



ATHLETICS

JANUARY, 2010

Special Thank-you

Thanks to everyone who donated for the staff Christmas gifts. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.

Week of January 4

Second semester classes begin January 4. Students' class schedules will be viewable online thru ParentsWeb. Semester Report Cards will be mailed home. Grade reports will be withheld for those students who have outstanding obligations.

Monday, January 18

NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Saturday, January 23 Placement Test, 8:30-11:30 am

A placement test is required for incoming 9th graders. Cost is \$20. Register for the test by calling the Admissions Director, Mr. Bredow, at ext. 3306.

School Calendar

Print out the school calendar on our website, www.denverlhs.org/inside. Driving directions to athletic events will appear when you put your cursor on the event.

E books

Coupon books will be sold through January. Cost is \$10/ea and \$6 goes to the school. Books are available in the office.

Buy gift cards through the SCRIP Program

The school gets a percentage of what you spend on cards. Order forms are in the school office or can be downloaded from the website (under Downloads). Call Cheryl for details – 303-934-8611.

Buy King Soopers and Safeway cards.

Grocery cards spend like cash and our schools receive 5% of your purchase. Call Cheryl for cards.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS will be announced on 9 NEWS (9news.com as well), Channel 4 News, Channel 7 News, and on radio station KOA (AM 850).

CLHSA 10th Annual Auction – March 7, 2010

The Association auction will be Sunday, March 7, at The Arvada Center. We are currently accepting donations and help in soliciting donations. Contact Shelley Stuerke at 303-274-1690 or by email at johnstuerke@comcast.net.

Check the website for weekly schedule of games!

Athletic Events

DLHS students are admitted free to all regular season home games with student I.D. card. Otherwise, admission for home games is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students/senior citizens. Remember, **NO FOOD or DRINKS in the gym!**

Join the Booster Club

Your membership will get your immediate family into our home games at no charge. Download the registration form from the website.

We need your help!

If you can help take tickets or serve in the concession stand during home basketball games, please call Kristy Gray at 303-989-0492. You can also send email to her at booster.cub@denverlutheranhighschool.org

NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

Students who plan to participate in Division I or II athletics in college must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Register online at www.ncaa.org. Click on "Rules & Eligibility" and choose "Initial Eligibility Clearing House."

Fall Awards named from *Denver Post*

Taylor Sturms	Hon. Mention All-State Volleyball
David Beach	1st Team All-State
Ryan Langewisch	Hon. Mention All-State Football

February 11 – Spring Sports Parent Meeting

All spring sports athletes and their parents should attend the meeting on Wednesday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m. All players must have a valid physical form turned in to the athletic office in order to participate.



COLLEGE and CAREER PLANNING

Transcript Requests

Students should fill out a Transcript Request Form and give it to Ms. Lietzau or to Ms. Noffze. Requests will again be taken beginning January 15, and will be updated to include first semester grades.

Seniors, check your college deadlines!

Juniors and Seniors, need to take either the ACT or SAT college exam to attend college. Applications are available online or in the guidance area.

ACT Feb. 6 Register by Jan. 5
April 10 Register by Mar. 5
June 12 Register by May 7

SAT Mar. 13 Register by Feb. 9
May 1 Register by Mar. 30
June 5 Register by May 4

Practice ACT and SAT Tests See website information:
<http://www.denverlhs.org/inside/college.html>

PARENTS OF SENIORS

Senior guys- It's the law that you must register with Selective Service at age 18. Registering means eligibility for college loans, Federal jobs and job training. Register early at age 17 and 3 mos. Register on-line at www.sss.gov

Know your college and university deadline dates! Missed deadlines means missed acceptance or missed scholarship money. Mark the dates on a calendar.

ALL colleges require the FAFSA form for financial aid. Most deadlines will be met if financial aid forms are mailed by early or mid -February, but be **sure** to check with your college.

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The federal government uses this form to determine your eligibility for financial aid. The Dept. of Education uses the Federal Methodology (FM) to calculate your aid eligibility, taking into account income, number of family members, net value of assets, enrollment status and other factors.

EFC stands for **Expected Family Contribution** and is the amount your family will be expected to pay each year. It should be on page 1 of your Student Aid Report. Think: **FAFSA → EFC – Financial Need = Financial Aid**

If there is an asterisk next to your EFC, it means you have to provide documents to your prospective college(s) to verify the information submitted on the FAFSA. About 1 in 3 students are selected.

When do I receive my Aid? Once your report has been verified, the college will construct an aid package and send a letter. You do not need to accept all of the aid that's offered.

FAFSA Process 1-2-3

Step 1 PIN – Personal Identification Number

This code is used by the U.S. Dept of Education to identify you online. A PIN allows you to electronically you're your FAFSA form, check the status and make corrections, and fill out an online renewal form next year.

- Obtain your PIN number from the official website: www.pin.ed.gov . Click "Apply for PIN" near top of page
- Allow four hours for instructions to be sent via email. The PIN allows anyone to electronically sign student aid forms and access your information, so guard your PIN!
- Do this BEFORE you start to fill out the FAFSA form

Step 2 Assemble forms needed to complete FAFSA

- Social security number and driver's license
- Current bank statement
- Current mortgage and investment records (if any)
- 2008 federal tax return, untaxed income records, W2 forms and other record of money earned

Step 3 Complete the FAFSA

- Complete FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Once finished, print the FAFSA summary as well as the "Submission Confirmation" page. If completing the paper version, make a copy before mailing.

