

News from the HHS Counseling Department

February 2020

Grades 9, 10 and 11

The Counseling Office would like to thank you for taking the time to read though the following information in an effort to collaboratively support student success.

In celebration of **National School Counseling Week** (#NSCW) February 3-7, 2020, the Counseling Department would like to thank our students, parents and district employees at all levels for their support in offering a comprehensive school counseling program.

For a deeper understanding of our role as a School Counselor, we are sharing information from the American School Counselor Association (www.schoolcounselor.org).

The School Counselor maximizes student success by helping them to:

- Apply academic achievement strategies
- Manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
- Plan for postsecondary options (higher education, military, work force)

Student success is maximized through the implementation of a comprehensive School Counseling program that includes:

- Direct student services including:
 - Instruction – teaching the School Counseling curriculum to students.
 - Appraisal and advisement – assessing student abilities, interests and achievement to help them make decisions about their future.
 - Counseling: providing professional assistance and support to a student or small group of students during times of transition, heightened stress, critical change or other situations impeding student success. School counselors do not provide therapy or long-term counseling in schools; however, school counselors are prepared to recognize and respond to student mental health needs and to assist students and families seeking resources.
- Indirect student services including:
 - Consultation – share strategies supporting student achievement with parents, teachers, other educators and community organizations
 - Collaboration - work with other educators, parents and the community to support student achievement
 - Referrals – support for students and families to school or community resources for additional assistance and information

Delaware County Technical School:

Any current 10th or 11th grade student who is interested in attending the Delaware County Technical School for the 2020 - 2021 school year should get an application in the Counseling Office and submit their applications to their counselor by February 14, 2020. For questions and concerns, please contact Ms. Vindler at kvindler@haverfordsd.net or 610-853-5900 extension 2572.

Medical Careers Program at the Delaware County Technical School (DCTS):

Any current 11th grade student who is interested in attending the Medical Careers program for the 2020 – 2021 school year should meet with their counselor and attend an information meeting on February 7, 2020 during homeroom. Please check in with your homeroom teacher and then go down to room 126. The Medical Careers program is a full-year, honors-level, DCTS program that is available for students in their senior year. It is geared toward students who are interested in pursuing a medical career in college. The Medical Careers students leave Haverford High School at 6:30 every morning and travel to their assigned hospital and return in time for second block. Students interested in participating in this program need to have a grade point average of at least a 3.0, and be in good standing.



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If you are an 11th grade student planning to attend a post high school institution, you should register for one of the Spring testing dates (SAT and/or ACT), if you have not already done so.

Upcoming SAT dates: www.collegeboard.org

March 14, 2020 (at HHS), May 2, 2020 (at HHS) and June 6, 2020

Upcoming ACT dates: www.act.org

February 8, 2020, April 4, 2020 and June 13, 2020

Upcoming College and Career Fairs:

Haverford High School College & Career Fair

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 6:30 – 8:00 PM Juenger Gymnasium

The College & Career Fair, sponsored by the HHS Counseling Department, is a terrific opportunity for students and families to become informed and inspired about post-graduate options. Representatives from approximately 100 private and public colleges/universities, community colleges, businesses, career technical education/trade schools, and military branches will be on hand to offer valuable information on the college admissions process, jobs and internships, financial aid and much more. A list of participants will be publicized in the coming weeks ahead.

Main Line Regional College Fair (two events)

- Monday, March 23, 2020 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 1st Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406
- Thursday, May 21, 2020 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Villanova University, 800 E. Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085
- Please register for a barcode at www.StriveFair.com prior to attending either Main Line Regional College Fair. Show your barcode to colleges who will scan it to send you more information about their schools. The day after the fair, you will receive a report with information about each college with whom you scanned.

Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy:

Sign up at satpractice.org. The practice is free, individualized and includes:

- Interactive problems and instant feedback
- Video lessons
- Full-length practice tests
- Personalized study plan
- Big results – 20 hours of practice was associated with an average of 115 point increase from the PSAT to the SAT.

Graduation Requirements: Twenty-six and a half (26.5) credits are required for graduation.

English	4.0
Mathematics	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Science	4.0
Arts and Humanities	2.0
Physical Education and Health	1.5
Electives	7.0



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Grade Point Average (GPA):

Grade Point Average or GPA is calculated each semester as classes are completed. Each final course letter grade is assigned a point value. The unweighted GPA is calculated by taking the credit for the class and multiplying it by the point value assigned to the letter grade. Then, add up all of the multiplied values and divide by the total number of credits.

Classes taken at the honors or AP level have a different point value (unweighted point value x 1.25 = weighted point value). Students who take honors and AP classes will have a weighted GPA that differs from the unweighted GPA. There are no points awarded to classes that are taken Pass/Fail.

Course Selection assemblies will take place this month for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Students, their parents, counselors, and teachers should all be involved in the course selection process. An ideal schedule should challenge, but not overwhelm, students leading them toward an occupational or educational goal. Follow these steps to choose courses, which will interest you and fulfill your personal and academic goals:

1. Become familiar with the requirements of the occupation, technical school, or college in which you are interested.
2. Become familiar with the requirements for graduation from Haverford High School.
3. Review the Course Selection Guide which can be found on the Counseling website.
4. Listen and ask questions as your teachers discuss course selection in class.
5. Schedule a time to meet with your school counselor if you need assistance.

