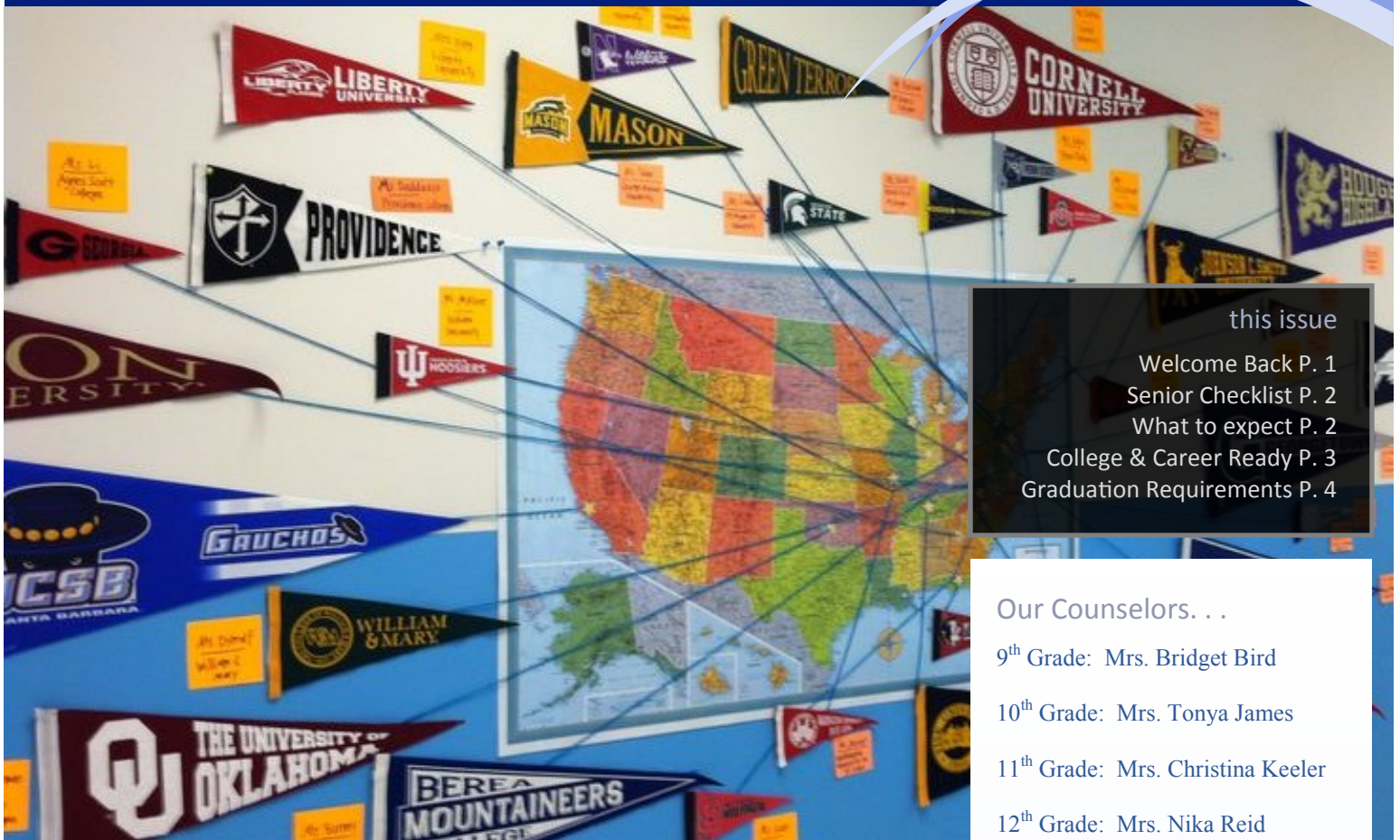


The Golden Knight

Sussex Central High School Guidance Department Newsletter

ISSUE 5 FALL 2017



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Our Counselors. . .

