

Bonney Lake High School

SENIOR PROWLER

November 02, 2011

Issue 2

SAT TEST DATES

REGISTER	TEST
Oct. 07	Nov. 05
Nov. 08	Dec. 03
Dec. 30	Jan. 28
Feb. 10	Mar. 10
Apr. 06	May 05
May 08	June 02

SAT: www.collegeboard.com

ACT: www.actstudent.org

ACT TEST DATES

REGISTER	TEST
Nov. 04	Dec. 10
Jan. 13	Feb. 11
Mar. 09	Apr. 14
May 04	Jun. 09

**Seniors must take a test by Dec. if planning to attend a 4 year college.
BLHS School code 480111

Information sheets & study guides are available in the CIC.

SAT and ACT fee waivers are available to those on free or reduced lunch. See Mr. Crinklaw in the 300 Wing.

Grad Night 2012

Grad Night tickets are on sale all three lunches every Friday. The all night party will begin right after graduation. Early bird tickets are only \$50.00!

COLLEGE/ VOLUNTEER VISITATIONS

(held during student lunches)

11/08 Western WA University
11/09 Whitworth University

Military Month Visitations (held during student lunches)

3 rd	Tues.	Navy
2 nd	Tues.	Air Nat. Guard
1 st and 3 rd	Wed.	Army Nat. Guard
2 nd and 4 th	Wed.	Marines
1 st and 3 rd	Thurs.	Army
2 nd	Thurs.	Air Force

Check out these Web sites:

fastweb.com
fafs.ed.gov
Scholarships.com
schoolsoup.com
CheckOutACollege.com
thewashboard.org
wois.org (CIC for site key)
www.careerbridge.wa.gov/
workforceemployer.com
collegeboard.com
actstudent.org

The CIC has a new Website.

Check it out :

<http://teachers.sumnersd.org/bhs/shelmold/index.php>

BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT (College Fair)

Thursday, November 10th
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
@Sumner High School

The Fall National College Fair

November 4th 9am – noon**
&
November 5th noon – 4pm
@ the Washington State
Convention Center and Trade
Center

**prearranged absence form required for the 4th

Engineering Mentor Night

U of W - Bothell
November 15 from 6pm - 8pm.
North Creek Events Center

- Meet engineers
- Explore opportunities in engineering
- Receive academic Advising
- Learn more about employment in engineering.

COLLEGE TIPS AND INFORMATION ~

Pulling your College Application Together - collegeboard.com

Narrow your list of colleges to between 5 and 10 and review it with your counselor. Get an application and financial aid info from each. Visit as many as possible.

Make a master calendar and note:

Test dates, fees, and deadlines

College application due dates

Required financial aid applications and their deadlines

Due dates for recommendations, transcripts and other necessary materials.

Ask for recommendations. Give each person your resume or Letter of Recommendation form, located in the Career and Information Center; a stamped, self addressed envelope, if necessary, and any other required forms.

Write application essays and ask a teacher, the writing center, parents, or friends to read your first draft.

College Open Houses in the Seattle area (*locations & times are available in the CIC*):

College Information Sessions/Preview Days Green River Community College is hosting "College Information Sessions" beginning at 5:30pm in their Welcome Center the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Learn how to pay for college, learn what programs are available, learn what support is available, and learn the steps to get started.

University of Washington-Bothell – www.uwb.edu/admissions/freshman/visit1 1/19 & 12/3

College Admissions Guide Timeline (fastweb.com)

Senior Year – Fall

Organize applications; create files for each school you are interested in attending. List requirements and deadlines. Retake the ACT and/or SAT to improve your score. Request letters of recommendation as soon as possible from teachers, counselors and community leaders (no later than one month before the application due date). To save money on application fees, consider applying early action to a college where you have a good chance of being accepted early to avoid the need for a safety school

Note: Early decision requires you to enroll at the college if admitted, while early action does not. Register for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov so you can complete and sign the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online.

Senior Year - Winter Work on your college applications. Many applications are due in late December and before early January. File the FAFSA: www.fafsa.gov, ASAP after January 1st. Check with your prospective schools about additional financial aid application forms, deadlines & requirements.

