

Caper Notes

From LCMRHS Counselors

September 2010

Seniors and Senior Parents



This newsletter will be mailed home every month. It will contain information about scholarships as well as other information important to seniors and their parents. Most of the local scholarships will be offered after the first of the year. It is the student's responsibility to obtain a copy of the application and to return it completed to the guidance office.

As always students and parents are invited to visit with the Guidance Counselors:

Senior assignment as follows:

Ms. White	All Freshmen
Mr. Courtney	A-FE
Ms. Markovitz	FI - K
Ms. Nelson	L- PR
Ms. Novitskie	PRO- Z

****Guidance Help Workshop****

The guidance department will be holding its annual Help Workshop on October 20, 2010 at 6 pm. Come meet the counselors and receive valuable information.

IMPORTANT

When you register for the SAT/ACT, you must list our high school code or scores will NOT be sent to LCMRHS and therefore will NOT be listed on your transcript.

**LCMRHS high school code:
310210**

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

Seniors who plan to attend a four-year college and have not taken a college admissions test need to do so very soon. Those who have tested may choose to retake either test in order to try for a higher score. The registration packets for the SAT I, SAT II Subject, and ACT tests are now available in the Guidance Office. You may check the college catalogs or talk with your counselor if you are unsure which test(s) to take. The high school code number for Lower Cape May Regional High School is **310210**. Students planning to attend a community college will not need to take the SAT or the ACT.

The testing schedule for the 2010-2011 school year is listed below.

SAT I & SAT II SUBJECT TESTS

Test Date	Registration Deadlines
October 9, 2010	September 10, 2010
November 6, 2010 *	October 8, 2010
December 4, 2010	November 5, 2010
January 22, 2011 *	December 23, 2010
March 12, 2011	February 11, 2011
May 7, 2011	April 8, 2011
June 4, 2011 *	May 6, 2011

*test given at LCMRHS

** Registration deadlines are often extended. Check www.collegeboard.com for updates.

The cost of the SAT I is \$47.00; the SAT II Subject Tests range varies depending on the test. Late registration dates are available for an additional \$24.00.

ACT

Test Date	Registration Deadline
October 23, 2010	September 17, 2010
December 11, 2010 *	November 5, 2010
February 12, 2011	January 7, 2011
April 9, 2011	March 4, 2011
June 11, 2011	May 6, 2011

*given at LCMRHS

The cost of the ACT without the writing component is \$33.00 and with the writing component is \$48.00. Please check the registration packet for test site locations.

ASVAB TESTING

There are opportunities available to young men and women who can qualify for today's ARMED FORCES. Each branch of the military offers programs of training and technical schooling as well as an excellent college scholarship program. Any senior interested in taking the vocational test for the armed services needs to sign up for the test in the Guidance Office. The test is free and will be administered at LCMRHS on **November 16th** and **April 12th**.

ADMISSIONS: EARLY DECISION OPTION

If you are considering early decision for admission, check immediately with your college of choice for their specific requirements. These deadlines are rapidly approaching and you must plan now if this option is important to you

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Now is when you should be in contact with colleges, securing their applications, filling out their applications, and submitting the different kinds of paperwork required. All colleges have deadlines, some in the fall and others early in the new year. Check your catalogs and don't be caught by a passed deadline. **It is your responsibility to determine where you want to apply and what the specific requirements are.** Information is available in the Counselors' Office to assist you.

Note: It is important that you give teachers and/or counselors 2-3 weeks notice if you want them to write a letter of recommendation. Please plan ahead so you won't miss any deadlines.

COMMON APPLICATION

The Common College Application is available through the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Students need only to complete this application once when applying to any of the participating independent colleges and universities who utilize this form. The list of schools using the common application is available in the Guidance Office.

