

FROM THE COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

To be eligible for the most “free funds” (money you don’t have to pay back), students should submit their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) no later than February 1st. Even though applications will be accepted through the end of summer by the federal government, it is important to get your FAFSA done early. Visit the website at www.fafsa.ed.gov for more information. Students and parents should obtain their FSA ID first at the above website.

The OSAC (Oregon Student Assistance Commission) Scholarship information packet is now available in the College & Career Center. Completing the OSAC application online allows students to apply for up to 20 of the over 500 scholarships available. To apply, go to www.oregonstudentaid.gov. The completed application must be filed no later than March 1. Don’t forget, if you apply by February 15, you will be eligible for a - \$1000 “Early Bird Scholarship”! Also, filing by February 15 allows you some time to make corrections to the application if OSAC tells you they are needed. You will also want to request that transcripts be uploaded to the OSAC site by Nancy Logsdon, Barlow’s Registrar. (Choose High School Upload when choosing transcripts on the application.) When you have completed your OSAC e-app, stop by the Registrar’s window to confirm your request for uploaded transcripts!

The Oregon Opportunity Grant has received millions of dollars to support college enrollment and success. This is a need-based grant. To qualify, all you need to do is fill out your FAFSA. To learn more, go to www.GetCollegeFunds.org. There is an estimator link there to help you determine possible funding you could receive.

Dale Krueger Scholarship Format! The Dale Krueger Scholarship is now available. Online applications are available at www.dalekruegerscholarship.com. This scholarship is for \$2,000, renewable for four years. You will need to provide an uploaded, scanned transcript. (See Mrs. Neuenschwander for that information.) You will also need to upload your personal statement, goals statement and your Student Aid Report from your FAFSA. A portfolio of your accomplishments is optional, but *highly* suggested, and can be turned in to the College & Career Center. The deadline for receipt of all (the uploaded part and the portfolio) materials for the Krueger Scholarship is Friday, April 1 at 5:00pm. No extensions of any kind are allowed. Come to the C&CC for additional details and to get your helpful worksheet.

Juniors: The Portland Spring College Fair will be on Sunday, April 24 from 12pm to 3:00pm at the University of Portland, Chiles Center. It’s FREE! Stop by to learn about many schools. Meet with representatives and see which college may be right for you. It is extremely important that you make the effort now to talk to school representatives. Learning what schools have to offer will make your college decision much easier next year.

Now is the time to start thinking about post-graduation plans. We can help! Email your ASPIRE mentor or come by the College & Career Center if you haven’t already started your journey. First steps include taking the SAT or ACT this spring, researching colleges/trade schools/careers and summer college visits.

ASPIRE news: The last ASPIRE meeting of the year, “Options Beyond High School, College 101 and the New FAFSA Date” will be held Tuesday, May 3, in the Auditorium. Learn about the college costs, admission requirements, SAT & ACT tests and more. Juniors, this is especially important for you! We will also discuss the changes in the FAFSA that will occur for this year’s juniors. Your FAFSA will now open on October 1, 2016 (instead of January 1.) This means there is a lot for your family to consider earlier in the school year. Does your student have an ASPIRE mentor? If not, stop by the College & Career Center and sign up for some personal assistance in your preparation for your education after high school. Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors, NOW is the time to sign up!

Seniors- TO DO List:

- Get those applications in NOW to the schools of your choice.
- Be sure to submit your FAFSA immediately. Do not wait for your 2015 taxes. Estimate using your 2014 taxes. Get your FSA ID at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- File the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov
- Work on your OSAC scholarship application. (Early Bird deadline: February 15. Final deadline: March 1.)

