Senior College Presentation

2015-2016 school year

Information Locations

- Guidance Office
- Guidance Bulletin Board in Hallway
- Guidance web-page at www.hardinnorthern.org
- Modern History Class and Homeroom.
- Students need to be responsible for seeking out information!

Types of Degrees/College

- Licensure/certificate- short period of time. 6 weeks to 1 year
- Associate- "2 year degree"
- ◆ Bachelors- "4 year Degree"- Liberal Arts College. Semester vs. Quarter
- Masters- 1-3 years in addition to Bachelors
- ◆ PhD- 1-3 years in addition to Masters.

* College Costs

- Associates- \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year. Typically no housing available
- Bachelors (BS or BA) Two types of school
- Public Schools- OSU, Wright State, BG etc.-\$7,000 to \$13,000 per year. Housing is another \$8,000 to \$11,000 per year.
- Private Colleges- Bluffton, ONU, Findlay etc.-\$10,000 to \$48,000 per year plus room and board. (Similar to Public)

* How to Choose

- Look at information available in Guidance office. Summary books for Ohio Schools, course description books.
- Look at colleges' web sites.
- College visits to HN
- College campus visits
- Do a google search for Ohio means jobs k12
- Decide on a major, then pick the degree level you need, then pick the school.

Applying for College

- Recommend Applying by December 1.
- If not 100% convinced on what school to apply to, apply to 2 or 3. (one public, one private, one 2 year)
- Application fee is between \$30 and \$60. Many schools waive if you visit the campus.
- Take your time. Type any essays you need to write and attach them.
- Include as many activities as you can think of. Put together a list of your activities.
- Apply on-line or hard copy, need transcript sent from HN to college.

Things that look good on applications.

- COMMUNITY SERVICE
- GPA
- Attendance
- School participation
- Awards and recognitions.
- ACT/SAT scores
- It's not too late to get involved, especially in community service.

College Entrance Exams

- Two Tests- most colleges accept either.
- ACT- Science, Math, English, Reading = a composite score. 21 is average. 30 (99 percentile) will get you into any school.
- Note: colleges look at all four areas to determine college readiness and many schools will mix and match scores from multiple testing attempts.
- Some colleges are requiring students to take the new writing component of the test. See www.act.org/aap/writingpref for complete list

College Entrance Exams cont.

- SAT- Verbal, Math, and writing combine to give a composite score.
- 2100 will get you into any school you want. 800 possible on each section.
 2400 total.
- Writing portion is now a part of the core test.

Paying for College

- Financial Aid comes in several types
- Scholarships- money earned through ability/performance. Is not repaid.
- Grants- money earned because of financial need/hardship. Is not repaid
- Work Study- money is earned from the college attending in exchange for physical work. You work for university. This money does not count against you on next FAFSA.
- Loan- money borrowed from a bank, government, or college- must be paid back with interest.

Scholarships

- The more local the scholarship, the better chance you have.
- Apply for scholarships from the school(s) you apply too. Often a separate application.
- Watch for scholarships that you qualify for because of a unique characteristic.
- Check the HN guidance web page regularly for a current list of scholarships available in the guidance office. www.hardinnorthern.org/guidance

FAFSA

- Fill out the FAFSA form after January 1. Based on the past year's earnings for parent(s) and student.
- Allows the federal and state governments to determine what grants and loans you are eligible for.
- Most colleges use the FAFSA form to determine what college grants they will give you.

Grants/Loans

- Grants do not have to be paid back. Most students filling out the FAFSA form will get some Grant money.
- Government loans are usually low interest loans that don't have to be paid back until out of college. (grad or not)
- Bank loans should be a last resort!!
- Avoid loans if at all possible!!

Work Study

- Many colleges will offer you employment at the college in exchange for tuition/room and board.
- Earnings do NOT count against you on the next year's FAFSA form!! Where as employment at a factory or restaurant do!!

Athletic Scholarships

- NCAA Clearinghouse is for students competing at Division 1 or 2 NCAA schools.
- Register any time during senior year
- Register at <u>www.NCAA.org</u> Cost is \$50
- Must meet minimum standards in 14 core courses and ACT/SAT score.
- Division III does not give scholarships
- NAIA also has a clearinghouse this year.

Summary

- Apply to more than one school.
- Compare financial offers from each school. Mid March.
- Attend the school that offers what you want to study and fits your financial situation.