

ITA Guidance Dept. Newsletter

December 2006/January 2007

Evenings with the Counselors

Thursday, Jan. 11, 2007 PSAT Results/ACT Prep
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. ITA Business Commons

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007 Youth Options

ESC Board Room
3600 52^d Street
Session 1: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Session 2: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Youth Options Informational Meeting

All current 10th and 11th grade students interested in taking a Youth Options class next fall are strongly encouraged to attend a Youth Options Informational Meeting on **Thursday, February 14th** at one of the two sessions listed above at the KUSD Educational Support Center. Both parents and students are invited to attend this informative educational meeting.

Reminder to Seniors:

Seniors should be sure to contact their Counselor regarding graduation requirements, schedule changes to meet graduation requirements, college applications, federal financial aid forms and ACT testing.

SENIORS – ARE YOU ON TRACK TO GRADUATE?

Any senior student who has failed a class should contact his or her Counselor to review the options available.

ITA GUIDANCE & COUNSELING STAFF

Listed below is the ITA Guidance Dept. & Counseling Staff. Please feel free to contact your child's counselor if you have any concerns.

Robert Neu – Assistant Principal 653-0317
Ed Anderson (Student Intervention Counselor) 605-8541
eanderso@kUSD.edu
Nina Jaras (Biotech Grades 9-12) 605-8544
jjaras@kUSD.edu
Bruce Gilbert (Military & Bus. Grades 9-12) . . . 605-8542
bgilbert@kUSD.edu
Art Preuss (Communications Grades 9-12) . . . 605-8676
apreuss@kUSD.edu
Guidance Dept. Fax 605-4891

Also, visit the counselor page on the ITA website at www.indiantrailacademy.com - click on "Counselors".

ATTENTION JUNIORS:

ACT PREP COURSE **at Indian Trail Academy**

You have the opportunity to increase your ACT college entrance exam scores! ITA is offering a six-week ACT preparation course on Monday afternoons beginning on February 19th. There will be a charge of \$30 that includes the lessons, practice tests, and an ACT textbook. ***This program is limited to the first 30 paid registrants, so register early with Mr. Preuss in Room 1342.*** Registration forms and payments are due no later than February 9th. Checks should be made payable to Indian Trail Academy.

COURSE DATES

Workshop locations to be announced.

February 19	Pre-Test	2:45-6:15
February 26	English	2:45-5:45
March 5	Science	2:45-5:45
March 12	Reading	2:45-5:45
March 19	Math	2:45-5:45
March 26	Post-Test	2:45-6:15

Students are required to attend each session.

ITA Credit Completion Classes

Any students who are short Math, English, Social Studies or Science credits should meet with their counselor ASAP to discuss/enroll in the ITA after school credit recovery classes that are offered Monday through Thursday. ***This is an excellent opportunity to catch up on credits to graduate on time!***

1st Semester Final Exams

Final exams will be given all day on January 23 and both mornings on January 24 and 25, 2007. Students will be released at 12:00 noon on January 24 and 25. There will be no school on Friday, January 26, 2007 – teacher workday. Third quarter/2nd semester begins January 29, 2007.

GUIDANCE TRANSFERS – 2007-2008

Any student who is interested in attending Bradford, Tremper or Lakeview for the 2007-2008 school year must complete a guidance transfer request **by January 22, 2007**. The timeline to request a change is January 2 through January 22, 2007. A parent or legal guardian must sign the application. Applications turned in after the deadline date may not be considered for a change of schools. Transfer requests can be obtained from the Guidance Office in Room 1236, or in the Main Office. Transfer requests should be returned to the Guidance Office, Room 1236, as soon as possible before the January 22nd deadline.

Scholarships

Seniors should begin their scholarship searches now. New scholarships continue to come in daily. Students can access scholarship information by checking in the College and Career Center in the Business Suite, Room 1336, or in any of the counselors' offices. Please be sure to review the scholarship listing on the ITA website. Click on "Staff", then select "Counselors" and select "Scholarships" to find a current listing.

Beware of Scholarship Scams!

Students and their parents should be aware of scholarship scams that seem to appear this time of year. One of the most notorious ones is the Easley National Scholarship, identified on a national news program a couple of years ago as a consumer rip off. Unfortunately, the company is still in business, offering thousands of dollars in scholarships with a small "administrative charge" for applying. Some parents have attended the "free" meetings offered by a similar group only to discover that the cost is \$800. This is a scam. Organizations or individuals who offer bona fide scholarships should not charge anything – either for applying to or to "win" the scholarship.

Scholarship Web Sites

Listed below are scholarship web sites. It is important to note that these sites may not be secure. In other words, there is no guarantee that the information you provide will be kept confidential. Please keep this in mind when accessing these sites.

UW Milwaukee Fin. Aid	http://www.uwm.edu/dept/finaid
Fastweb	http://www.fastweb.com
Peterson's Collegequest	http://www.collegequest.com
Sallie Mae/CASHE	http://www.scholarships.salliemae.com
ScholarAid	http://www.schoaraid.com
Embark	http://www.embard.com
FinAid	http://www.finaid.com
GoCollege	http://www.gocollege.com
Compass Guide	http://www.compassguide.org
Wiredscholar.com	http://www.wiredscholar.com

The majority of scholarships are awarded by colleges, or by area businesses and/or organizations.

College Admissions

The University of Wisconsin system has issued the following statement:

"High school seniors, your admission is tentative."

When high school seniors are admitted to a university, they are typically offered admission on a tentative basis. All students offered a tentative admission are expected to maintain the academic record that was submitted at the time of admission. Students altering course schedules and/or failing high school courses after receiving tentative admission are instructed to contact our office immediately for solutions to avoid the rescinding of admission.

