

Maverick Senior Newsletter

August/September, 2011

Dalton Kelsey, Senior Counselor

This newsletter is designed to provide pertinent guidance information for the 12th grade students in the Mauldin High School community. This information will help to enhance students' academic, career and social skills development.

Guidance Department Office Procedures

Parents/Guardians/Students are always welcome

Office Hours 8:00 - 4:00

Parents/Guardians may contact counselors by calling the guidance department at 355-6655 or the individual counselor extension as listed below. Appointments are not necessary but are greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Wofford (9th-11th A-D) 355-6520

Mrs. Charlton (9th-11th E-Langley) 355-6522

Mrs. Bigalke (9th-11th Lanzone-Riddle) 355-6523

Mrs. Ray (9th-11th Ridge-Z) 355-6521

Mrs. Kelsey (12th) 355-6524

Dr. Childs (Department Chair) 355-6504

Mrs. Allred (Registrar) 355-6502

Mrs. Vance/ Mrs. Mitchell (Receptionist) 355-6655

Student Visits

Students may visit the guidance office before school, during lunch and after school. Students who need to see a counselor during a class period must have a guidance pass from a faculty member. If a student's counselor is not available, the student should complete a "guidance request" form (located in guidance) and a counselor will send for them when she is available.

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS

August 31- Guidance Presentations through Senior English Classes
(periods 5-7)

September 1- Guidance Presentations through Senior English Classes
(periods 1-4)

September 1st - Senior Parent Presentation- 6:30 pm (Auditorium)

October 23-24-Greenville County College Fair

Sunday, October 24: 2:30-4:30 pm

With workshops beginning at 1:00 pm
and

A School Field Trip on Monday October 24:

(sign-ups to follow)

TD Conference Center

Students and parents are highly encouraged to attend the Sunday session. You will have more time to get your questions answered. There is limited time on the field trip.

Senior Awards Program

Thursday, May 3, 2011 at 6:30, MHS Auditorium

*Parents will receive invitation and should be sure their student attends.

Senior Final Exams

Senior Exams: May 16-18

Senior Makeup Exams: May 21

GRADUATION

Mauldin High school holds **mandatory graduation practices**, there are no exceptions:

- **Mandatory Senior Meeting-** Thursday, May 25 9:00 am MHS Auditorium
- **Mandatory Graduation Meeting-**Tuesday, May 29 9:00 am MHS new gym
- **Mandatory Graduation Practice-** Wednesday, May 30 7:30 pm at the Bi-Lo Center
- **Graduation-** June 1; **7:30 pm** at the Bi-Lo Center (Seniors to report at 6:15)

Upcoming Open Houses/Events for Colleges

Student/Parent Informational Sessions for:

Duke University, Georgetown, Harvard, Penn State, and Stanford

September 11th, 7:30 pm at the Greenville Marriott

College of Charleston, Clemson University, and University of South Carolina

Informational Day September 11th 4:00 pm at the Hilton, Greenville SC

ATTENDANCE

Students are responsible for tracking their attendance in order to ensure that they receive credit for all of their courses. **There is no guarantee of Seat Time Recovery so students should strive to be in each class on time.**

Students are counted present only when they are actually in classes at least one-half of the class period, are on homebound instruction, or are present at an activity authorized by the school principal. The official record of attendance in class will be recorded by the teacher.

- A. For any semester course **ANY ABSENCE IN EXCESS OF FIVE DAYS MAY CAUSE THE STUDENT TO LOSE CREDIT FOR THE COURSE.**
- B. For any year long course **ANY ABSENCE IN EXCESS OF TEN DAYS MAY CAUSE THE STUDENT TO LOSE CREDIT FOR THE COURSE. THE FIRST TEN ABSENCES MAY BE LAWFUL, UNLAWFUL, OR A COMBINATION.**

ALL ABSENCES BEGINNING WITH THE 6TH DAY(90-day courses) or 11th DAY (180-day courses) MUST BE LAWFUL.

South Carolina Diploma Requirements

English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units
Science	2 units
Physical Science	1 unit
Social Studies	1 unit
US History	1 unit
American Government	.5 unit
Economics	.5 unit
Foreign Language	1 unit
or Career and Technology	
PE or ROTC	1 unit
Computer Technology	1 unit
Elective	7 units

In addition, students applying to 4 year colleges and universities are required to have 2-3 units of foreign language and 3 lab sciences, one math beyond Algebra 2 and a Fine Art. All courses must be taken at the College Prep (CP level). This may be beyond the basic graduation requirements.