- 9th Grade: Mrs. Bridget Bird
- 10th Grade: Mrs. Tonya James
- 11th Grade: Mrs. Christina Keeler
- 12th Grade: Mrs. Nika Reid

ELL Counselor/Coordinator:
Dr. Pattiva Cathell

Guidance Director:
Ms. Miriam Targonski



SCHS School Counseling Mission

Our mission as Sussex Central High School Counselors is to ensure that all students are globally competitive by providing a safe learning environment and the support to maximize student potential in order to fulfill their responsibilities as citizens. Our program will focus on the needs, interests and issues related to the stages of student growth through academic, career and personal/social development.

Golden Knights...Welcome Back!

We hope you have enjoyed your summer break and are ready to return for a school year of learning and student activities. The Sussex Central High School Guidance Department is excited to have an opportunity to work with each of you. Throughout your high school experience, you will find our services to be an integral part of your education. It is the collective vision of the SCHS School Counseling Department, that you acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes to reach your fullest potential and successfully manage your lives as healthy responsible, competent and productive citizens who respect yourselves and others. The School Counseling Department is comprised of six School Counselors assigned to students by year of Graduation. This school year will be filled with many exciting Grade-level opportunities! As your School Counselors, we are here to help you navigate your Pathway to Graduation. The goals of the SCHS Guidance Department are: to assist students with College and Career Readiness Goal Planning and/or Application Process, nurture acquisition of Self-Awareness and Employment Readiness Skills, Student Success Planning, Academic Skills Support, Test Preparation, Post-Secondary Planning, and help cultivate Interpersonal Awareness.

Please review your student schedule to ensure you have all the required courses you must successfully complete in order to meet graduation requirements (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Career Pathways and Elective Courses). New this school year, SCHS is observing semester block scheduling. Therefore, you should have five 74-minute classes every day. This provides you with an opportunity to finish a course in one semester instead of a full school year. In the second semester, outside of a few exceptions

Welcome Back continued...

you may have five new classes. If you have a grade-level specific question, please contact your assigned School Counselor with any questions or concerns regarding your schedule.

On your mark...Class of 2018



This moment marks the beginning of your students' final year of high school. Seniors will have many opportunities to complete their Post-Secondary Plans. Collectively each student will navigate college and career options available

College Application week October 30- November 3, 2017. During this week application fees are waived for applications submitted to Delaware Colleges &/or Universities.



It's decision time for your Senior. This major life decision is an exhilarating event for you and your student. However, deciding which college

to attend must be made in a thoughtful manner. You and your student should compare financial aid packages, award letters, and school's which may be beyond your family means in order to make the most informed decision for you and your family. Make sure your student has applied for scholarships and continue to encourage your student to check the Scholarship Listings in the Guidance Office. Also the 2017-2018 Delaware Scholarship Compendium (prepared by the Delaware Higher Education Office) will be made available to help your student with their investigation process, visit the Delaware Goes to College website at . . . <http://scholarships.delawaregoestocollege.org/>

Don't forget to save for those senior year obligations such as College Application Fees, Senior Portraits, Cap & Gown, and Prom.



This year the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be made available to apply

for financial aid as early as October 1st, 2017, please visit the following website to find out more information. www.fafsa.ed.gov

Delaware Goes to College initiative focuses on college and career readiness skills to help better prepare your student for life after



high school. Your student will partake in various post-secondary activities to aid your student in developing skills for immediate entry into the workforce or college readiness.

Your student will be required to complete College Applications during College Application



Month. SCHS will be hosting our



Upcoming Events. . .



College Planning Programs

September:

9/14: Senior Parent Information Night, 6 PM

9/26: Paying for College @ IRHS (\$Stand By Me) -6pm

9/28: Pagar por la Universidad @ SCHS (\$Stand By Me)-6pm

October:

10/3: Parent Conferences 5:30 -8:00 pm

10/11: PSAT Administration

10/11: FAFSA Presentation @ 5 PM (\$Stand By Me)-IRHS

10/16: College Application Month Begins

10/26: Scholarship Workshop & Fair @ 6 PM-SCHS

November:

11/2: FAFSA Submission @ SCHS (\$Stand By Me)-5 pm

EDUCATION

Career Cruising: Student Success Plans

Student Success Plan (SSP) means a plan encompassing a minimum of five years including one year beyond high school, which sets post-secondary goals for a student based on academic and career interests. The student's plan includes a program of study based on the academic courses, electives, and extracurricular opportunities needed in preparation for immediate entry into the work force and post-secondary education. The plan also includes the support services necessary for the student to graduate from high school.

