**Guidance News**

**Steinbrenner High School**

**October 2017**

**Parents & Students –** Here is the latest news from Steinbrenner Guidance. We will be providing updates from the guidance department on a regular basis through our emails and entries on the Guidance, College & Career Edsby Group Page and on the Steinbrenner website under “Resources” “Guidance”.

**College Representative Visits -**Several colleges have scheduled visits to Steinbrenner High School to speak to our juniors and seniors.  The following colleges will be visiting our school next week:    Jacksonville University, University of Florida, Ohio State University, Pace and SUNY Maritime. More colleges will be added as they are scheduled. Students should sign up at Event Brite <http://steinbrennerhscollegevisits.eventbrite.com/>   Students must print their ticket when they register and present the ticket (pass) to the classroom teacher to attend the college visit. It is up to the individual teacher to allow a student to miss class in order to attend a college visit.  Students must limit their visits to 5 colleges per year.

**Senior Night** – **Rescheduled** – **October 5 – 6:30 p.m.** – The Guidance staff, University Representative and Financial Aid Director will be presenting information regarding the college application process, post-secondary choices, SAT and ACT, scholarships, financial aid, Bright Futures, etc. Representatives from University of Tampa, University of Alabama, USF, FSU, HCC, HCC Honors and Hi-Tec will be available for questions. Don’t miss this opportunity to find out what steps you need to take regarding plans for after graduation.

**PSAT -** Our school district in partnership with College Board and the State of Florida will be offering the PSAT free to all 9, 10, & 11 grade students on **Wednesday, October 11**.  9th grade students will take the PSAT 8/9. 10th and 11th will take the PSAT/NMSQT. This is an important practice for the SAT so we encourage students to do their best on this test.  It is especially important for juniors who may qualify for National Merit and other scholarships based on their test scores this year.  A practice booklet has been given to all students. Students need to bring an appropriate calculator for the PSAT Test.

**Academy Day – October 14, 9 a.m. – 12 noon** – Students and parents are invited to this event held at MacDill AFB for anyone interested in the military academies including Air Force, Naval, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard and the U.S. Military Academy.  Visit [**http://castor.house.gov/constituentservices/serviceacademynominations.htm**](http://castor.house.gov/constituentservices/serviceacademynominations.htm)for reservation and other information.

**Academy Day – Saturday, October 28, 10 a.m**. – Reschedule for Congressman Dennis Ross – This program for students in grades 8-11 will be held at HCC, [1206 N. Park Road, Plant City](https://maps.google.com/?q=1206+N.+Park+Road,+Plant+City&entry=gmail&source=g).  All Military Academies will be represented.

**Bright Futures Scholarship Applications –** The application opens **October 1** for seniors to apply for Bright Futures and other State of Florida Scholarships at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org). All students should apply by **December 15**, however, may continue to meet the SAT/ACT, and GPA requirements through June.  Community service hours must be completed and turned in before graduation.

**Financial Aid – October 1 -** Seniors and parents should now begin the financial aid process to apply for assistance in paying for college.  This is a big change from previous years when students applied after January 1. There are several organizations that charge fees for completing the form so be sure to only use the official website – [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov)  This application allows students to obtain free money through grants, work study and scholarships.  Students may also be offered student loans through this process.

**Financial Aid Nights –** These district events take place at area high schools to assist students and their parents in the financial aid process.  The events begin at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.  Additional information is available on the Edsby Guidance website.    November 1 – Alonso, November 3 – Hillsborough, November 10 – Freedom and December 5 – Gaither High School.

**University of Tampa – Decision Day – October 31 –** Seniors will find out instantly if they are accepted to the University of Tampa by participating in Decision Day.  Students will not have to pay the $40 application fee, send a transcript, do the essay or ask for a recommendation.  Sign up is in the Guidance Office by no later than October 11.

**Great American Teach In** – This annual event will be held at Steinbrenner High School on **November 16**.  Many speakers will be making presentations to classes regarding their careers and hobbies.  If you are interested in speaking to classes, you may arrange presentations directly with a teacher or contact Mrs. Judy Pressley at judy.pressley@sdhc.k12.fl.us or 792-5131, ext. 246 by **November 6**.

**Pasos al Futuro –** College and Financial Aid Information presented in **Spanish**.  Programs begin at 6:00 p.m. in the school auditoriums. Jefferson – October 26 and Alonso – November 30.

**Community Service –** All Bright Futures scholarships require that students have community service hours approved, logged, and entered on their transcript before graduation.  Students should complete a proposal and have their counselor or college counselor approve them before beginning any project.  Log sheets are returned to the guidance office for documentation.  Summer projects should be turned in as soon as possible. All forms are available in the guidance office, Success Center, on the school website and on the Edsby Guidance Page.

**Scholarship Bulletin –** Scholarship bulletins are available in the guidance office, on the school website and on the Guidance Group Page.  New scholarship information will be posted as it becomes available. There are scholarship opportunities for all grade level students.  Some of the local scholarships include the Barnes, Tony Janus, Hillsborough Education Foundation (which opens November 1), and Project Weather.

**Hugh O’ Brian Leadership Conference** – Sophomores Only!  One selected student will attend this 3 day program at Eckerd College.  Students will learn leadership skills.  This program is sponsored by our Steinbrenner PTSA.  Students should write a 75-100 word essay on “leadership” and submit to Mrs. Pressley by November 13.

Judy Pressley, College & Career Counselor

Steinbrenner High School

813-792-5131, ext. 246