

# Spring 2012 Junior Information

## Senior Year Class Schedule

- ✦ Make sure that when you are choosing your senior year courses you remember two key points:
  1. Requesting any courses that are still needed to graduate
  2. Colleges and technical schools will want to know what you are taking as a senior. Schools are looking for students to have a rigorous senior year. Colleges and technical programs want to see at least 4 credits of math, science, social studies, English and at least two credits of a foreign language. Scheduling Advanced Placement (AP) courses for your senior year are also highly encouraged.

## Summer Service

- ✦ Your junior summer is an excellent time to get involved in local organization such as Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls club, Junior Optimist, church groups, summer camps, etc. Hospitals are always in need of volunteers and many students who are interested in going into the medical field will benefit from such an experience. These experiences provide for personal growth and are strong resume builders.

## Retaking the ACT

- ✦ Register for Early Summer and Fall ACT or SAT exams if you need to retest. Register online for the ACT @ [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or the SAT @ [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Always select 4 colleges to send your scores to when you register to take the ACT. Colleges will only consider your highest composite score, if multiple tests are taken, for admissions.

Below are the average ACT scores of many local colleges. (Remember this is AVERAGE, students do get in with lower and higher. Colleges also look at grade history, rigorous classes, extracurricular activities, volunteer experience, etc). Most students who retake the ACT improve their score.

Albion: 25	Alma: 24	Central Mich: 22.3	Eastern Mich: 21	Ferris State: 21
Grand Valley: 24	Hope: 26	Kettering: 27	MSU: 25	Michigan Tech: 26
Northwood: 21	Oakland: 22	Saginaw Valley: 21	UD Mercy: 24	UM: 30
Wayne State: 21	Western Mich: 22.5			

**VERIFY THAT ALL OF YOUR ACT SCORES ARE LISTED AND ARE ACCURATE ON TRANSCRIPT**

## College Visits

- ✦ College Fairs:

Many colleges have admission and tour events during the summer months. Your junior summer is a great time to set up a visit with a college that you are interested in. You can usually sign up for a tour or summer event online through the admissions office at the school you would like to visit. During your senior year you can visit (2) colleges or technical schools during school days. Bring a signed form back from the school you visited.

## College Fairs

- ✦ Local College Fairs:

These fairs are opportunities for you to speak with and receive information from many local colleges and secondary programs in one area.

  - Most school fairs in the area will occur in September and October. The counseling office will have more information in the fall
- ✦ Seniors have the opportunity to sign up to visit with College Representatives during Seminar. See Mrs. Kandel in the counseling office in the fall to sign up to learn more about the college you are interested in.

## College/Technical School Applications

- ✦ The counseling office will begin to process college application beginning the second week of school.
- ✦ Follow these steps:
  1. Go online to the college or technical school you are interested in applying and submit the online application
  2. Print out the Counselor Transcript Release form (Usually located within the admissions link)
  3. Sign up to see your counselor and bring the transcript release form – this form will allow your counselor to send your official transcript and ACT scores Lakeview has on file
  4. If you have any questions related to the application process, application essays, personal essays, letters of recommendation, etc please ask your counselor.
- ✦ Check “YES, I am interested in Financial Aid” on all applications, so that you’ll receive information from the colleges about scholarships and financial aid.
- ✦ **School Information:**

Lakeview’s school code is: 233-350  
The Address is 21100 E. Eleven Mile Rd., St. Clair Shores, MI 48081  
Counseling Phone: 586-445-4055  
Fax: 586-445-4072

### ✦ **Counselor Information**

Julie Myer  
[jmyer@scslakeview-k12.com](mailto:jmyer@scslakeview-k12.com)

Jackie Sorgeloos  
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## Personal Essays

- ✦ Sometimes it is beneficial to provide a college or technical school with a personal essay, that may not be required for admissions, explaining why your G.P.A. is low, or why your 10<sup>th</sup> grade 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades look so different, etc. A personal essay can provide valuable insight to an admissions officer that the college application may not provide. Do not be generic when writing this kind of essay. Your counselor will be glad to assist you with writing your essay and helping you brainstorm some ideas. Your counselor will usually send your essay with your transcript.

