

The Splinter

JUNIOR EDITION

A Publication of the Redwood High School Counseling Department
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ATTENTION JUNIORS AND PARENTS!

COLLEGE NIGHT FOR JUNIORS AND THEIR PARENTS will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the CEA. This event marks the “kick off” of the college search and application process for juniors and their parents. A great deal of information will be presented by our guests from the University of California, the California State University, the California Community College system and a private college representative. The meeting will begin in the CEA with a short general session and then participants will have the chance to choose two of the sessions to attend. The opportunity to get this much information at one time in one place comes ONLY once a year.

DON'T MISS IT!!!!

JUNIOR TIMELINE

October

Representatives from a number of colleges and universities will be in the College & Career Center during October and November. Juniors are encouraged to attend these presentations. Look for listings by the Library, Counseling Office and College & Career Center. They are also posted at www.redwood.org under Resource Centers, College & Career Center.

November

The college process for juniors will begin Tuesday, November 9th at 6:30 PM in Redwood's CEA when the Counseling Department presents **College Night for Juniors**. In addition, important handouts will be available.

March/April

All juniors will visit the College/Career Center (CCC) during a history class for a presentation on the college application process. At that meeting, information on options after high school will be disseminated by Paula Vantrease, our College/Career Specialist, who will also provide a tour of the Center and explain its resources and aids.

Workshops are offered for juniors planning to take the SAT and ACT. These workshops give juniors an opportunity to “Test Drive” actual tests administered by a test preparatory company. Students will be in a simulated test setting where they will be timed and monitored. Interested students must sign-up, in advance, for these practice diagnostic tests. **There will be a \$10 non-refundable donation to the Redwood High School Foundation-Scholarship Committee at the time of sign-up. Checks should be made out to Redwood High School PTSA.**

Practice workshop dates will be made available in the Post and in the Twig.

Check out the College and Career web page at www.redwood.org for updates on practice tests, tutors, college statistics and much more.

Junior Conference

Beginning in early February and continuing through May, you can call to schedule a Junior Conference with your counselor. Both a parent and the student should attend this conference. These conferences are by request only, held during the school day, and are scheduled directly through your counselor. At the conference we will:

- ◆ Double check graduation requirements and college entrance requirements before planning the senior year.
- ◆ Explore college/career goals.
- ◆ Investigate college possibilities and develop the resources for further exploration.
- ◆ Review SAT and ACT testing dates.
- ◆ Give each family a copy of the “College Handbook”

April/May/June

Throughout the spring term, juniors need to be checking the Twig for current information on college representatives' visits, scholarship opportunities, summer programs, volunteer possibilities, job-shadowing and internships. The Twig is the main means of daily communications and is also available on the website: Redwood.org. under **Publications**, click on Twig.

College Entrance Examinations:

Most four year colleges require students to submit scores from either the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT. While the SAT is the more popular test for our students, colleges will also accept the ACT. The tests vary in format. Some students elect to take them both to see which is better for them.

For students entering the UC system, each applicant must submit scores on an approved core test of mathematics, critical reading and writing. This requirement may be met by taking either of the following:

- ◆ the ACT Assessment with Writing
- ◆ the SAT Reasoning Test (critical reading, mathematics and writing)

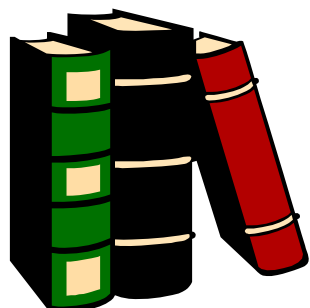
Beginning with students applying for the fall 2012 term, SAT Subject Tests no longer will be required and students who do not submit subject test scores will not be penalized during the review process. Some majors at some campuses, however, recommend particular tests, as noted on

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/apply-fall-2012/SAT-subject-tests/index.html>.

CSU's do not require the SAT Subject Tests, but do require SAT Reasoning or ACT Test.

We recommend taking the SAT subject tests in May or June of your junior year, nearing the completion of your classes. **It is your responsibility to know which tests may be required by the schools to which you are applying.**

The College Board has approved an important change to the current SAT score reporting policy. This new policy will give students the ability to send the SAT scores that they feel best represent their abilities to colleges and universities. A student can send one, multiple, or all test scores to a college on a single score report. They will be able to send SAT scores by sitting (test date) and scores from individual SAT Subject Tests. This is an opt in feature and **we continue to encourage students to send all test scores to colleges and universities as they will take your best scores. Forgetting to send scores can disqualify you from admissions.**



Test Dates and Registration Deadlines

SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests

Register online at www.collegeboard.com

Date	Tests Offered	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
December 4, 2010 January 22, 2011 March 12, 2011 May 7, 2011 June 4, 2011	SAT Reasoning & Subject SAT Reasoning & Subject SAT Reasoning SAT Reasoning & Subject SAT Reasoning & Subject	November 5, 2010 December 23, 2010 February 22, 2011 April 8, 2011 May 6, 2011	November 19, 2010 January 7, 2011 February 25, 2011 April 22, 2011 May 20, 2011

ACT

Register online at www.actstudent.org

Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
December 11, 2010 February 12, 2011 April 9, 2011 June 11, 2011	November 5, 2010 January 7, 2011 March 4, 2011 May 6, 2011	November 19, 2010 January 21, 2011 March 18, 2011 May 20, 2011

Most juniors begin testing in the spring of the 11th grade. Students wishing to take the SAT Reasoning Test once will generally test in May or June. Students who plan to take the SAT Subject Tests should plan to do so near the end of the subject year, most often June. You may take either the SAT Reasoning or up to 3 SAT Subject tests on a single test day, but not both.

