

September 2021

Dear Seniors,

I have some very important information to share with you, and I ask that you **take this information home and share it with your parents** as well. Remember, the more you do now, the better off you will be when you graduate.

In addition, you must be TSI compliant if you plan on going to a college or university in Texas. You may be exempt from all or parts of this test if you meet one of the following qualifying standards by your test scores from these tests: SAT – 1070 combined, with 500 or higher in math & ELA OR ACT – 23 composite, with 19 or higher math & English ***** **HOWEVER – Most colleges and universities have waived the SAT, ACT, and TSI requirements due to COVID 19. You will need to contact or look up the requirements for the specific college you are interested in. These waivers may or may not be valid for the 2022-2023 year.** The TSI test will be given in November. Please listen for announcements and/or more newsletters.

If you know which college you want to attend, it is not too early to **apply for admissions**; in fact, I urge you to do this early, or at least start gathering information about your prospective college. When you do send in your college application, please come **sign up** for a transcript to be sent in my office. Colleges will need this in order to complete the admission process. In addition, you need to check the website of the college that you are interested in attending for potential college/university days, which allow you to visit and explore the campus. Many of these events require you to preregister on the website, and if you plan on missing school for a college day, you must let Mrs. Medart know in advance. After your college day, you must provide the office with a college day note or registration form in order to receive an excused absence.

On another important note, effective January 1, 2012, all college students are required to have the **meningitis vaccine** 10 days prior to the first day of the term, in which you plan on entering. If you get the vaccine this year, then it will cost you a minimal amount, but if you wait until after the age of 18, it can be hundreds of dollars, so do **NOT** delay doing this.

If you are interested in the military, please let me know, and we will put you in touch with a recruiter. I suggest that you visit with all branches of the service to see what each has to offer, so that you can explore all of your options and make an informed decision. There are many great opportunities and scholarship programs available through the military, which the recruiters can further explain. I have a sign-up sheet in my office for people who would like to talk to recruiters. You may sign up to talk to a particular branch, talk to all the branches, or take your name **off** the Military contact list for our high school.

The LEARN representative has started her visits to SHS. This is the person, who will assist you with filling out your college applications, scholarships, and financial aid. This is a free service, and appointments can be made to meet with her individually. **NEVER pay for financial aid or scholarship information or assistance.** Everyone needs to see our LEARN rep!

All seniors will take the ASVAB. This is a career exploration test administered by the armed services. It does NOT enlist you into the military. It does give you an opportunity to assess your skills and explore possible career options. People pay hundreds of dollars for similar tests. Please do your best and get accurate, personalized information.

Littlefield High School has a career center web page. It is on the Smyer ISD webpage>Counselor's Corner>Career Center. You can find this at: www.johodnett44.wixsite.com/website This has resources on military, college, college admission, financial aid, references, and job searches, and interest inventories. This site can help you **explore different careers and job possibilities** based on salary, location, growing need, and many more criteria. Check it out!

I know this is a lot of information, but it is very important that you read, understand, and do the things in this newsletter. Please come see me if you do not understand. Going to college is a confusing process and I want you to ask for help if you need it! Parents are more than welcome to call or come see me at any time as well. I send home newsletters about every 6 weeks. I hope you have a wonderful senior year. Good luck Class of 2022!

Jo Hodnett – SHS Counselor

It is the policy of Smyer ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in the career and technical education program, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.