

From the Counseling Office
Second semester starts on Monday January 30th, 2017.

Parents: Report cards with final first semester grades will be mailed before midwinter break. If you do not get a report card, please contact the Counseling Office at (425) 936-1610 to find out if the school has your current address on file. If your student has unfortunately failed one or more classes, it's very important to take immediate action to help him/her be successful during second semester and to get back on track. Talk to teachers to find out the reasons behind a failing grade, and to counselors if the problem is more comprehensive. If your senior student failed a class required for graduation, they should contact their counselor immediately. If your student needs to earn additional credit, the opportunities are limited but several do exist.

Seniors: If you are going to a 2-year or 4-year college after high school, you should be well along in the financial aid application process. All you need to do is complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov

Reminder: There is no fee for filing the FAFSA. This site hosts the online financial aid application, as well as an abundance of information about on how to do it. You can look up the codes of the schools you're interested in, find out what information you need to gather, and sign up for a PIN number that serves as your electronic signature on the application. (If you're not applying as an independent student, you and one of your parents must apply for the PIN.) There is free information and advice about how to complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov, www.financial.org, www.finaid.org, and www.fastweb.com.

Approximately 1-3 days after filing the FAFSA electronically you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). This is a summary of the information you entered on the FAFSA, and it will notify you of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), and of whether you are eligible for a Pell Grant. The EFC is **not the amount** you owe the school per se, but a measure of where you stand relative to the entire nation. It is used to determine the types and amount of aid you are eligible to receive. The schools you designated on the FAFSA will receive the information you reported and use it to determine your financial aid award. **Check the information immediately!** The *FastWeb website* is a great source of information and explains the SAR and the EFC. Read it online at www.fastweb.com.

Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors: Registration for the 2017-2018 academic year will start on February 23; please refer to the Important Dates at the end of this article for the registration timeline. Check the school's **Daily Bulletin** for announcements about information meetings.

Special Programs of Study: Juanita High School participates in a number of programs that are designed to enhance the student's high school program of study:

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program administered by the College Board. It includes courses for highly motivated students who wish to pursue college-level studies in the high school setting. Qualifying grades on end-of-year AP examinations can be submitted for college credit and/or waiver of course requirements in the freshman year of college. Next year JHS will offer AP classes in art, English, mathematics, music, science, social studies, and world languages.

WaNIC is a consortium that offers a wide range of professional/technical classes to high school students in participating school districts like Lake Washington School District. Courses are intended for juniors and seniors. Visit the Career Resource Center for information on the programs available at WaNIC.

Running Start is a dual enrollment program through which participating students may take college-level courses, tuition-free, at one of the area community colleges. Students simultaneously earn high school

credit and college credit in eligible Running Start course work. Information sessions about Running Start will be held on 3/1 and 3/2 in the library right after school.

Contact the Counseling Office at (425) 936-1610, or visit us at www.lwsd.org/jhs.

Important Dates for February-March 2016

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| February 16-20 | Mid-winter break |
| February 22 | Freshman Parent Night |
| February 23 | Registration for 2017-2018 starts in classrooms |
| March 1 | Running Start Orientation in the Library, 1:00PM |
| March 2 | Running Start Orientation in the Library, 2:30PM |
| March 2 | Registration for 2017-2018 – Day 2 |
| March 11 | SAT- Registration deadline 2/10 |