

**Bayport-Bluepoint UFSD
Bayport-Bluepoint High School
Counseling Center News
September/October Edition**

Dear BBP Community;

Welcome back to another school year.

In an effort to keep you abreast of the High School Counseling Center activities, we will be publishing a short but informative newsletter each month. We will attempt to have this information to you in a timely manner. You can expect important dates to remember, as well as informational articles to assist you and your family with Guidance and Counseling Information.

If you have any suggestions or comments pertaining to the information please feel free to contact the High School Counseling Center.

**Sincerely,
The Counseling Center Staff**

Counseling Center Events and Dates

New Name for Guidance

You will notice that we are now referring to our office and activities with the name of *Counseling Center*. We believe it best describes our purpose and how we deliver our activities and programs. So the word *Guidance Department* will now be referred to as the *Counseling Center*. It is in the same place, offers the same activities but named more appropriately.

College Application Orientation and Parent Information Night

It is an exciting time for seniors and Juniors as they start to plan for their post-secondary educational plans. With that in mind, the Counseling Center would like to inform you of a few activities that will be happening over the next couple of weeks.

Orientation to the College Application Process

Counselors will be visiting Senior English Classes to thoroughly review the College Application Process. Students will hear first hand about the process that the Counseling Center will utilize. In addition, Senior Transcripts will be distributed. We would ask that you review the transcripts and record any errors in red and send that corrected copy to the Counseling Center. We will make all appropriate changes prior to processing any college application.

Parent Information Night- the College Application Process

On October 19, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the High School Auditorium, the Counseling Center will present a program that will explain the process of applying to colleges. Parents will have an opportunity to listen to the in's and out's of the process. In addition, they will have an opportunity to ask related questions. Senior and Junior parents are invited to attend.

College Visitation Forms

In accordance with the Revised High School Attendance Policy, a College Visitation Approval Form must be processed for each college visit or tour. It will be necessary for each family and child to complete this form and have it approved by the attendance office before planning a college tour or visit. Please see the form on the reverse side of this newsletter. This will assure that each student is properly excused from school on the days of the college visits. Forms are available in the High School Counseling Center.

Testing Day October 14, 2009

On Wednesday, October 14, 2009, all Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen will be involved in PSAT and ACT/EXPLORE Testing. Dr. Hearney has already sent a letter to you explaining the purpose of the testing and logistics of the day.

With the exception of Juniors, who will be involved in the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), parents should be aware that the sophomores and freshman testing is for SAT/ACT tutor and study planning only. They will not be recorded or sent to colleges for any purpose.

For additional information parents should visit the following websites:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

<http://www.actstudent.org/explore/>

South Shore College Consortium coming to BBP High School

On October 9, 2009 over 40 colleges will visit BBP High School for the first time. Juniors and Seniors will be invited to attend the affair during periods one and two. All are reminded that colleges and universities present can present valuable new college options for our students. Therefore, all parents are urged to have their children speak with college representatives about their college options.

Suffolk College Conference October 22, 2009

On October 22 , 2009 there will be a College Fair open to all Suffolk County High School students and their parents. The fair for parents and students will be from 6:00 to 8:30 at Suffolk Community College, Ammerman Campus. In addition to meeting 100's of college and university representatives, there will be workshops on financial aid, college athletics, scholarships and colleges for student 's with special needs. This is a must for all junior and senior students and parents.

Long Island National College Fair

LINCF will be held on Sunday, October 4, 11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. This is the ultimate in college fairs with over 500 colleges and universities in attendance.



Informational Articles

Tips for Attending a National College Fair

Before the Fair...

Answer the following questions to help you determine what kind of school would best suit you:

- **Do you want to attend a two- or four-year institution? Co-ed or single sex?**
- **What size school do you want to attend?**
- **What programs of study are you considering?**
- **How far from home do you want to go?**
- **Do you wish to participate in any specific extra-curricular activities or athletics?**
- **Do you want to attend a school in an urban, suburban or rural environment?**
- **Do you require any special services (i.e. tutoring, note takers, readers, TDD or interpreters)?**

Discuss your college plans with your guidance counselor, family, teachers and friends.

Research your colleges of interest on the Internet and in your Counseling Center.

Check dates and registration deadlines for college entrance examinations.

See if you can preregister at a college fair near you. Register before heading to the fair!



At the Fair...

Pick up a bag and a fair directory.

Visit with colleges and universities that you feel meet your criteria.

Talk with a college counselor at the Counseling Center if you have any questions or need help with your college search.

Attend an information session.

For more information, e-mail collegefairs@nacacnet.org.

College Fair Checklist

Before the fair...

- Review the list of college fair participants.
- Locate the schools you want to interview.
- Check out the schedule of information sessions.

Questions

- Check off questions you would like to ask school representatives.

Admissions

- What are the admission requirements?
- What qualities should prospective students have?
- Which standardized test scores do you require?
- What majors are offered? What's the most popular?

Classroom

- What is the average class size?
- How accessible are professors outside of class?
- Will professors or graduate students teach my courses?
- When must I choose a major?
- Do I need a computer?
- What student services are offered (tutoring, career counseling, study work shops)?
- How are the libraries, computer labs?

Housing

- What type of housing is available?
- Is student housing guaranteed for four years?
- Would I have a roommate or live alone?
- How are roommates selected?

Student life

- What special interest groups, activities, fraternities/ sororities are available?
- What's it like on campus on the weekends?
- Are any programs offered to help students adjust to the college life?
- Are intramural, club, and varsity sports offered?
- How are the sports facilities?
- What types of meal plans are available?

- How many freshman return for their sophomore year?
- How safe is the campus and its surrounding neighborhoods?

Time Saving Tip

■ ***Print address labels to paste on the College Information cards. Include your name, address, e-mail, phone, high school, year of graduation, intended major.***

**Bayport Blue Point Union Free School District
Bayport Blue Point High School**

Bayport, New York

Counseling Center

College Visitation Prior Approval Request Form

Student Name: _____ **Date:** _____

College (s): _____

College Contact Person: _____

Date of Visit(s): _____

Reason for Visit: _____

Student Signature:

Parent Signature: _____

- Junior & Seniors may visit college campuses.
- There is no limit to the number of college visits.
- The parent, Assistant Principal for Attendance and student prior to the college visit, must complete the form.
- The parent and student must obtain a college stamp/signature from the admissions office.
- *Students must adhere to the use of this form in order for the absence to be considered excused.*

Prior approval if signed by: _____

Assistant Principal for Attendance

(Must be signed before departure)

College Representative Signature _____

Date: _____ **(College Seal)**