

DVHS CAREER CENTER NEWS
6th edition --- November 9 & 16, 2009

DVHS Students and Parents: *The information below will be updated on Mondays with news and updates from the DVHS Career Center. If you discover a great resource, please pass it along so I can share it! Thank you!*

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CAREER CENTER INFORMATION

Career Center hours:

November: M, W, F: 9:30 to 2 p.m.; T, Th: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NEW hours beginning in December: M-Th: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri: closed.

Website to Peruse: Check out www.COIN3.com for college and career searches, to take a self-assessment survey, etc. Site ID is **LCA16847**; login is **dvhs**. This site is a valuable tool for ALL students, freshmen through seniors and is funded by your Academic Boosters!

COLLEGE VISIT INFORMATION

We have had a flurry of visits over the past few weeks, and they are now slowing down a bit. If there are specific colleges you would like to have represented at DVHS, please let me know and I will extend an invitation to their admissions office to visit our campus. Unfortunately due to the CA budget cuts, many UC's and CSU's were unable to do high school campus visits this year but we did have a few!

College Visits at DVHS: **U.C. Davis** will be here **Thursday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m.** Also, this week we will be hosting an out of state college mini-college fair in the Career Center on Friday, November 20 from 10:20 to 11:30 (brunch through 3rd). Seven colleges will be represented including: **Hawaii Pacific Univ., Drexel Univ. (Philadelphia, PA), Arizona State Univ. (Tempe, AZ), Univ. of Arizona (Tucson), Northeastern Univ. (Boston, MA), Columbia College of Chicago (IL), and TCU (Texas Christian U.) in Ft. Worth, TX.** Students are encouraged to stop by (with teacher approval) anytime during 3rd period and of course at brunch. This is a great time to meet with a representative and learn more about each college.

Last week's visits included Cal State East Bay, Harvard Univ., Grove City College (PA), and St. Mary's College in Moraga. The previous week's included: Milwaukee School of Engineering, Dominican Univ. in San Rafael, and Marinello Beauty School in Castro Valley. Stop by the Career Center to learn about these colleges and pick up information left by the college representative.

REMEMBER: Cal State East Bay is our local area Cal State University and will admit ALL local area students who meet the minimum eligibility requirements. Go to: www.csumentor.edu for more information about the college and learn how to apply to Cal State University East Bay!

Q&A from *High School Counselor Week Newsletter, 11/9/09, by Beier of College Admissions Strategies, Inc.*
Why attend a college visit in a high school Career Center?

Q. Is it worth my son's time to get out of class and meet with the college rep when he/she visits his school?
A resounding "yes." The college representatives tend to be young alumni who travel around their territory for most of the fall. They may not have tremendous tenure in the admissions office but they can often serve as an advocate for students who have impressed them. Patrick O'Connor, a college counselor in Michigan, writes a

blog entitled "College is Yours Weekly" and had this to say: "College reps aren't salesmen; they are dream weavers, and their task is to take what they know about their college, apply it to what you know about yourself, and see what kind of tapestry the two of you can create."

Before a student attends a college visit at their high school they should be sure to carefully scan the college Web site and prepare questions. It is important that the questions not be ones that can easily be answered off the Web site or from a guidebook. Asking specific questions about double majors, study abroad or internship options are good places to start. If students have already visited the campus, they should be prepared to share their insights. Make sure they fill out the information card because, in most cases, it will be noted in their application folder that they attended the session.

If the college is a student's first choice, I recommend requesting a copy of the representative's business card and sending a brief e-mail thanking the rep for the visit and asking any questions that didn't get answered."

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS EVENTS (not at DVHS)

College Admissions Events/Preview Days – Many college campuses conduct on campus fall programs for prospective students. It is a good idea to take advantage of these as a way to explore campus locations and programs, and meet with current students and faculty. In addition, many colleges conduct regional events in the Bay Area. Go to http://www.dvhigh.net/counseling/counseling_home_page.html for a list of upcoming Bay Area College Admissions events.