Parents, guardians, or other authorized individuals can explore Career Cruising and see the career development and education planning work that their child has accomplished.

If you have more than one child using Career Cruising, you can link multiple student accounts to your login.

Please visit the career cruising website to view your students SSP at <https://www.careercruising.com/Parent/>

What to Expect (cont'd):

Underclassmen...Looking Ahead

▪ **PSAT J:** Junior Administration of the PSAT will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Space is limited available for this opportunity, therefore payment is required at the time of registration. The cost is \$ 15. Juniors must sign-up in the Guidance Office.

▪ It is never too soon to research colleges &/or careers. Creating a list of colleges, careers & interests will aid in identifying schools/career pathways that are appropriate for your student .

▪ **Advisory:** As part of our mission to ensure the students of SCHS are globally competitive, students will participate in an Classroom Guidance Lessons this school year with your School Counselor. The School Counseling Department recognizes the importance of developing a counseling relationship with our students. Therefore classroom guidance affords us the ability to impact student growth by facilitating lessons which promote academic, career, and social success . Additionally, students will also develop, investigate, review, &/or modify their Student Success Plans .

▪ **Get Involved:** SCHS has a lot to offer our student body in regards to clubs & activities. The Guidance Department will host our annual SCHS Club Fair on September 27, 2017 during student lunches. During this time your student was able to gather information about the various clubs available at SCHS. Please stay tuned for a

complete list of club or activities, which will be made available on our school website or have your student make an appointment to meet with his/her School Counselor. Participation in a school-sponsored club or activity not only looks great on a college application, but the benefits are essential in enhancing interpersonal skills necessary for life.

▪ **Tour college campuses.** If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel time to visit colleges and see what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college. We encourage you to use this time to schedule a Campus Tour, in order to make an informed decision about the school of choice.

Sussex Central High School Schedule

Schedule changes may be made during the first week of school (September 5-11, 2017). Course Change Request Forms are located in the Guidance Office, parent/guardian signatures are **required**.

Schedule changes are **ONLY** made for academic purposes. The following examples of reasons are **NOT** considered acceptable for schedule changes:

- Student/Parent does not like the teacher
- Teacher is too hard/strict
- Student wants a different lunch





• **Volunteer Service Credit:**

The Delaware Volunteer Resource Center offers the Delaware Volunteer Service Credit Program which students in Grades 9-12 can earn one (1) High School Elective Credit in return for Community Service. For more details, please visit: <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dssc/volresctr.html>

Staying Connected. . .

Home Access Center

Home/School Communication is a key component to student success. Home Access Center Parent Portal allows you as the parent/guardian to monitor your student's progress, assignment completion, attendance, and credits earned. If you still need to sign up for the Parent Portal, please contact one of our Guidance Secretaries, Mrs. Merritt or Miss Idnurm, at (302) 934-3166. Please contact your student's teacher via email by using the following format: firstname.lastname@irsd.k12.de.us

Indian River School District Graduation Requirements=24.5

English:	4 credits	Mathematics:	4 credits	Students in Grades 9 through Grade 12, must have earned the following total credits in order to be promoted to the next senior high school grade:				
Science:	3 credits	Social Studies:	3 credits			Grade 9 to 10	6 Credits	1 English 1 Math
Physical Education:	1 credit	Health:	½ credit			Grade 10 to 11	12 Credits	2 English 2 Math
Career Pathway Courses:	3 credits	Elective Courses:	4 credits			Grade 11 to 12	18 Credits	3 English 3 Math
Foreign Language:	2 credits					Grade 12 to Graduation	24.5 Credits	4 English 4 Math



How to contact your counselor,
(302) 934-3166

Mrs. Bird	Ext. 308
Dr. Cathell	Ext. 317
Mrs. James	Ext. 311
Mrs. Keeler	Ext. 309
Mrs. Reid	Ext. 310
Ms. Targonski	Ext. 312

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