

West Laurens High School

Senior Guidance Newsletter

January 2017

- **GAFUTURES**

Please visit www.gafutures.org. You should already have an account that transferred from gacollege411.org. If you do not, set up an account as soon as possible. If you have forgotten your password, stop by the counselors' office and we can re-set it for you. This site has important information for seniors. It includes free SAT/ACT preps, information about college/scholarship opportunities, and much more.

- **College Admissions Tests**

Many colleges/universities require you to take an admission test. Be sure to check the college website on the internet for specific admission requirements and deadlines. Seniors who need to take the SAT/ACT should take it before January. You can register online for the SAT/ACT. The site to register for the SAT is www.collegeboard.com. The site to register for the ACT is www.actstudent.org. Both sites have free practice tests. You can also find free practice tests at www.gafutures.org. **Our school code is 110535.** You will need this code to register for the test.

- **SAT/ACT Waivers**

There is a fee waiver service that assists students for whom payment of fees might be a barrier to college entrance. Students may receive fee waivers for two administrations of the SAT or ACT. Only juniors and seniors are eligible to receive fee waivers. The students wishing to receive a fee waiver must meet eligibility for free/reduced lunch. These waivers are available in the counselors' office.

- **Waiver of College Application Fees**

Students who receive a fee waiver for the SAT and plan to enter college in the fall are eligible to receive a Request for "Waiver of College Application Fee Forms". According to the college, you **may not** have to pay the college application fee. These waivers are available in the counselors' office.

- **College and Technical College Applications**

In general, seniors should submit all college applications by DECEMBER. This should be done online at the college website. Consult the website for specific application deadlines and admission requirements. Some colleges may require that information be submitted earlier than December. An official transcript must be sent to the college after you have submitted the application. Please notify me when you have submitted applications and would like for me to send the transcript. REMEMBER, I will also send an official final transcript once you graduate. A college may accept you when you apply. However, colleges do have the right to deny admission to you if your grades drop and your final transcript information does not meet their admission requirements.

- **HOPE Scholarship**

You must go online to apply for the HOPE scholarship. In order to receive HOPE, YOU MUST APPLY! You should complete the GSFAPPS on www.gafutures.org You will also need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) later. The FAFSA will be available for completion after January 2013. Please be aware of your HOPE GPA. It is very important that you work to make the very best grades possible. Georgia Student Finance Commission calculates all HOPE averages. HOPE averages do not round! Academic classes only count in you HOPE GPA. The rules concerning HOPE have recently changed and to make sure you are aware of the most up-to-date rules and regulations – please log on to www.gafutures.org

- **Scholarship Information**

You are encouraged to apply for scholarships. Do not assume that someone else will apply that has a higher GPA, etc. That is not always the case and you may be awarded the scholarship! Most scholarship committees look at your GPA, community service, and school involvement. It is never too late to participate in community and school activities. You will receive a newsletter from each month informing you of what scholarships are available. There is a lot of money available to students so take the time to apply. It is also a good idea to research the college of your choice and look for scholarships offered through the college. **Scholarship money goes fast and deadlines get earlier each year!**

- ****** IMPORTANT – If you are awarded a scholarship at any time during your senior year, please bring a copy of the award letter to me. If you do not bring a copy to me, I can't recognize you at Honor's Night or Graduation!**
- **Letters of Recommendation**
Many of you will need letters of recommendations to send with college and scholarship applications. Please remember that it is important to maintain a positive attitude, be cooperative and dependable, and have good work habits. These are important when making a recommendation. You must give teachers prior notice (One month is appreciated!) before requesting a letter of recommendation.
- **Resumes/Senior Brag Sheet**
Each of you should start working on a personal resume/senior brag sheet if you do not have one. This will be used for scholarship and college applications. A resume should contain personal information, academic information, activities, honors and awards, and work experience (including volunteer work).

