

The Grapevine

A GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER



February 2018

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY

Attention Seniors: DO NOT REQUEST MID-YEAR GRADES ON NAVIANCE. *If you have received an email or letter request from your colleges to send your mid-year grades, please advise Mrs. Neill in person in the Career Center, or by email, as soon as possible. All selective schools, such as Ivy League, are sent out automatically. Do not request mid-year grades to the University of Connecticut unless they request them. UConn has received all first marking period grades and will send you a letter or email if they want mid-year grades.*

Attention Parents: Grad Party Meetings take place each month in the Teachers' Lounge at NMHS at 7:00 p.m. The next two meetings will be February 1, and March 1. All are welcome ☺ Questions? Contact Olga Rella at olgarella@att.net

NAUGATUCK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON-SITE DECISION DAY: Tuesday, February 13th. Students need to fill out the application or apply online and pay the fee. You can bring the application and fee to Mrs. Neill in the Career Center and she will give you an appointment to meet with the college representative; or see her for an appointment if you already applied online. There will also be a field trip to both campuses of NVCC on March 28th. More information to follow.

Parents of Juniors: Use www.collegeboard.org to help your child reach his or her important education and career goals. Here you can register for the SAT, do a college/career search and look for scholarship information. You can also try www.collegetoolkit.com and help your student find a career to match their interests. Perhaps your student is confused about a major – try mymajors.com to help find majors with the student's interests and achievements. Juniors will be taking the SAT in school this year on **Wednesday, March 21st**. They may also want to take another SAT on either **May 5, or June 2**, here at NMHS. Or, if they wish to take the ACT, log on www.actstudent.org and register for the ACT on **April 14 or June 9**.

All of our students have been introduced to our guidance program “**Naviance**”. Students can log on by going to <http://connection.naviance.com/nmhsct> or click on the link available on our website. Then type in their username which should be **their email address** and their password if they registered. If your student forgot their password, have them see their counselor or Mrs. Neill in the Career Center. **Naviance** allows students to search colleges, look at community scholarships, request recommendation letters, start a college plan and keep track of applications.

Beginning this month, the Guidance Department will be meeting with all **Juniors individually for 30 minutes** to go over next year’s schedule and talk about their post-secondary plans. Parents are invited to attend these meetings if they wish.

Anyone interested in the Coast Guard Academy? Check out the academy’s AIM Program – a summer six day immersion program into cadet life. Applications open early February. Go to www.uscga.edu/aim the Academy Introduction Mission.

Juniors should plan on taking the **SAT’s in May**, or the **ACT in April**. Both these dates will be offered at NMHS. If the colleges that interest you require **SAT II’s** (not all do) and you think you might take the tests in the subjects you are presently studying, **June** is the time to do this. Remember, each time you register for the SAT’s you can send your scores to **four (4) colleges for free** – if you choose to wait, it will cost \$12.00 per school. The test dates and deadlines are as follows.

LOCATION	TEST DATE	DEADLINE	LATE REG.
New Milford H.S. ACT	April 14	March 9	March 10-23
New Milford H.S. SAT	May 5	April 6	April 7-25
New Milford H.S. SAT	June 2	May 3	May 4-23
New Milford H.S. ACT	June 9	May 4	May 5-18

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES: Students should check out the **Enrichment Programs** in Naviance which contain some pre-college course summer opportunities. Go to the College Tab and scroll down on the right and click **Enrichment Programs**. Type in a **keyword like politics or law** and see what appears. It may seem early, but in many cases there are application deadlines and sometimes the longer you wait, the more competitive the applicant pool.

ATTENTION SENIORS AND PARENTS: A letter will be sent after report cards which will state the number of credits already received and the number of credits needed for graduation. Please pay attention to this information and if you have any questions, contact your guidance counselor immediately.

Seniors are you reporting your college acceptances in Naviance to your counselor or to Mrs. Neill? If not, please do so – in order to track admissions for future students.

SENIOR SCOREBOARD: Some of the colleges students have been accepted to in *January are:* Allegheny College, Alvernia University, Bryant, Champlain, College of St. Rose, Fairleigh Dickinson, Florida Gulf Coast, Green Mountain, Gannon University, James Madison, Manhattan College, Montclair State, Nazareth, Northeastern, Nova Southeastern, Purdue, Russell Sage, Suffolk, Springfield, SUNY Albany, University of Bridgeport, University of Central Florida, University of Maine (Orono), University of Maine (Farmington), University of Massachusetts (Amherst), University of Massachusetts (Lowell), University of Rhode Island, University of Saint Joseph, University of Scranton, University of Vermont, University of Wisconsin (Madison), Utica College, Virginia Military Institute.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY NEWS: Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Baby Bundles Drive. Our pet food collection will take place the week of 2/12-2/16. Dog food, cat food, rawhides and cat litter will be collected and brought to the New Milford Animal Welfare Society. Also, we will hold a flower sale during all performances of the school musical, *Curtains. Flowers will be delivered to performers backstage.* Reminder to **seniors** – all service hours and dues must be in by **April 23rd**. Junior service hour are due May 1st.

FINANCIAL AID: Most colleges have financial aid deadlines between February 1 and March 15, so make sure you file your FAFSA forms by the deadline in order to be eligible for aid.

Financial Aid Information:

Any student applying for financial aid **must** fill out a **FAFSA Form**. The sooner it is sent in, the better your chances of receiving financial aid. Also, if your schools are listed in the **CSS Profile**, you must fill this form out online at www.collegeboard.com. Many students ask about **Merit Scholarships** from colleges. Some schools may not consider merit scholarships unless financial aid forms are filled out. Other schools may automatically offer merit scholarships based on the student's transcript. Check with the schools you are applying to and ask how they award merit scholarships.

The following scholarships are due this month:

Big Y – 2/1

Meserve Memorial – 2/1

Ronald McDonald HACER Scholarship 2/5

Design a Better Future 2/11

New England Chapter National Assoc. of Water Companies -2/15

Roberta B. Willis (Connecticut State Governor's Scholarship) – 2/15

ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN NAVIANC. THERE ARE NO PAPER COPIES. GO TO THE COLLEGES TAB AND SCROLL DOWN TO THE SCHOLARSHIP LIST AND CLICK ON THE NAME OF THE SCHOLARSHIP WHERE YOU CAN SEE A DESCRIPTION AND THEN DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION AND PRINT . PLEASE WATCH DEADLINES AND TRY AND GET APPLICATIONS IN BEFORE THE DUE DATE AS LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION MUST BE ATTACHED THEN EITHER MAILED OR PICKED UP.