

## **GUIDANCE UPDATE January 11, 2010**

After my accident forced me to miss several days of school, a number of you took care of concerns or asked me questions via e-mail. This proves to be a pretty efficient method of taking care of issues, so feel free to employ e-mail, especially when your parents have questions. My e-mail link is on the guidance homepage.

### **LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP—PHASE ONE**

The turn-in date for phase one of the local scholarship program is being extended by one day (due to a medical appointment...my break is your break...get it?) Materials are now due on Tuesday, January 26. Turn all materials in *together* to myself or Mrs. Dick. If you've been procrastinating, now is the time get busy.

### **JANUARY 14th FINANCIAL AID MEETING**

Ms. Becky Shinaberry will present financial aid information for parents and students at Shelby High School on Thursday, January 14 (this Thursday) at 6:30 PM in the Dave Jones Little Theater. I encourage you to attend along with a parent. The meeting will conclude by 8 pm.

### **FAFSA NEWS**

(While you, the student, are actually filing the FAFSA, I realize in most cases, it is a parent that will complete the FAFSA. Please bring this update home so your parent can see this information.)

- Refer to your financial aid handout of December 11, 2009. Your parents were mailed a copy.
- Make certain you are completing the FAFSA for the 2010-2011 school year.
- I encourage everyone to complete the FAFSA, even if you've had an older sibling who did not receive any financial aid based on this form. Qualifying thresholds change from previous years, so you may benefit where an older sibling did not. Additionally, FAFSA on the web has been simplified this year. The entire process can be completed in less than 30 minutes.
- If your parents are separated or divorced, for FAFSA purposes, your parent is the parent with whom you lived with for the greater amount of time during 2009. If that parent has re-married, you will also use income and asset information of the spouse.
- Verify the priority filing deadline for the schools you are considering. Usually, one can find this date on the financial aid link of a college website. I can help you with this.
- You and a parent need to sign the form. This is best done with a PIN number. Refer to your December 11 handout.
- If your parents will not have their taxes completed by your schools' priority filing deadlines, the FAFSA should still be completed using estimates. The final pay stub from 2009 can help in this regard. Then, one can go back and make corrections as more accurate information becomes available.

### **SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE**

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI CLUB OF RICHLAND COUNTY**—Four scholarships will be awarded. Among criteria are applicants must be a resident of Richland County, have an ACT composite minimum of 26 and a top 15% class ranking. Applications are available from Mr. Grady. Deadline is January 30, 2010.

**KFC SCHOLARS PROGRAM**—KFC is looking for outstanding seniors with financial need and entrepreneurial spirit to qualify for the Colonel's Scholars program. Students must be pursuing a bachelor's degree and have a GPA of 2.75 or higher. Application available at: [www.kfcscholars.org](http://www.kfcscholars.org). Deadline is February 10, 2010.

**RICHLAND COUNTY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS**—As stated in the December 11 information, the Richland County Foundation scholarship program deadline is April 1. Applications are available in the guidance office or at [www.rcfoundation.org](http://www.rcfoundation.org). A Student Aid Report (from FAFSA) is required. The April 1 deadline is the date documents must be received by the foundation, not a post-mark deadline.