

Wise Notes

January/February 2011

Volume 1, Issue 1

Important Dates for January and February

January

- 3- Winter Holiday: No School
- 7—SAT Late Registration Deadline for January 22—Test Date (extra \$24)
- 7- ACT Registration Deadline for Feb. 12 Test Date
- 12- Financial Aid Night for Seniors and Parents, 6:30 pm, Room 236
- 17- Martin Luther King Day: School in session-Make-up day

- 22-SAT I/II Testing
- 24- Marking Pd 3 ends. Early Dismissal 12:40

February

- 2- Report Cards Distributed
- 9- FAFSA Workshop at UPB, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 11-SAT I Registration Deadline for March 12 Test Date
- 17- Progress Reports Mailed

18-21- Mid Winter Vacation/Flex Day: No School

25-SAT I Late Registration Deadline for March 12 Test Date (extra \$24)

Parents of Seniors-Mark Your Calendar!

On Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 6:30 pm, BAHS's Financial Aid Night for Seniors and Parents will be held in Rooms 232 and 236. This program will discuss the various types of financial aid and review the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the basis for all financial aid. Mrs. Susan Gleason from the Financial Aid Office at UPB will also answer questions pertaining to your particular situation. A second financial aid night will be held on March 22 to discuss completion of specialized loan applications and to compare financial aid packages.

Scheduling for 2011-2012

Mid February, BAHS faculty will begin the scheduling process that will continue throughout the second half of the school year. To help your student get the most out of high school, have frequent discussions about future plans and schedule appointments in guidance to discuss the most relevant courses.

Tentative scheduling for the 2011-12 school year will begin with the distribution of the *2011-12. Registration Guide* and registration form during grade level meetings led by the Guidance Counselors.

Both students and their parents should review the contents of the registration guide and complete the tentative

registration form with a program that helps the students meet their career and educational objective.

Students should contact their counselor if interested in Peer Tutoring, Distant Learning (DL) opportunities or college courses at UPB (BRIDGES). They should also check the corresponding space on the tentative course selection form for these options.

Students who are considering participation on athletic teams in college should read the section in the registration guide about the *NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE*. The eligibility standards for Division I/II colleges have changed. Their SAT/ACT scores must be sent directly from the testing agency by using code 9999.

During the week of scheduling, all departments including career and technical, foreign

language, art and music will be available to explain and answer questions about their program offerings. Students should seek teacher input if they are unsure of a particular class: its content, its value for career objective, or for teacher recommendation.

As a reminder, review the *graduation and course requirements during the week of scheduling* as all changes will be outlined in the [2011-12 Registration Guide](#).

Wise Notes

Are You Moving To Higher Education?

If the answer is “yes” and you are interested in financial aid, you should complete the form, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be considered for most financial aid programs. You can get the FAFSA worksheet in the Guidance Office or apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The FAFSA serves as the application for federal financial aid, for many institutional aid programs, and for the Pennsylvania State Grant Program. It is the basis on which eligibility for student loans guaranteed by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is determined. (NOTE: Loans will be discussed at

Higher Education Information

the March 22 Financial Aid Night in spring.) PHEAA guaranteed student loans offer a variety of low interest federal and state loan options. Answer “yes” to the question on the FAFSA that asks if you are interested in student loans.

Although the FAFSA deadline date established by the federal government for receiving federal aid ONLY is June 30, 2012, both PHEAA and the higher education institutions that the senior is considering have much earlier FAFSA deadlines

(e.g., UPB’S priority deadline is March 1, 2011 and Penn State’s priority deadline is February 15, 2011).

For the Pennsylvania State Grant Program, which offers money that does not have to be repaid by eligible needy students, PHEAA has two different FAFSA filing deadlines for *Seniors*, depending

on the type of education institution they will attend: **May 1, 2011** - For Seniors planning to enroll in baccalaureate degree (four years or longer) programs and **August 1, 2011**- For Seniors planning to enroll in business, trade and technical schools; two year nursing schools; or other two-year terminal (nontransferable two-year career) programs at two-year public, junior, or four-year colleges.

For students and their families who may have questions regarding either student loans, grants, work-study or other PHEAA financial aid programs, you may call 1-800-692-7392 and a representative will assist you. Also, help is available online at www.pheaa.org.

Career and Technical Education

To be considered completers of our Career & Technical Programs, students must remain with a Grade 10-12 enrollment in a yearly three (3) unit sequence. The exception is Marketing with a 2-year sequence.

- Capstone Cooperative Education With teacher recommendation, a senior may be eligible for a Capstone Cooperative Education. Four days per week, the senior will be in a supervised work program but will complete course work in the shop classroom for the fifth day.
- Diversified Occupations (DO) Seniors interested Diversified Occupations (DO) should check the appropriate space on the colored coded form and must make an appointment prior to the end of May with Mr. Walter regarding this choice. Students must have a cum GPA of 70% and have counselor recommendation for any diversified occupation experience. A senior considering DO must schedule electives which can be dropped if it is approved. All DO must be a minimum of fifteen hours per week.

Both D.O. and Capstone experiences must begin during the regularly scheduled school day

CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION GUIDE

You should note that various changes are under consideration: new English electives including AP English Language, new math courses including AP Statistics and two courses earning UPB credits—College Algebra II and College Calculus; a new science elective—Biological Chemistry; and a realignment of the general business/computer electives and the Marketing Technology Program. A number of remedial and enrichment in math and reading may be required for those students needing help to prepare for future PSSA or Keystone exams.