If you miss the regular deadline, you can register during the late period but you must pay an additional non-refundable late fee. Also, the ACT is given locally at Novato High School in December, April and June and several high schools in San Francisco.

Visiting College Campuses

Your junior year is a great time to begin visiting college campuses and there is no better time to do this than during the February school break or during the spring break in April. During these times most colleges are in session. This gives you an opportunity to see the college in action, to see who goes there, visit classes and check out the atmosphere. You are welcome to plan your itinerary using the books and maps in the College & Career Center or you might want to check out an organized trip to visit many campuses in the east. One such organized tour is run through College Campus Tours. (www.collegecampustours.com)

You can also make up your own itinerary. Select several campuses you are considering and map out a plan to visit publics as well as privates in a specific

geographic area. This is a great opportunity to take a road trip with your parents or a friend and experience different colleges.

If you are unable to schedule campus visits during the February or spring breaks, remember you can **pre-arrange** up to three days of warranted absences per school year for college visitations.

Check each colleges website or call the admissions office to get the times of the tours and to inquire about classroom and overnight visits. Take notes and bring a camera. There are books, binders of photographs and travel information and college visit handouts in the College & Career Center. Prepare a list of questions, after doing a little research.

Opportunities for Juniors

Internships: Through the School-to-Career Program, directed by Roberta Dossick (458-3484 or e-mail rdossick@tamdistrict.org) students can have the chance to intern at a local business during the fall and spring semesters or next summer. Many businesses in Marin provide these opportunities, including the areas of architecture and construction, culinary arts, technology and multimedia, medicine and health, journalism, engineering, auto tech, veterinary medicine, business and finance, fine arts, fashion and law. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore a potential area of interest and to get valuable work experience. Applications will be available in January for the spring semester, and students are required to work a minimum of six hours per week for eight weeks.

Summer Programs: See Paula Vantrease in the College and Career Center (room 111, 945-3641) for the files of summer programs, including academic, art, technology and enrichment classes at colleges around the country and world, travel opportunities and much more. If you are interested, don't wait until the last minute as many programs have deadlines in February or March.

NCAA Clearinghouse: If you plan to play **sports in college**, you must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse. Students should register with the Clearinghouse at the conclusion of their junior year. The Clearinghouse will not process the forms until after they receive the student's 6th semester transcript. Juniors may leave a request for their transcripts to be sent to the Clearinghouse in the Counseling Office with Records Secretary Charlene DeLosa. Students should also have their SAT scores sent to the Clearinghouse. The numerical code is 9999. Students may begin the registration process this spring and familiarize themselves with the NCAA Clearinghouse website, www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

If you are considering applying to a **FEDERAL MILITARY ACADEMY** like the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, or the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, you must start the process in your JUNIOR year. You must meet rigid scholastic and medical qualifications as well as secure a Congressional nomination.

**Want a part time job?
There are opportunities on the Job Board in room 111**

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES VISIT REDWOOD

Many college admissions representatives visit Redwood throughout the fall. Juniors interested in these schools are encouraged to come to the College and Career Center to hear what representatives say about their school's atmosphere, majors and admission policies. A few colleges have information sessions at public locations on weekends and/or evenings.

For the latest list of college admissions representative visits at Redwood, go to the Redwood website, click on Resource Centers and then College & Career Center for a complete list of visits at Redwood and a list of colleges that will be in the area.

SCHOLARSHIPS, COLLEGE SEARCH WEB SITES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Please note that most scholarships are for seniors. However, there are many contests that juniors may enter. Current scholarships are listed on Redwood's website under Resource Centers, College & Career Center. Many applications are available in room 111, the College/Career Center or online.

Examples of current scholarships in file:

Nestle Very Best In Youth: Students (ages 13-18) who are passionate about giving back to their community, doing well academically and demonstrated leadership skills. Prizes including \$1000 donated to the charity of their choice, all-expense paid trip to awards ceremony in Los Angeles, CA on 7/23/2011. Apply online at: verybestinyouth.nestleusa.com.

Ayn Rand- The Fountainhead: This scholarship is open to high school 11th & 12th grade students. Students need to read the book and write an essay on a specific topic. Minimum of 800 to 1,600 words. Various awards. Go to: www.aynrand.org/contests Deadline: 04/25/11

COLLEGE SEARCH

Now is the time to start thinking about different options. Listed below are some websites that you can use to begin your college search.

Any College
www.anycollege.net
College Board Online
www.collegeboard.com

The Princeton Review
www.review.com
California State University
www.csumentor.edu
University of California System
www.universityofcalifornia.edu
California Independent Colleges/Universities
www.aiccumentor.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Juniors need to keep up with community service. The opportunities abound. There is a community service board in the College & Career Center and the opportunities are also posted on the daily Twig. Also, a listing of many service agencies can be found on the College & Career Center website.

Many scholarships are based on community service. It is helpful for the school if students turn their community service forms or letters from supervisors in to the college & career center. Then their hours can be recorded. Many scholarship opportunities are presented to the school. To enable us to make recommendations or nominations, we need to have a record of students' hours.