TRANSCRIPT REQUEST DEADLINE:

Due to the Christmas holiday and the numerous college applications we receive at this time of year, ***please be sure to have your student request transcripts by December 15, 2006.*** Transcripts can be obtained from the Registrar, Mrs. Sucevich, in Room 1236.

Financial Aid Process

Students can apply for financial aid through the FAFSA beginning January 1, 2007. This is the first step required to apply for financial aid to colleges.

- **Apply for PIN** – (U.S. Dept. of Education personal identification number) 222.pin.ed.gov
- **Complete on-line FAFSA Pre-application Worksheet** – www.FAFSA.ed.gov
- **Complete, sign and submit FAFSA on the web** - AFTER JANUARY 1, 2007. "Free Application for Federal Student Aid". To apply for loans, federal work-study and federal and state grants.

PRIORITY DATE: March 15th

Carefully review the Student Aid Report and make all necessary corrections. If you are selected for a process called "Verification", submit the documents to your university as soon as possible to ensure no further delays (a letter will be sent explaining the details).

Online FAFSA Information:

FREE! You don't need to pay anyone to apply for federal student aid. Help is available on the website or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID.

FAST! You get your results faster than if you mail in a paper FAFSA. Answers are also edited automatically so you'll make fewer mistakes.

EASY! The Web site is easy to navigate and includes more help than the paper FAFSA. The online FAFSA also allows you to skip questions that don't apply.

ATTN: COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS!

Seniors planning on attending college in the fall of 2006 are strongly encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible. This is especially important if you are considering a UW school. Students can apply on-line or obtain an application from the counselors. ***COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE TURNED IN TO YOUR COUNSELOR BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2006 TO ALLOW FOR DELIVERY BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.*** Please be sure to include the application fee made out to the university. ***Don't delay, apply today!***

UW Tuition and Fees: Tuition and fees vary among UW System campuses and sometimes among programs within the system. For information on tuition/fees for each campus, please go to:
<http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/payingforcollege/tuition/index.asp>

FREE FINANCIAL AID HELP!

Wisconsin College Goal Sunday is a national one-day event that provides free information and assistance to families who are filling out the FAFSA, the federally required form for students seeking financial aid, such as grants and loans. Completing the FAFSA is the first and most important step in qualifying for aid.

College Goal Sunday
February 11, 2007 – 2:00 p.m.
UW – Parkside or GTC in Racine

College Preview Days

College fairs are an excellent opportunity for students and parents to collect important information directly from college representatives on campus. Please contact the Admissions Office at the college or university your child may be interested in attending. For additional information for UW campuses, log on to uwhelp.wisconsin.edu.

What should I major in? Major Mania, through the UW System website, has information about all majors offered within the system. It is a great resource if you know exactly what you want to do or have no idea where to begin! The site address is:

<http://apps9.uwex.edu/pls/uwhelp/MajorMania>

Science Careers: LifeWorks has a free career exploration website where over 100 science-related careers can be investigated. The website is: science.education.nih.gov/lifeworks.

Virtual College Tours: Over 800 colleges can be "toured" online at www.campustours.com.

ACT Tests

The ACT Test is one of the requirements for admission to college. Registration packets are available in the Counselors' offices. Registration may also be done on the internet at www.act.org.

The ITA school code is 501006

ACT test dates are as follows:

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
December 9, 2006 Offered at Carthage College & ITA	November 3, 2006
February 10, 2007 Offered at Carthage College	January 5, 2007
April 14, 2007 Offered at Carthage College & ITA	March 9, 2007
June 9, 2007 Offered at Carthage College	May 4, 2007

ACT Prep

Students are encouraged to prepare for the ACT test by doing practice tests in the testing areas of Math, Reading, English and Science. FREE practice tests are available in these formats:

- "Preparing for the ACT Assessment" booklet - available in the Counselors' offices.
- ACTive Prep – A software program that is available in the Library for checkout.
- On-line at www.act.org

College Information

Are you looking for a quick and easy way to do a college search? There is a web site that provides in-depth information on colleges. Check the website: www.collegeboard.com. You can access information on campus life, admissions, testing requirements, application deadlines, athletics and other extra-curricular activities.

SAT

Students interested in taking the SAT may register online at www.collegeboard.com or get SAT packets from their counselor.

Reuther Credit Completion for 2007 Graduates

ITA students who are supposed to graduate in 2007, but are not currently taking enough credits to graduate, can sign up for after school credit completion at Reuther High School. Credit completion classes are held at Reuther Monday through Thursday from 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm. Students need to see their counselor to obtain a registration form and a credit history. There is a \$10 fee per class.

ITED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA

The ITED standardized tests are offered to credit deficient students between the ages of 18 and 21 throughout the school year to test out of school. If test-takers score at the 4th stanine or above on all of the tests, he or she will receive a Kenosha Unified School District high school diploma. ITED's will be offered at Indian Trail Academy on:

- December 6 & 7, 2006
- March 7 & 8, 2007
- June 6 & 7, 2007

The tests take two mornings to complete. To register, call the ITA Registrar at 605-8669.

A Reminder from the Attendance Office:

If your child is absent from school, please be sure to contact the school at 605-8500 or send a note so that the absence can be marked as excused. If you forget to call or send a note the day of the absence, please contact the Attendance Office the next day and the truancy will be removed. If your primary language is Spanish, you may leave the phone message in Spanish or send the note and it will be translated. If you have any questions, please contact the Attendance Office at 653-0317, extension 1136.

New KUSD Graduation Policy

Beginning with the class of 2007, district policy states that seniors must have all required credits completed by the end of the second semester of their senior year in order to take part in the graduation ceremony.