Senior Year - Spring Check email and postal mail regularly for admissions decisions (generally late March/early April); a thin letter does not necessarily mean you are rejected. Compare your admissions offers. Ask your guidance counselor and parents to help you weigh your options. Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) for any mistakes and report them to your prospective school. You should receive your SAR in 1-3 days if you filed electronically (paper filing: 2-3 weeks). Time for a decision! Most schools

ask that you choose your school by May 1st, unless early decision. Check college's deadlines for housing, financial aid, etc.

Glossary: Key Terms You Will Encounter

Award Letter: A notification telling you what financial aid your college is offering to you (including estimated costs, financing information, types of aid, amounts offered, specific program information, etc.). You may choose to accept some or all of what is offered. Unfortunately, colleges do not increase the grants in the financial aid package if you turn down the loans.

Credit/Unit (or Credit Hour): A unit of measurement for fulfilling course requirements. Most colleges require that you complete a certain number of credits/units in order to graduate.

Cost of Attendance: Includes all costs associated with attending college: tuition & fees, room/board, books, supplies, transportation, personal computer, and personal expenses. Ask the school about increasing your cost of attendance if you have dependent care or disability-related expenses.

Enrollment Status: Indicates you attend school full-time or part-time. In general, you must attend at least half-time to qualify for financial aid.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC): Amount a student and his or her family are expected to contribute financially toward the cost of attendance each year.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): Students must fill out the FAFSA each year to find out how much federal/state aid they are eligible for - www.fafsa.gov.

Open Admissions: Students are admitted regardless of their academic qualifications. Most community colleges have an open admissions policy.

Out-of-State Students: Generally applies to students attending a public university outside of their home state. Out of- state students must pay a higher tuition rate unless they establish legal residency for the state where they attend school or a reciprocity agreement is in place with the state they live and the state of the school.

Rolling Admissions: There is no set admissions deadline date; qualified students are accepted until classes are filled.

Student Aid Report (SAR): This notifies you that your FAFSA has been processed. Your EFC also appears on the SAR.

FAFSA: Step-by-Step

What is it? FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The federal government uses this form to determine your eligibility for federal financial aid for college, which may include grants, scholarships, workstudy and loans.

Why fill it out? The FAFSA is used to apply for financial aid from the federal and state government and from all public and most private colleges. Private colleges may have their own supplemental forms in addition to the FAFSA for awarding their own aid funds. For example, less than 250 private colleges require an additional form called the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE.

EFC stands for Expected Family Contribution. According to the government's calculation, you and your family should be able to contribute this amount in the coming academic year to your college costs. The EFC is a very harsh assessment of your ability to pay for college. It does not consider the impact of consumer debt on a family's financial strength.

How does it work? The college you plan to attend will try to meet your financial need with an award of different types of aid from multiple sources, including federal, state, school and private sources. This may include grants, scholarships, student employment and loans.

PIN: Your Key to Online Identification -The Personal Identification Number (PIN) is the code used by the U.S. Department of Education to identify you online. You can do the following on your FAFSA: Add additional colleges and universities. To obtain a PIN, eligible students AND parents should visit www.pin.ed.gov (students and parents should get their own PINs). Click on "Apply for PIN" near the top of the page. Allow 4 hours for PIN instructions to be emailed. Do not reveal your PIN to anyone. The PIN allows you to electronically sign federal student aid and loan documents and access your confidential information.

FAFSA Process: 1-2-3!

Step 1: Assemble forms needed to complete FAFSA You and your parents (if dependent) need the following to fill out the form:

Social security number

- Current bank and brokerage account statements
- Driver's license (if any)
- Current mortgage and investment records (if any)
- Alien registration card (if not a U.S. citizen)
- 2011 federal tax return (**estimates are OK on tax questions, if you or your parents haven't filed yet**)
- 2011 untaxed income records (if any)
- 2011 W2 and 1099 forms and other record of money earned
- Parents' 2011 income tax return (if dependent)
- PINStep 2: Complete the FAFSA
- Fill out the online FAFSA worksheet
- Complete a FAFSA on the Web at: www.fafsa.gov. The online version is used by 99% of the applicants since it includes skip logic to avoid asking you unnecessary and redundant questions.
- In order to maximize your amount of aid, fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1.
- Once finished, print the FAFSA summary as well as the "Submission Confirmation" page (or write down your confirmation number and date). If you complete the paper version, make a copy for your records.