Credit Checks Have Been Completed For Each Senior. Students Are Currently Taking the Classes That They Need to Graduate.

Grading Scale

During the summer of 2000, the SC Legislature decided to convert to a uniform grading policy for students in our state. Please note that all student's report cards and transcripts are reported using this policy.

SC Uniform Grading Scale

A=93-100

B=85-92

C=77-84

D=70-76

F=69 and below

For students transferring from another state or school with letter grades the following conversion scale is used.

A= 96, B=88, C=80, D=73, F=61

South Carolina Lottery Scholarships

SC Hope Scholarship

This scholarship program is a merit-based scholarship created for eligible student attending a four-year institution in SC who do not qualify for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship. Eligible students will receive up to \$2800 (including \$150 book allowance) for the first year of attendance only. All students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale to qualify. No application is required.

SC LIFE Scholarship

The Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship created for eligible students attending a four-year college or university in SC. Eligible students will receive up to \$5000 (including a \$300 book allowance) for eight academic semesters at a four-year institution and up to the cost of tuition plus a \$300 book allowance at a two-year public, independent or technical college. Enhancements of up to \$7500 may be earned beginning in the sophomore year to students declaring a math, science or health science major by the end of the freshman year and who have taken 14 credit hours in a combination of math and science by the end of the freshman year.

*First time entering freshmen must meet **two** of three of the following criteria to qualify for the LIFE Scholarship.*

- 1. Earn a 3.0 GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale*
- 2. Score 1100 SAT or 24 ACT*
- 3. Graduate in the top 30% of the graduating class.*

No application is required.

SC Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship program administered by the SC Commission on Higher Education. Each Palmetto Fellow may receive a scholarship of up to \$6,700 for the freshman year and \$7500 if renewed for up to 6 additional academic semesters. Enhancements of up to \$10,000 may be earned beginning in the sophomore year to students declaring a math, science or health science major by the end of the freshman year and who have taken a combination 14 credit hours in math and science by the end of the freshman year.

First time entering freshman must meet **all three** of the following criteria for the December 15 early award:

1. Earn a cumulative 3.5 GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year.
2. Score 1200 SAT or 27 ACT
3. Rank in the top 6% of the class at the end of either the sophomore or junior year.

OR both of the following criteria:

1. Earn a cumulative 4.0 GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year
2. Score 1400 SAT or 32 ACT

Students may also qualify for the late award on June 15 if they meet the above criteria based on the top 6% of the senior year.

Mrs. Kelsey will notify potential applicants of the eligibility for the early award in November.

The College/Scholarship Application Process

In an effort to ensure that all applications are handled in a timely and efficient manner, students and parents should follow the outlined application process. We will do our very best to ensure that all applications are mailed within 3 school days.

Completed Applications should include:

1. Counselor recommendation forms (from the application), teacher recommendations, proper signatures, etc.
2. A check or money order or fee waiver payable to the institution of choice unless submitted via the internet with the online application.
3. A pre-addressed envelope to the **ADMISSIONS OFFICE** of the institution of choice with 2-3 stamps. Please do not include a return address. All official documentation must be sent from Mauldin High School. Mrs. Kelsey will add a return address before mailing.
4. A student resume with community and school based extra curricular activities. Teachers and counselors may also use this resume for their recommendation letters. (Seniors will work on these resumes in the senior English classes in the first weeks of the school year, these are kept on file in Mrs. Kelsey's office).

Applications **MUST** be given directly to Mrs. Kelsey by the senior student. If she is unavailable, students should wait to turn in applications until they can hand them personally to Mrs. Kelsey. Students are asked not to give these to other guidance personnel. Mrs. Kelsey does not accept applications from parents. Students may check the log book, located at the front of guidance to check the status of their application.

Students are encouraged to submit **completed** applications to **Mrs. Kelsey** at least two weeks prior to the deadline date. Applications turned in on the deadline date will not be processed in time.

Transcripts/Records

ACT/SAT test scores will not be sent by Mauldin High School with college applications. Most colleges/universities and the NCAA Eligibility Center require that scores must be sent officially by the testing service. The student is responsible for sending test scores to the appropriate college/university. We will only send test scores with scholarship applications, military requests, and athletic requests (with parent permission) unless special circumstances arise where it is in the student's best interest to forward score reports. Students may send test scores officially in one of two ways.

1. When registering for the test date, students may choose 4 institutions to send their scores for no additional cost. They may do this on the testing website (SAT- www.collegeboard.com or Act- www.actstudent.org)
2. If the student does not choose a school to receive the score at the time of registration for the testing date, they may go to the testing website and request the score be sent to any college or university for a fee. Students are charged individually for each test sent to each institution.

