

Senior Newsletter

January 15, 2018- Happy New Year!

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PLEASE JOIN REMIND!! Things will be moving quickly this semester and I need to be able to reach you quickly. If you have not joined, please do! You can join by searching on your Smartphone browser for this code: **ddeb63e**

If you are a Business Major and are considering St. Mary's University: Apply for the Greehey Scholars Program which is a full-ride (tuition & room/board) that is based on merit-not income. You must have a 3.5 GPA and a 1290 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT. **Deadline is January 31st.**

St. Mary's University: Apply for a \$5,000 scholarship for incoming freshmen with the Dean's Scholar's Program. You must be a Business major with a minimum of 3.0 GPA and a 1200 on the SAT or 25 on the ACT. **Deadline for this one is February 1st.**

Church's Chicken Scholars Program: This scholarship is for \$1,000 to the university of your choice. Apply at www.scholarsapply.org/churchsscholars. **The deadline is February 15, 2018.** I sent you information through Remind. Also, you can access it from our SAHS website.

STARS Scholarship Fund: This one is locally funded. You must have earned 12 college hours with at least a 2.7 GPA to apply. **The deadline is March 30th** Apply at: www.starsscholarship.org

TAMIU Preview Day: We will spend the day at TAMIU on January 24th. We had to reschedule this because it actually snowed on our scheduled day in December! I will give out permission blanks a couple of days prior to the event.

Scholarships: A lot of you have been asking when should I apply to scholarships. Now!!! The majority of scholarships so far have been university-based. Those will be your biggest scholarships. Several are posted on our SAHS web site under "Counselor's Corner". As soon as a new scholarship comes in, I will send you the information on Remind and then ask Mr. Ramirez to post it on our website. Please organize your scholarship application time by deadlines.

Acceptance Letters & Scholarship Award Letters& Financial Aid Award Letters: As you know, I keep track of your college acceptances and scholarships for our Senior Mass & Award Ceremony. The easiest way to keep me in the loop is to forward me your acceptance letters,

scholarship award letters and your Financial Aid Letters if you have a scholarship in the award. You can also come by and show me.

Counselor Reports: I try very hard to complete requests and reports from colleges within 24 hours, but sometimes I might miss a request or don't know that a report is required because they send that information to you. If you see on your college status page that a counselor report has not yet been submitted, check with me. I don't want to miss anyone's deadlines!

Deadlines are deadlines! This might sound so obvious, but with scholarships and colleges, deadlines are firm. When working on scholarships, keep deadlines in mind and work with those with the more recent deadlines first even though other scholarships might be shorter or easier in terms of applications.

Campus Housing: Here is the situation for many of you. You have not gotten all your financial aid award letters and you have until May 1st to make your final decision. What do you do about on campus housing? If you wait too long, then housing fills up and you might be left with few options. My recommendation is that you send in housing deposits for your most likely school or top two or three. Some schools have non-refundable deposits, but others may allow you a partial refund if you notify them in writing by a certain date. This part of the process is a little nerve-wrecking.

Current Scholarships: These are posted with links on our SAHS website under "Counselor's Corner:

National Honor Society Scholarship: Deadline January 30th

Texas Housing Scholarship: Deadline January 31st

Ronald McDonald's Hacer Scholarship: Deadline February 5th

Church's Chicken Scholarship: Deadline February 15th

STARS Scholarship: Deadline March 30th