Step 3: Review your Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR is proof that your FAFSA was received. You should receive your electronic SAR in 1-3 days if you filed electronically (paper filing: 2-3 weeks).

What if I find errors on my Student Aid Report (SAR)? Report errors immediately to your financial aid office. You can also make corrections online at: www.fafsa.gov. If you don't receive your SAR in 3-4 weeks, call 1-800-433-3243 (1-800-4-FED-AID) or visit www.studentaid.ed.gov

How is financial aid determined? Financial Need = Cost of Attendance (COA) – Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Quick Tip: Fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1, and each successive year once you're in college. Early submission maximizes your chances of receiving aid.

Requesting Transcripts from BLHS - Get your transcript request form from the CIC. Plan ahead-it takes 48 hours to process your request.

School Website - Check out the Bonney Lake High School Website for more senior information. http://www.sumner.wednet.edu/ourschools/bonneylake_hs/pages/seniors.html

The CIC has a new Website. Check it out :

<http://teachers.sumnersd.org/bhs/shelmold/index.php>

IMPORTANT Information about requesting transcripts and SAT/ACT Scores

Sending SAT/ACT scores to colleges - Most colleges and universities want your test scores sent **ONLY** from the test companies and no longer accept them from high schools. Decide what colleges you would like your test scores sent to and use your **one time only** free request option on your test registration. Sending your scores later is timely and costly.

Upcoming Events:

11/2	Herff Jones Graduation Order Packet Distribution
11/5	National College Fair - flyers available in CIC
11/9	Whitworth University Lunch Visit
11/10	Beyond High School Night at SHS 6-8pm
11/14	Pacific Lutheran University Lunch Visit
11/15	Herff Jones Lunch Visit - Collect Graduation Orders
11/16	Herff Jones Lunch Visit - Collect Graduation Orders
11/17	University of Washington-Bothell Lunch Visit
01/01	FAFSA opens
05/23	Senior Showcase
05/31	Senior Awards
06/5	Heart of the Panther
06/8	Roll-up Assembly
06/11	(tentative) Senior Breakfast & Graduation practice at BLHS
06/12	Graduation

Scholarships - There are many scholarships available to graduating students. Don't forget to check out the Websites of the College of your choice. Many times they have scholarships available. Usually you can locate scholarship information under the financial aid button. Do your own scholarship search as there are too many to list here. This list is intended to get you started. Start pulling your scholarship applications together early.

How To Win Scholarships-www.scholarshiphelp.org

We know that the path to success in earning scholarships has approximately three parts.

- You must be able to organize and prioritize
- You must be able to write about a variety of topics that may or may not be exciting to you in a fluid and thoughtful way, demonstrating that you are a scholar or would like to be a scholar. This may be the most difficult part about becoming a successful scholarship winner. However, we know that with some help, you can do it.
- You must understand yourself well enough to create a compelling portrait of who you are. You must understand your audience well enough to be able to position your skills and strengths as deserving of their support.

Knowing yourself takes more work than writing down a list of extracurricular activities. Scholarship committees award funding to candidates they can understand and relate to and who distinguish themselves from other candidates by their ability to communicate their special-ness.

SENIOR CALENDAR

November 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUES.	WED.	THUR	FRIDAY	SAT
		1 ASVAB Exam @ BLHS	2 Herff Jones Grad packet distribution Army National. Guard	3 Army	4 Register for Dec. ACT National College Fair - Seattle Dance 7-9pm	5 SAT - BLHS
6	7	8 Register for Dec. SAT Western Univ, Air NationalGuard	9 Whitworth University Marines	10 Beyond High School - SHS 6pm - 8pm Air Force	11 No School VETERAN'S DAY	12
13	14 PLU Visit	15 Herff Jones- Lunches Navy	16 Herff Jones- Lunches Army National. Guard	17 U of W Bothell Army	18	19
20	21	22 Daffodil Princess Selection - BLHS	23 No School ~ Thanksgiving			26
27	28	29	30			