Important: During registration, list Mauldin High School with the school code, 411363. We must receive your scores to check for scholarship eligibility.

Acceptance Letters and Scholarship Awards

In an effort to keep an accurate tally of college admissions and scholarship awards for the senior class, students are requested to submit copies of all college/university acceptance letters, military appointments and scholarship awards. For example, if a student is offered a full presidential scholarship to two different institutions, we need copies of both letters in order to count both awards in the final class total although the student can only accept one scholarship award.

Fee Waivers: In order to receive a fee waiver, you must qualify for free or reduced lunch by meeting federal income guidelines. Fee waivers may be used to pay the registration fee for two testing admissions, and eight college applications fees. Fee waivers are opened to all qualified students. **Current Lunch applications must be on file with MHS cafeteria.** Upward Bound students automatically qualify. Students may get fee waivers from Mrs. Kelsey.

College Visits: Seniors may request three college days during an academic year. In order for a college day to count as a field trip, students must bring a note from a parent/guardian at least five days before the college visit to the MHS Attendance Office. In addition, you must bring, on the college/university letterhead, written proof of your visit to the institution the day you return to school to the attendance office. *If you fail to follow this procedure exactly, your college visit will count as an unexcused absence.*

Scholarship Information: Each week Mauldin High School, the Guidance Department produces an updated scholarship bulletin based on the information that has been received during that week. This bulletin includes college open houses and descriptions of scholarships that are available to students. This information corresponds to the scholarship notebook kept in the reception area of the guidance office. Students may get this information in the Stampede online newsletter and on the senior page on the MHS website under the guidance tab. Be sure to visit the MHS website weekly for career, college/university and scholarship updates. Students and parents are also encouraged to join the "Stampede" on line newsletter at www.greenville.k12.sc.us

Colleges at Mauldin High During Lunch

September 14th – Queens College Charlotte NC

October 25th – Emory

October 26th – Presbyterian College

College Admissions Testing/SAT and ACT

Here are some helpful tips about which college/university admissions test may best suit your academic potential.

SAT REASONING TEST 1: This test is best suited to test students demonstrating strong potential in the areas of English and Mathematics within the first semester of college. It is specially designed to *test students on information that normally has not been taught*. Examples of similar tests are the GRE and PSAT. Students demonstrating higher levels of success on the SAT have usually completed Algebra 2 and higher-level math courses. They are also frequent readers and have vast vocabulary skills. The test has three timed portions in vocabulary, mathematics and writing. The final score is based on a scale of 2400 points and *students are penalized for incorrect answers*. A fraction of a point is taken off for each incorrect answer. The SAT writing score is generally not used for college admissions but the writing sample is read and considered. Therefore, for the purpose of college admissions, students should add together only the verbal and math scores (a potential 1600 points).

ACT: This is an *achievement test*. It is especially designed to *test students' achievement on information that they have been taught or at least exposed to*. Examples of other achievement tests are PACT, BSAP, and AP tests. Any well-rounded academically inclined student can be successful on the ACT because it tests all students within their academic level. Act final scores are based on a scale of 36 points. This is taken from an average score in all four areas tests. Students should also take the optional writing test at least once to provide a writing sample to the college admissions committee. *Students are not penalized for incorrect answers*. They are only scored on the number of questions answered correctly. **It is in the student's best interest to narrow their choices and pick the best answer. In other words, guessing won't hurt!!**

How Do I Decide? When comparing the two tests for college admissions, all major colleges/universities, technical colleges and trade schools accept both. College bound students should consider taking both tests. Admissions status and scholarship awards are given based on the higher of the two scores.

Students with 504 Plans or IEP's who need special testing accommodations are encouraged to see Mrs. Kelsey before registering for either test.

Students planning to attend Greenville Tech or another Technical college in South Carolina are not required to take the SAT or ACT for admission, placement, and scholarship. Greenville Tech uses the ASSET or COMPASS Tests for academic placement which are available free of charge at the Greenville Tech Admissions Center on Pleasantburg Highway at McAllister Square.

If you plan on attending college in the fall of 2012, it is important that you take the SAT or ACT in the fall of 2011. See MHS website or www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org for test and registration dates and information.

Information Sheet

Please Print Clearly

Student Name _____

Student Cell _____

Home Phone _____

Mother's Number _____

Father's Number _____

Student Email Address _____

Parent Email Address _____

Additional Information needed by counselor:

**PLEASE TURN INTO MRS. KELSEY BEFORE
LEAVING THE AUDITORIUM**