COLLEGE APPLICATION INFORMATION:!

University of California (UC) Applications

APPLY: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply Apply to more than one campus! Don't rely on UC Riverside or UC Merced as back-ups. While it is true that the UC system diverted (most) eligible UC applicants to these two campuses in fall 2009 if they were not admitted to their other choices—THIS YEAR IS DIFFERENT. There is no guarantee that all eligible applicants will be automatically diverted. Check each campus' website for the most up-to-date admissions information and if UC Riverside and/or UC Merced are a good fit for your educational goals, submit an application!
Application deadline for all UC campuses is NOVEMBER 30!!!!

California State Universities (CSU): **APPLY:** www.csumentor.edu. **Apply to all CSU campuses via this website.** If you are applying to an impacted college or impacted major (see individual college websites for more information) be sure to have a back up plan (which includes applying also to a 2nd choice major if possible and to other non-impacted CSU's and/or private and out of state public institutions). BE INFORMED about each campus' procedures and deadlines (majors, transcripts, test scores, scholarships, housing, etc) and follow all expectations as specified by each campus.

The impacted CSU's include: Fullerton, Long Beach, Pomona, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Sonoma, San Francisco, Chico, Northridge, Fresno, San Marcos and San Jose. Other campuses might have impacted programs! Check their websites for updated information!!

UC StatFinder: Check out this interactive University of California website for admissions and persistence data at the UC's. View School reports for local high schools and community colleges, as well as regional reports. (Because this is our first year of seniors at DVHS, there are no DVHS school statistics available, but our other area high schools and community colleges are included). Go to: <http://statfinder.ucop.edu>

TESTING & TRANSCRIPT INFORMATION

Seniors: **DECEMBER** is the last month to take standardized tests for UC and CSU admission (some CSU's required Nov. test dates). **Remember to send your *official scores* to the colleges to where you apply!!! The applications require self reported scores, but scores are not *official* unless received directly from College Board or ACT.** Use the CSU Mentor code 3594 to submit your SAT scores to all CSU's. Each CSU has access to a database that receives your SAT scores (via the code 3594). The ACT website does not offer a single code to use so students must submit their ACT scores to each college campus where applying.

SAT/SAT Subject Tests: To see schedule/register or send scores: www.collegeboard.com

ACT: To see schedule/register or send scores www.actstudent.org

TRANSCRIPTS: Remember to send transcripts to all colleges who request them. Check your e-mails frequently as colleges will be communicating application information and additional requests to you via the e-mail you give them. Stop by the Counseling office to order your transcripts or use the "Docufide" service on the DVHS website.

Applying to Private Colleges? If you need letters of recommendation to be sent by your counselor or any teachers, be sure to ask them at least two weeks before you need them. Download the necessary packet of information from the DVHS website under the Academic/Counseling tab (click on "Seniors"). All of the necessary forms and information are there.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

DVHS will host a **Financial Aid night** on **February 2** senior families to learn more about federal financial aid, student loans, institutional aid, grants and scholarships, etc. Details will be posted on the website and on School Loop as they become available, but save the date!

Remember to check the websites for the colleges to which you are applying for information on scholarships and financial aid. Many colleges offer scholarships to applicants, but deadlines and procedures vary. Often colleges offer both NEED BASED and MERIT BASED. Be sure you know the qualifications for each, to maximize your financial aid potential.

Scholarships! Scholarships are available from many sources such as private companies, educational foundations, colleges, and community groups. As we receive announcements, we post them on our Academic/Counseling page (see: "Scholarship Information"). Many are posted on the DVHS website (Academic/Counseling tab) but many individual schools offer need-based and merit scholarships themselves. Some scholarships are awarded automatically by the college when a student is admitted, others must be applied for.

Some other scholarship websites to check out include www.fastweb.com, www.scholarship.com, www.fasfa.gov and www.finaid.org.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK &
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!