

Second Semester Seniors:

During the first semester, seniors were encouraged to do several things:

- Take care of grades and maintain their grades and GPA
- Log into the John Baylor Test Prep site and prepare for their final ACT tests
- Take the ACT as many times as possible during the first semester of their senior year (the prime time to reap the knowledge they've sown during their high school.
- Visit with College representatives who come to our school and visit at least 3-5
- Colleges/universities. Attend the local (or Omaha's or Lincoln's) College Fair.
- Attend the Senior Parent Meeting with the Counselor held in October.
- Prepare resume's and be prepared for giving them out when requesting letters of recommendation for college applications or scholarship applications. A workshop was provided for them to begin the work during the fall and prior to the senior year, Mrs. Howard had started them on that process.
- Fill out the new FAFSA (Federal Student Aid). A workshop was held in conjunction with Heartland Lutheran and a very knowledgeable presenter from Educationquest gave detailed information. The new FAFSA is able to be filed with tax information already completed in April of 2016

Now we have entered the "home stretch" and seniors who haven't done all the above are a bit behind, but it can be remedied quickly. The 7th semester GPA's and class ranks are completed. Each senior has a copy of their transcript and the ability to send additional copies via pdf or paper when they request it from the counseling center. The final steps toward postsecondary education are:

- Search for applicable scholarships on the school's website (organized by due dates); free websites; any affiliation the students or parents have; Scholarshipquest@educationquest.org
- Maintain communication with all schools to which the students' have applied to be sure all information is being pursued (scholarship info, any placement tests are scheduled and taken, deposit for rooms is completed, etc.
- Maintain communication with FAFSA and watch for the SAR (student aid report).
- Compare the financial packages of colleges to be sure to have an affordable postsecondary experience.
- Continue applying for scholarships.
- Narrow down the college choices and if necessary, schedule another visit in order to make the final decisions.