

High School Counseling Newsletter

Grades 10-12



Developmental Research School
at the University of Florida

October 2015

Greetings Families! Students in grades 10-12 have all had at least one presentation from me so far this year relating to college planning. To keep you updated at home, I have put together resources and updates that you may find helpful as you have discussions with your child about the year thus far.

What you'll find inside:

- Academic Resources
- College Planning Information (including upcoming PSAT, SAT, ACT info)
- Student Opportunities
- How to stay informed about events, college planning, and opportunities
- "Where in the world is Mrs. Larimer?" A recap of my first 6 weeks of school

Academic Resources

Progress Reports were sent home on Sept. 29th. This is a great opportunity to review your child's progress towards semester grades.

If your child needs academic support:

- Discuss the course with your child. What challenges are they facing?
- Are they using their planner? PK provided every student a free planner the first day of school. Extra copies are available in the business office for a small fee.
- Make sure you have Skyward Gradebook access - To obtain your login information, contact Ms. Flinchum at mflinchum@pky.ufl.edu or ext.234
- Contact the teacher to get more information about the course expectations and outline- many teachers use a website to communicate information
- Students should attend after school help sessions with teachers
- Contact your grade level coordinator to set up a parent-teacher conference
 - 10th grade: Mr. Linne – glinne@pky.ufl.edu
 - 11th grade: Mr. Lemstrom – elemstrom@pky.ufl.edu
 - 12th grade: Ms. Otero – votero@pky.ufl.edu

College Reach-Out Program at the University of Florida offers:

- Free tutoring and academic enrichment
- Free summer programs
- Mentoring
- College Tours
- Cultural activities, educational trips, and much more!

Applications are available in the School Counseling Office, I-106, or on the School Counseling website at www.highschoolcounseling.pkyonge.ufl.edu

College Planning

PSAT Registration opened on September 28th. Cost is \$22 for 9th and 11th graders, free for 10th graders. Payment and registration is done through the Business Office for grades 9 and 11. Fee waivers are available for eligible students. Contact me to obtain fee waiver. The PSAT will be given on October 14th during school hours.

SAT & ACT dates are available in the school planners, online, and in I-106.

- **The SAT is changing March 2016-** For more details on the Redesigned SAT, visit testinginformation.pkyonge.ufl.edu
 - **11th graders** are recommended to take the new test in March and beyond

College Application Labs are every Monday and Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:15 in the library. Come get help completing applications and reviewing your essays.

College Application Week will be October 26th – 30th. All seniors are expected to apply to at least 2 colleges by October 30th for priority deadlines.

Upcoming Student Opportunities

Santa Fe College's *My Brother's Keeper Program* hosts its 3rd **Annual Black Male Recruitment Conference on October 24, 2015**. This event is offered to black males in grades 6th-11th for a day of college preparation and educational motivation. For more information contact Aminah Nichols at 352-381-3801 or aminah.nichols@sfccollege.edu

HOBY Leadership Seminar- Application is open to all 10th graders. PK will sponsor one tenth grader to attend a leadership camp from June 2-5, 2016. Applications are available in the School Counseling Office, I-106. Due October 30, 2015.


Rosa Rabell Scholarship- Eligible to students 16 or older with two years of Spanish complete with a 3.0 GPA or higher. More details and applications available at www.highschoolcounseling.pkyonge.ufl.edu. Deadline to apply is October 12, 2015.

Clay Electric Youth Tour to Washington Contest is open now for high school juniors. Apply for your chance to win a trip to Tallahassee to compete for a week long all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. Applications available in I-106 and are due November 13, 2015.

Staying Informed

When you know more, you do more! Here are some ways to stay informed about school related information and opportunities:

- Visit the **P.K. website** regularly for school-wide announcements and daily announcements (on the left column you'll see Daily Announcements)
www.pkyonge.ufl.edu

- Add the **School Counseling Events Calendar** to your Google Calendar so you'll never miss an event!
 - www.counselingevents.pkyonge.ufl.edu → Click the bottom right link that says  It will link you to your Google calendar and will ask if you want to add the Counseling Events calendar. Select "add".
- Check the **High School Counseling homepage** regularly for announcements and scholarship opportunities.
- Follow our Twitter account **@KeepCalmPKY**

Where in the world is Mrs. Larimer? Highlights from my first 6 weeks of school:

Week 1: Mini introduction to college admissions activity in 10th grade English class

Week 2: Positive Behavior Break-Out Sessions including Code of Conduct, Dress Code, Cyber Safety, and Anti-Bullying presentations from the Student & Family Services team to grades 10-12

Week 3 & 4: College Application Presentation and individual senior conferences during 12th grade English

Week 5: PSAT Presentation on 9/21 in 10th English classes: Students were introduced to standardized testing, how it relates to college application process, and how to prepare. Each student received a practice test booklet.

Week 6: Quarter 1 College Planning Check In on 9/28 in 11th grade English classes. Topics discussed include: PSAT, SAT, ACT, what you should be doing now, college searching, college fit/match, types of colleges, types of degrees, scholarships and more!

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your child's life. I appreciate my job every day. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding your child's educational or personal well-being at school.

Don't forget to stay informed by using the resources available at the P.K. Yonge website: www.pkyonge.ufl.edu

Mrs. Larimer

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