ATTENTION SENIOR BOYS

Something to add to your list of things to do today-you need to register with Selective Service. It is not the Army, it's not the draft, no one's going to your house-it's just one of the things a man's gotta do. If you are 18, you have to register within 30 days of your 18th birthday. It's the law! If you are 17, you can submit registration information and when you're 18, you'll be registered automatically. Registering keeps you eligible for Federal college loans, grants, and student aid in most states. You can register on-line at www.sss.gov, you can fill out a registration card at any U.S. Post Office or you can send back the registration card you may have received in the mail. If you have any questions, check with your Guidance Counselor.

WHAT DO THEY LOOK AT?

Admissions officers consider these factors in roughly the following order of importance:

1. Grade Point Average/Difficulty in Curriculum
2. SAT I & SAT II scores
3. Class Rank
4. Application essays
5. Extracurricular activities
6. Recommendations
7. Interviews
8. Intangibles

Of course, every college is different. The larger the school, the less time it has to spend with your application (sometimes less than five minutes). Big state schools rarely reach number three on this list. Small schools may look past weak grades or test scores if they see something special about you.

COLLEGE VISITS AT LCMR

The following schools will be visiting LCMRHS on the days and at the times listed. There could be additions to this list after the newsletter was sent out so check the bulletin board in Guidance. The bulletin board has the sign-up sheets for the school meetings. Sign your name to the paper and you will receive a pass on the day of the school's visit. This is your opportunity to meet with a representative from the school and to ask any questions you might have. **REMEMBER SCHOOLS ARE BEING ADDED TO THIS LIST DAILY SO KEEP CHECKING THE BOARD AND LISTEN TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

September

9/20	Northwood U	8:30am
9/20	Ramapo U	9:00am
9/22	NYU	1:00pm
9/23	Cabrini College	8:00am
9/23	Berkley College	9:00am
9/23	Rosemont College	10:00am
9/23	Drew University	12:00pm
9/23	Kean University	1:00pm
9/24	Arcadia University	8:30am
9/27	Ohio Northern U	12:45pm
9/29	Widener University	1:00pm
9/30	Roger Williams U	10:30am
9/30	Wilkes University	1:00pm

October

10/15	Rowan University	9:00am
10/19	Albright College	8:00am
10/19	Wilson College	1:00pm
10/20	Gwynedd-Mercy	8:00am
10/22	Centenary College	8:00am
10/22	Montclair College	9:00am
10/22	De Sales University	11:00am
10/22	C of Notre Dame Md	11:45am
10/25	Nova SE University	9:30am
10/25	Sacred Heart U	11:00am
10/29	Johnson & Wales	1:00pm

November

11/8	St. Joseph's U	10:00am
11/17	University of Arts	8:00am
11/17	C of St. Elizabeth	10:00am

COLLEGE FAIRS

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009
WILDWOOD CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
7:00 pm
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The Atlantic City National College Fair  
Thursday, October 21, 2010  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
Atlantic City Convention Center

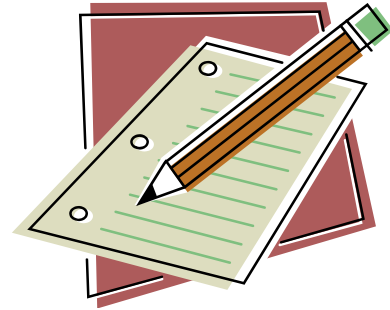
### SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

***As scholarship information is received in the Counselors' Office, it will be publicized through the "Caper Notes" and/or announcements. It is important to pay close attention to information on eligibility criteria, deadlines, etc. If you are interested in any of these scholarships, please contact the Counselors' Office for applications and/or additional information.***



## IT IS THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO

1. READ THIS NEWSLETTER,
2. OBTAIN THE APPLICATION,
3. FILL OUT THE APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY
4. ATTACH ANY REQUESTED DOCUMENTS( OR REQUEST IN WRITING THAT THE DOCUMENTATION BE ATTACHED BY THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
5. RETURN THE APPLICATION TO GUIDANCE PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE SET BY THE GUIDANCE OFFICE.



### SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*\*As the year goes on, this space will be filled with different scholarships that are available to our students. Applications are either available online or in the guidance office.**

#### The Dana Christmas Scholarship for Heroism:

\$10,000 awarded to students who have demonstrated an act of heroism. Interested students should go to [www.hesaa.org](http://www.hesaa.org) for information or the guidance office. Due to guidance **October 13, 2010.**

#### Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship:

Multiple scholarships available to students based on leadership, scholarship, and financial need. You must follow directions exactly when completing this application. Due to guidance **November 19, 2010.**

**Most universities offer scholarships for students planning to attend that school. You should contact the financial aid office at each of the schools that you are interested in attending.**



### College Application Reminders

1. Register and take the SAT or ACT as quickly as possible, if needed. **NOW!**
2. After investigation, narrow your college list to a manageable number. **NOW!**
3. Write, call, fax, or go on-line with each college to request information and applications for admissions, scholarships, financial aid, housing, etc. **NOW!**
4. Complete and submit application for admissions well in advance of deadlines. Do the same for housing, scholarships, and financial aid. **SOON!**
5. Attend the **Financial Aid Meeting in December** at LCMRHS (date to follow). The **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** will be distributed at the meeting and will be available in the Guidance Office following the meeting. This form is to be mailed on or after January 1, 2011. (Note: some private schools use the CSS Profile application also. Follow your school's instructions.)

Remember: The best source of information about a particular college is their own catalog. Also, the best source of financial aid information is the Financial Aid office of the college to which you are applying.

## Test Strategy

- **Get Familiar.** Learn the content and format of the test.
- **Practice, Practice, Practice!!**
- **Get your rest.** Get plenty of sleep the night before the test, and leave yourself enough time to get to the test site. Arrive at least 30 minutes before the exam and bring necessary materials to the test site: admission ticket, photo identification, several pre-sharpened pencils with good erasers and a calculator.
- **During the test,** remember to:
  - \*read the directions and questions carefully
  - \*pace yourself
  - \*answer easy questions first
  - \*use logical reasoning a process of elimination for tougher questions
  - \*review your work
  - \*be precise in marking your answer document
  - \*erase wrong answers completely

**The most important advice:** Stay cool, calm, and collected. Don't let the test stress you out.

[www.4tests.com](http://www.4tests.com)

[www.kaplanpracticetest.com](http://www.kaplanpracticetest.com)

[www.review.com](http://www.review.com)

[www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com)

[www.collegeboard.com>sat](http://www.collegeboard.com>sat) prep

[www.act.org/aap/index.html](http://www.act.org/aap/index.html)



### Tips for a Killer Essay

With more colleges asking unique essay questions, the student's job of writing an interesting essay has become more challenging and more time consuming. Those students applying to multiple colleges are no longer able to simply rehash the standard question for each school. Here are seven tips to guide you through the evolving world of the college essay.

1. Treat the essay seriously, but be creative and original.
2. Allow yourself at least a month to think about, write, review, and revise your essay.
3. Outline your ideas first, so you know where you're going.
4. Make sure you answer the question completely, providing specific examples to back up your points.
5. Use your own voice, and don't just respond with what you think a college would like to hear.
6. Get a second opinion on your first draft-from a friend, family member, or teacher.
7. Proofread carefully, and submit a neatly typed version.

## SAT vs. ACT

The road to college can be a confusing and hectic' one. Choosing the right admissions test to take-SAT or ACT-doesn't have to be. While most colleges across the country accept scores from either test, the SAT and ACT are significantly different, and in many ways, they measure different skills. Check with your guidance counselor and preferred colleges, then use the information below to decide which test is right for you.

### **Differences at a glance:**

#### SAT

no science section

no trigonometry section

vocabulary emphasized

non multiple-choice questions included

guess penalty

no English grammar

Math accounts for 50% of your score

questions go from easy to hard in most sections

all your SAT scores reported to colleges

#### ACT

science reasoning section

math sections include trigonometry

vocabulary less important

entirely multiple choice

no guessing penalty

English grammar tested

math accounts for 25% of your score

easy and hard questions mixed within sections

report scores only from the test dates you choose