Step 4 Review your Student Aid Report (SAR)

- The SAR is proof that your FAFSA was received. You should receive the electronic SAR in 1-3 days if you signed with your PIN. (paper version takes 2-3 weeks)
- Report errors immediately to your financial aid office or you can make corrections online.
- If you don't receive your SAR in 3-4 weeks, call 1-800-433-3243



Financial aid is distributed on a first come, first served basis. Fill out the application in January as you prepare your taxes (use your last paycheck stub and bank statement to figure amounts). If your W-2 shows a significant difference, you can change the information before officially sending it.

Filing online gets a response within 1-2 weeks. Mailing the paper forms takes 4-6 weeks to get a response.

One last note - check with your colleges/universities for their filing deadline. Remember sooner is always better than later with the **FAFSA** form!

FAFSA TIPS

1. Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible in January and each successive year once you're in college.
2. Fill out a "FAFSA on the WEB" worksheet. Click "Before Beginning a FAFSA", then "Print a Pre-Application Worksheet." Use this as a guide before doing form online.
3. Save your FAFSA online if you can't finish it in one session. Click the "Save" button at the bottom of each step to save info for 45 days.
4. To receive a paper FAFSA form, call **800-4-FED-AID**. Or you can **open the attachment below** for a worksheet form. You can also request other federal publications, such as "Funding Education Beyond High School" and receive help with many questions.
5. Additional FAFSA information and the downloadable form are at www.collegeinvest.org. Place your cursor on the blue tab at the top marked "Student and Parent Loans". From the drop down menu, choose "Planning for College"; then choose "All about the FAFSA". Read the information on that page before choosing additional information from the box at the top right.

Remember, the FAFSA is FREE!
If you need help, call the FAFSA Help Desk
at 1-800-433-3243.

TIPS for College-bound

- If your family has financial circumstances not reflected on the FAFSA, contact the financial aid offices at your selected colleges.
- Determine how your financial aid award will be renewed each year. Will it decrease/increase?
- Consider contacting the financial aid office by e-mail. You can avoid busy phone lines and usually get a quick response.
- Keep notes of any correspondence you have with college personnel. Get names and phone numbers of people you speak with in case you have to contact them again.
- Start searching for scholarships during the sophomore year of high school, but it's never too late. There are scholarships available for students already in college.
- For more information on admissions, financial aid and scholarships, go to www.fastweb.com and click on "View all Articles and Student Columns."

Internet Sites for Scholarships

Free Scholarship Searches and Internet Resources
Numerous companies offer scholarship search services for a fee, but you can find the same information yourself.

www.collegeincolorado.org

(College Opportunity Fund has set aside approximately \$2500 per CO student that attends a CO college)

www.collegeinvest.org

www.finaid.org

www.studentaid.ed.gov

www.scholarshipexperts.com

www.princetonreview.com

www.scholarships.com

www.collegeanswer.com

www.collegenet.com/mach25

www.nasfaa.org

www.actstudent.org

www.college-assist.com

www.schoolsoup.com

www.zinch.com



Top 10 Tips for a Winning Scholarship Application

- 1. Apply only if you are eligible.** Read the requirements carefully and make sure you're eligible before you send in your application.
- 2. Complete the application in full.** If a question doesn't apply, note that on the application. Make sure you have all required signatures.
- 3. Follow directions.** Provide everything that's required, but don't supply things that aren't requested. You could be disqualified.
- 4. Neatness counts.** Always type your application. If you must print, do so neatly.
- 5. Write an essay that makes a strong impression.** Be personal and specific. Include concrete details to make your experience come alive.
- 6. Watch deadlines.** Complete the application at least two weeks prior to the official deadline. Use the time to double-check your application.
- 7. Make sure your application gets where it needs to go.** Put your name and social security number on all pages of the application to avoid confusion.
- 8. Keep a back-up file in case anything goes wrong.** Make a copy of the entire packet you submit. If your application is lost, you'll be able to reproduce it. Obtain a certificate of mailing from your post office.
- 9. Give it a final "once-over."** Proofread for misspelled words or grammatical errors. Ask a friend, teacher or parent to proofread it as well.
- 10. Ask for help if you need it.** If you have problems with the application, don't hesitate to call the sponsoring organization.

1. One of our goals is to enable each student to be as well prepared for the future as possible.

Students often avoid some classes because they want an "easy schedule," which may not prepare them for the challenges of life, work, or college. Students should take classes to help them grow and prepare for the future.

2. A challenging class load is especially good for college-bound students.

Self-discipline and challenge make the transition to college easier. Two study halls are NOT a good use of your money or student's time. Colleges want to see a rigorous schedule when they examine transcripts.

3. Elective credits are important!

Elective classes are designated to give students a broad exposure to new areas. Electives should be chosen on the basis of what will help a student most. Please note that Colorado State University and other colleges now require 3 years of a foreign language.

Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen will meet with Ms Noffze during 2nd semester to discuss grades, college planning and visiting colleges, courses for next year, etc.

Juniors will receive a list of courses they must take in order to graduate. Encourage your Junior to expand his/her horizons by taking a class at the Career Education Center, at community college, or by taking an online class (earn both high school and college credit). PSAT test results will be mailed with report cards.

Sophomores should plan to visit some colleges this summer. The PLAN test results will be mailed with report cards. This test gives the student possible career options, as well as practice for the ACT test in Junior year.

Freshmen EXPLORE test scores will also be mailed with report cards. This test gives a projected PLAN test score as well as possible career options and ACT test practice.

What classes should my student take next year?