## Letter of Recommendation

- ✦ Many colleges do not require letters of recommendations from teachers but, if one is required, request recommendation letters from teachers, counselors, coaches, or employers early. Give teachers your resume to provide ideas for strong letters, or you could use our “Request for a Letter of Recommendation” form included in this packet. You should provide an addressed, stamped envelope so they can send them directly to the college/technical school. You will need to remind your recommender of your deadlines. Having letters of recommendation are also beneficial for scholarship applications.

## Financial Aid and Scholarships

- ✦ **Merit Based Scholarships** - If you are eligible for a scholarship (usually ACT and GPA based) from the school(s) to which you apply, you will receive information from that school after your application is accepted. You may need to take a test, write an essay or go for a competition to be eligible. Visit the office of Financial Aid/Scholarships at your individual schools (online) for a listing of potential scholarships offered by that college.

#### ✦ **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**

- Information available in Lakeview's HS Counseling's Office in late November or from [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- The FAFSA is required by every college before you're considered for need-based loans or financial aid
- **a FAFSA must be submitted online AFTER January 1<sup>st</sup> and BEFORE March 1<sup>st</sup> of your Senior Year at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)**
- If you expect consideration for need-based aid from the state of Michigan, complete FAFSA application by mid February.
- Within several weeks you'll receive a STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR) which details your financial aid package from the federal government and tells about loans or grants for which you are eligible.
- The aid package may consist of (a) grants, (b) loans, and/or (c) work study/internships. Please work closely with the college financial aid office you plan to attend

#### ✦ **Need Help Completing your FAFSA?**

- College Goal Sunday's occur at many institutions to help students complete their financial aid information. For more information please visit [www.collegegoalsundayusa.org](http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org)
- Attend Lakeview's Financial Aid Night: Usually in December of your Senior Year

#### ✦ **Scholarship Search Sites:**

- [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com), [careersandcolleges.com](http://careersandcolleges.com), [gocollege.com](http://gocollege.com), [cappex.com](http://cappex.com), [scholarship.com](http://scholarship.com)
- Most scholarships are geared for seniors, but you can begin to research and sign up at the websites listed

#### ✦ **Scholarship Board in our Counseling Office** - Check often to locate new scholarships in the CRC. Scholarships for the new school year will begin to be posted in October. We receive scholarship mail from business groups and many organizations, such as Comcast, Target Dept., Professional Groups, and Local Scholarships. You may apply for as many as you wish. Also check with your parents and your employers, clubs, churches, unions, etc. for scholarship offers.

#### ✦ **General Information About the College Process:**

- [knowhow2go.org](http://knowhow2go.org) – Planning for college
- [mikeroweworks.com](http://mikeroweworks.com) – All kinds of information about technical and trade careers
- [michigancollegeguide.com](http://michigancollegeguide.com) – Demographic and cost information on all private and public colleges in MI

### **NCAA and NAIA ATHLETICS**

#### ✦ **NCAA Eligibility Center** – Are you going to play a college sport at the D-1 or D-2 level or through the NAIA? See Mr. Morin in the counseling office for information on the Clearinghouse procedure.

### **Credit Check – Do You Have All Your Required Courses/Credits?**

#### ✦ **Credit Check** – Do you have all of your graduation requirements? See the enclosed form to verify you are on track to graduate. Sign up to see your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate.

**-The Counseling Department**

## CREDIT CHECK – Class of 2013

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SEMINAR TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNSELOR: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Graduation Requirements 2012:**

- English – 4 credits (Eng I, II, III, IV)
- Math – 4 credits (Alg I, Geometry, Alg II (IIA & IIB or Accelerated ALG II), Senior Math/Math Related)
- Science – 3 credits (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
- Social Studies – 3 credits (World History, US History, Econ/Gov)
- Health – 1 credit
- PE – 1 credit
- Visual, Performing, Art – 1 credit
- Electives – 11 credits (minimum)

Total Credits Available to Earn: 32

Minimum Credits needed to graduate: 28

Graduation Requirements will be met: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If no, what will you be missing: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you transferred in to Lakeview at anytime during high school your graduation requirements may be different. Any Lakeview Senior with questions or concerns regarding requirements should sign up to see his/her counselor ASAP.

