tuition rate instead of the less expensive WI rate.

## **18 year-old males – register with Selective Service**

- all males 18 years and older must be registered with the selective service
- register within 30 days of your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday
- register on-line at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).
- list used to identify men for possible military service in a national emergency
- males who are not registered are breaking the law – heavy fines
- non-registered males will not qualify for federal student grants/loans, job training benefits or federal employment

## **All students – Health Explorers**

Health Explorers (Post 917) is a program sponsored through Gundersen Lutheran, Learning for Life, and Gateway Area Council. The purpose of the program is to allow young people to explore a career in health care first hand. This is an EXCELLENT program! For more information contact Beth Hartung: [BAHartun@gundluth.org](mailto:BAHartun@gundluth.org). or 608-775-0179