Scholarship Information:

- **National Beta will award over \$300,000 in scholarships with awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 to outstanding 12th grade Beta members. Application open: November 1, 2016; Application deadline: January 26, 2017. A step-by-step guide to applying for National Beta Scholarships can be found at betaclub.org/scholarship.**
- **YDI Scholarship - January 29, 2017 (1 Award - \$1,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_ydi_scholarship_9015.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- **Conquer Your Resolution Scholarship - January 30, 2017 (1 Award - \$1,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_conquer_your_resolution_scholarship_9056.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium

[=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d](mailto:7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d)

- The Georgia Mining Foundation announces their 2017 Greg Bowles Four-Year Scholarship. This scholarship will be used to “nurture a student into the mining industry” by enhancing the student’s educational not only with financial assistance, but also with direct contact with the Georgia Mining Association and it’s members throughout the student’s entire education. This scholarship will pay \$1,000 per year for four years. The student must be accepted and planning to attend either the [Georgia Institute of Technology](#), [Mercer University](#) or [Kennesaw State University](#). Applications are available in the counselors’ office. Deadline to apply is January 31, 2017.
- The 2017 Bobby Dodd Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Community Service is to assist a physically challenged Georgia high school senior who has an outstanding community service. Applications are available in the guidance office. The first place scholarship will be awarded \$1200 and the first runner up will be awarded \$800. Deadline to apply is January 31.
- The 2017 Alice Dodd Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Community Service is to assist a Georgia high school senior who has an outstanding record of community service. The first place scholarship award is \$1200. The first runner-up will be awarded \$800. Applications are available in the guidance office. Deadline to apply is January 31.
- AWM Scholarships - January 31, 2017 (3 Awards - \$500)
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_awm_scholarships_9054.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- SP Scholarship - January 31, 2017 (10 Awards - \$10,000)
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_sp_scholarships_8953.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- Shred Hate Scholarship - January 31, 2017 (1 Award - \$1,000)
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_shred_hate_scholarship_9060.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d

- **VIP Scholarship - January 31, 2017 (1 Award - \$5,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_vip_scholarship_9000.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- **The American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Middle Georgia Chapter has two scholarships available for seniors who plan to pursue a degree in the financial management field. Applications are available in the counselors' office. Deadline to apply is February 1, 2017.**
- **John and Muriel Landis Scholarships - February 1, 2017 (9 Awards - \$1,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_john_and_muriel_landis_scholarships_9058.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- **1890 Scholars Program - February 1, 2017 (17 Awards - \$5,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_1890_scholars_program_9055.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- **Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards - February 3, 2017 (250 Award - \$4,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_elks_national_foundation_legacy_awards_8964.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d
- **Georgia EMC Walter Harrison 2017 Scholarship Application is available in the guidance office. The recipient's primary residence must be the household of an EMC member or EMC employee.**
- **We the Student Scholarship - February 5, 2017 (15 Awards - \$5,000)**
http://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarship_we_the_students_scholarship_contest_9059.php?&utm_source=newsletter01&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=201701&utm_content=7ee95b838f8cf06d691117b8bc531c4d

- The Georgia Mining Association is offering several \$500 scholarships, and (3) \$1,000 scholarships. The applications are available in the counselors' office. Deadline to apply is February 24, 2017.
- The Georgia Mining Association is offering several \$350 scholarships to students that will be attending **technical colleges** in Georgia. Applications are available in the counselors' office. Deadline to apply is February 24, 2017.
- WACE announces the 15th annual national co-op scholarship program. This scholarship awards 175 merit scholarships, totaling \$4.5 million. Students must have a cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. The students may visit www.wacein.org to view the scholarship information.
- Robins Financial Credit Union is pleased to announce the MEST Scholarship. This is to assist qualified members with the cost of attending school. There will be five individuals that are awarded a four-year \$4,000 scholarship. Students will receive \$500 per semester. Scholarships will be awarded to the graduating seniors who have been accepted to a college, university or vocational school in 2017. A student must have an account at Robins Financial Credit Union to apply. Applications are available in the counselors' office and you can find them at www.robinsofcu.org

- **“B. Davis Scholarship”**

The creators of the “*Student Award Search Aid*” website are offering a scholarship for 2017.

Please visit our website at <http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm> to read about us and to apply for our scholarship. While you're there, please browse through the rest of the site to learn more about applying for scholarships.

Our website was developed solely for the purpose of helping students locate and apply for scholarships. We are trying to improve the students' chances for success. The site is free and we charge nothing for the information or the application.

The deadline for applications is May 22, 2017

Amount of Scholarship: \$1,000

- Thomas, Webb & Willis, LLC is pleased to offer their “Academic Achiever Scholarship”. This scholarship is reserved for high school students nationwide and also current college students that plan on or are currently attending a 4-year college or university and also has a minimum 3.75 GPA and above.
 - Funds will be sent directly to the college/university of the winning applicant
 - Scholarship is a one-time award worth \$1,000
 - Scholarship deadline is May 31, 2017

Our online application is located here: <http://www.absolutely-not-guilty.com/#academic-achiever-scholarship>. You can also find our eligibility requirements and other pertinent information.