Also, sign up to see your counselor to assist you with post secondary planning and college applications. All applications should be in my mid November to be competitive for admissions.

### **Post Secondary Plans – Check and List options you are thinking about**

Community College \_\_\_\_\_  
List

4 Year College \_\_\_\_\_  
List

Armed Forces \_\_\_\_\_  
List

Career/Technical School \_\_\_\_\_  
List

Work

Any other information, concerns or questions you would like to discuss with your counselor?

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# Request for a Letter of Recommendation

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Allow a minimum of one week)

Would you please write me a letter of recommendation for:

- College Application (list schools) \_\_\_\_\_
- College Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_
- Summer Program/Job \_\_\_\_\_

## About Me:

My High School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

My Clubs, Sports, Activities, Part-Time Job:

Awards and Honors I've Earned:

Some of my Personal Strengths Are:

What sets you apart from other candidates?

Anticipated Major/Career Field and why:

Anything else you think would be beneficial to add?

Please:

- Give this letter to : \_\_\_\_\_
- I have included a stamped addressed envelope, please seal the letter and mail it to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Senior Year Checklist

Your junior year is quickly coming to an end. Use this senior year checklist to make a smooth transition into your last high school year!!

## September – December

- Visit with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements
- Sign up for the ACT (if you didn't take it as a junior, or if you aren't satisfied with your score, or if you've learned a lot since you first took it.)
- Review ACT test results and retest if necessary
- Keep working hard all year; second semester grades can affect scholarship eligibility
- Ask for personal references from teachers, school counselors, or employers early in the year or at least two weeks before application deadlines. Follow your school's procedure for requesting recommendations.
- Visit with admissions counselors who come to your high school
- Attend a college fair
- Begin your college essay(s)
- Apply for admission at the colleges you've chosen – Apply by Mid-November
- Find out if you qualify for scholarships at each college you have applied to
- Search for scholarships

## January – May

- If you need it, get help completing the FAFSA – Apply after January first and get your FAFSA completed by Mid-February
- Visit colleges that have invited you to enroll
- Decide which college to attend, and notify the school of your decision
- Keep track of and observe deadlines for sending in all required fees and paperwork
- Notify schools you will not attend of your decision
- Continue to look for scholarship opportunities
- Keep track of important financial aid and scholarship deadlines
- Watch the mail for your Student Aid Report (SAR)—it should arrive four weeks after the FAFSA is filed
- Compare financial aid packages from different schools
- Sign and send in a promissory note if you are borrowing money
- Notify your college about any outside scholarships you received

## *College/Technical School Comparison Worksheet*

<b>COLLEGE or TECHNICAL SCHOOL</b>			
<b>LOCATION</b> —distance from home			
<b>SIZE</b> —enrollment —physical size of campus			
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> —type of school (2- or 4-year) —school setting (urban, rural) —location & size of nearest city —co-ed, male, female —religious affiliation			
<b>ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS</b> —deadline —tests required —average test scores, GPA, rank —notification			
<b>ACADEMICS</b> —your major offered —special requirements —accreditation —student-faculty ratio —typical class size			
<b>COLLEGE EXPENSES</b> —tuition, room and board —estimated total budget —application fee, deposits			
<b>FINANCIAL AID</b> —deadline —required forms —percentage receiving aid —scholarships			
<b>HOUSING</b> —residence hall requirement —food plan			
<b>FACILITIES</b> —academic —recreational —other			
<b>ACTIVITIES</b> —clubs, organizations, Greek Life —athletics, intramurals —other			
<b>CAMPUS VISITS</b> —when —special opportunities			