Many courses have prerequisites (either successful completion with certain grade average in previous classes, written approval of department supervisor and/or teacher) and recommended concurrent enrollment in other classes (e.g. math classes with various science classes), which will be adhered to during scheduling. Teacher recommendations of students for certain classes may be changed by June 2011 if the students’ course work in the second semester of 2010-11 also changes.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

Starting with the class of 2013, the eligibility to participate in Division II college sports will increase from 14 to 16 NCAA approved core courses. Visit eligibilitycenter.org for more information.

Summer Enrichment-Former PA Governor's Schools of Excellence

Applications are currently being accepted for two of the former PA Governor's Schools: PA School for Global Entrepreneurship at Lehigh University and 11 the University of Pittsburgh Health Careers Scholars Academy, both for current and grade 11 students only. Applications for both programs are due by February 15, 2011.

Interested grade 10 and 11 students should see their counselor as the application is a competitive process involving essays, teacher recommendations, activities resume, and transcript.

Information and forms can be found at www.iacocca-lehigh.org/govschool and www.hcsa.pitt.edu.

Scholarship Opportunities

BIG 33 Scholarship For PA Seniors

The Big 33 Scholarship Foundation offers a variety of scholarships only for PA and Ohio seniors with a cum 2.0 GPA based on grades 10 and 11 who will continue to an accredited institution of higher education or technical school. The online application must be submitted at www.big33.org by February 12, 2011.

BAHS has had previous students get a Big 33 Scholarship and highly recommends this regional scholarship. This website serves for all their scholarships.

Students are also urged to take advantage of these online sites that offer a free and substantial scholarship searches:

www.fastweb.com
www.educationplanner.org
www.gocollege.com
www.petersons.com
www.studentaid.ed.gov
www.findtuition.com
www.schoolsoup.com

Discover Card Scholarship Program

The Discover Card Award is a scholarship for JUNIORS ONLY. Download the application from the Discover website: www.discoverfinancial.com/community. The deadline will be January 31, 2011.

Take Pen – Win Money

Occasionally, the Guidance Office receives literature about opportunities for students Grades 9-12 to enter essay contests for scholarships and cash awards. Check out the following websites.

www.francis.edu/soc with February 25, 2011 deadline
www.holocaust.tiklaw.com with April 15, 2011 deadline
www.aynrand.org with various contests.
 Deadlines from March 20, 2011 to May 5, 2011
www.supercollege.com
www.bestbuy.com/communityrelations/scholarships

Local Scholarships - from sources outside the school will be available in February 2011 and

include:

- Amanda Susan Pearce Memorial Scholarship
- Bradford Instrumental Music Scholarship
- Bradford Lion's Club Scholarship
- Bradford Rotary Vocational Scholarship
- Bradford Township Lion's Club Scholarship
- Eastern Star Scholarship
- Harry Lasky Scholarship
- Jon B. Abbey Memorial Scholarship
- LeRoy G. Erickson Memorial Scholarship
- Masonic Union Lodge #334 Scholarship
- ORAK GROTTO Scholarship
- Wilhelm Vaughn Potkovick Memorial Scholarship
- Zonta Club of Bradford Scholarship

FAFSA Workshop on February 9

UPB will host a FAFSA Workshop on Wednesday, February 9 in the Sports/Fitness Center from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Bring family income information (IRS forms, W-2 Statements) to get help completing the FAFSA online.

ASVAB Score Reports

Tenth graders and upperclassmen who took the ASVAB in November will receive their scores during the first week in February. At that time, they will complete an online interest inventory to discover careers that match their interests and various skill levels.

NEW HONOR SYSTEM FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

To recognize students for their academic achievement, an honor system with three tiers will be introduced in 2011-2012.

Summa cum laude: Cum GPA of 100% or higher, final grade of 80% or higher in at least three AP courses and Advanced PSSA in Reading and Math.

Magna cum laude: Cum GPA of 95% or higher, final grade of 80% or higher in at least two AP classes, and Advanced PSSA in Reading and Math.

"Cum laude": Cum GPA of 90% or higher and Advanced PSSA in Reading and Math.

Bradford Area High School
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Guidance Newsletter

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Weighted Course Requirements/BRIDGES

Inclusion in a scholar course is based on the final course average from the previous year's scholar course. To be recommended for the next scholar level course in that department, the student must have an 80% average in the previous year's scholar course. (The administration reserves the right to review the academic progress of all students in scholar level courses. Any student not meeting an adequate performance level may be transferred to a non-scholar level.) With department approval, a student with a 90% final average or better in a non-scholar course may apply to take the next year's scholar level course.

To continue in an AP course for the following school year, the student must receive a grade of 3 or above on the national AP exam given in May. If a student receives a test score below 3, the current

AP teacher could recommend that the student continue with an AP course.

Current juniors who may be eligible for courses at UPB during their senior year and current sophomores, who may be eligible for UPB courses during the SPRING semester of their junior year, should check the appropriate space on the color-coded form. Students must be in the top 50% of their class. Counselors will meet with these students to explain the registration process. However, the actual registration for 2011 fall classes at UPB occurs in late May/June after the master schedule for BAHS has been finalized.

A senior student eligible for BRIDGES tuition support must have scored proficient or advanced on BOTH the Grade 11 Math and Reading, maintained a cumulative GPA of at least "90%" that includes both the previous year at BAHS and the conclusion of the current semester, and achieved at least a "B" in the college course.