- The Sessions Law Firm is pleased to offer their High School Senior Scholarship for seniors in the state of Georgia. This one-time scholarship award that's worth \$500 is available to all full-time high school seniors in Georgia who plan on attending a 2 or 4 year college. The minimum GPA required is 3.0 and the due date for this scholarship is May 31, 2017.

The link to this scholarship is located here:
<http://thesessionslawfirm.com/macon-car-accident-lawyer/#scholarship-application>

- **Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants** are pleased to be able to continue with our scholarship program for the 10th year. We will be awarding up to \$1,000 to the winner(s) each year. Scholarship Deadline - June 12, 2017.
 Application Process
 Students will submit an essay on the topic that appears on the scholarship page of our web site:
<http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm>
 Full details are available on our site.

- The Nursing Schools Almanac has just launched its third annual Aspiring Nurse Scholarship. This will be a \$1000 scholarship to an aspiring nurse who best demonstrates: academic excellence, particularly in science and mathematics and a passion for the nursing profession and the overall field of healthcare. This scholarship is open to all high school seniors who plan to pursue

college in nursing including LPN and BSN programs. Scholarship applications will be accepted until June 30, 2017. Interested students may visit www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com and click the banner on the right-hand side of the website's homepage. This is where you will find detailed scholarship information and the official application form.

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- **The Law Office of K. Hunter Goff in Orlando, Florida is offering the K. Hunter Goff Bankruptcy/Consumer Rights Scholarship. The applicant must be attending college by Fall of 2017 and have at least a 3.0 GPA and be interested in pursuing a law-related degree. The application is available on-line: <http://khgpa.com/#scholarship-application> The deadline to apply is July 31, 2017.**
- **PlanforCollege.com/HowAmericaPaysforCollege. -this is a wonderful website that is full of available scholarships.**
- **Merger's Saturday Preview Days – January 28 and March 18 – This will be a day on campus, explore our academics and campus life showcase, and learn more about the admissions process and opportunities at Mercer. Schedule your visit online at visit.mercer.edu**
- **South Georgia State College announces their preview days: March 10, 2017 (Waycross campus) & March 24 (Douglas campus) Visit www.sgsc.edu/previewday.cms to RSVP.**
- **Augusta University announces their Undergraduate Preview Days: February 4, 2017 March 25, 2017 - visit augusta.edu/admissions or call 706-737-1632 for reservations.**
- **Clayton State University offers a comprehensive scholarship opportunity for outstanding students, the [Presidential Scholarship](#). In addition to the HOPE scholarship and any other financial aid, Presidential Scholars receive:**
 - **An annual university grant of \$3,000 (an approximate value of \$12,000)**

- University housing for 4 years
- A bookstore award of \$250.00

The Presidential Scholarship recognizes students who have been truly exceptional, both academically and as student leaders, during their high school career. We seek to attract students who demonstrate the potential to make exceptionally strong contributions to the student body, both in the classroom and through extracurricular life on campus. Our Presidential Scholars represent diverse intellectual, social, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. Candidates that apply for, and are awarded this renewable, merit-based scholarship will receive full tuition, student fees and housing for eight consecutive semesters. The Presidential Scholarship is the most selective scholarship award offered by Clayton State University.

For more information on Clayton State University's Presidential Scholarship, please see the attached Presidential Scholarship brochure or visit <http://www.clayton.edu/admissions/Presschol>. Please share this *amazing* opportunity with your students!

If you have additional admissions questions or need further assistance, contact us at: Phone: 678.466.4115 e-mail: csuinfo@clayton.edu

- Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College announces their upcoming Stallion Days : February 4 and April 8. Students can register for one of these days by logging into <http://www.abac.edu/future-students/visiting-campus/stallion-day>
- Andrew College – Preview Days: Saturday, November 12, January 28 & April 22 – Register online: andrewcollege.edu/visitation-days
- Andrew College will offer two full room, board and tuition scholarships to deserving students through their Pitts Scholarship Competition to be held on the Andrew College Campus, Saturday, March 18, 2017. Everyone competing that day will receive a scholarship award from the college of at least \$5000. The application form is available upon request from Mrs. Passmore.
- Please remember to look on the college websites that you are interested in to find out their Open House Dates.

