

From: Matthews, Catherine
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2009 2:51 PM
Subject: EHS Parent Update 11-12-09

Attachments: MiddleburyFinAidInfo.pdf

EHS Community:

I was speaking with a senior last week about college. This student is planning to attend college and he is an excellent applicant. He really has the whole package: good grades, challenging course history, community service, and evidence of leadership. He has had a busy fall and has not finished his applications. I don't think that he is the exception. I think there are a lot of seniors who have plans but have not started the process of making these plans a reality. It is not too late but it is getting very close. With every passing week, some options for admissions and financial aid will be gone. I really encourage parents of seniors to use the upcoming long weekend to help your student get organized and begin the process of applying. I found some wonderful advice at In Like Me: The College Admissions Resource Hub including a 17 point checklist every student should start: <http://www.inlikeme.com/apply/pedal-metal-plan-college-bound-seniors-17-steps-success.html>. Until you have looked at an application, you do not know the time and care that it takes to complete it well. I have included links to some of the more popular local universities below so that you can see the application materials and the process. Almost every university now requires an entrance essay or personal narrative. These are critical to admissions and they can be the path to scholarships and grants. It takes time to do this well.

WSU <http://futurestudents.wsu.edu/admission/default.aspx>

UW <http://admit.washington.edu/Apply/Freshman/Apply>

WWU http://admissions.wwu.edu/freshman/f_apply.html

SPU <http://www.spu.edu/depts/ugadm/applyingtospu/applynow.asp>

SU <http://www.seattleu.edu/admission/undergraduate/default.aspx?id=37112>

PLU <http://www.plu.edu/admission/first-year/>

If your student is not planning to attend a four year university, this is still the time to set a plan in motion for his or her post-secondary training. Community colleges generally have a continuous application process. However, they do have quarter deadlines and classes often fill up. It is important to apply early and meet all of the deadlines.

Apprenticeships are another option. A good place to learn about whether or not an apprenticeship is a good option for your student can be found at Apprenticeship Washington: <http://www.exploreapprenticeship.wa.gov/>. Information about apprenticeships in Washington and the process for applying can be found at <http://www.ini.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Programs/default.asp>. Our Career Center website also has information for students and parents: <http://www.everett.k12.wa.us/everetthigh/career-center/WA%20Apprenticeships>. Although there are 12, 000 people in Washington in apprenticeships, these are still very competitive programs. It pays to prepare!

If your student is not a senior, remember that it is never too early to explore these options. Students with a goal for the future and a plan to carry it out, make better choices in school. If you think that the first fourteen years went fast, the last four are supersonic!

Have a great week!
 Catherine

What you will find in this issue:

- [EHS PTA Meeting](#)
- [EHS Interact Club](#)
- [The Top Ten Things to Know About Needs-Based Financial Aid](#)
- [Congratulations to the Volleyball Team:](#)
- [InLikeMe -- The College Admission Resource Hub](#)
- [Teacher Education Advancement Program EvCC](#)

EHS PTA Meeting

Thursday, Nov 19, 7:00pm in the Library

Come and hear about the Avid and Gear Up programs! Gretchen Stiger will even teach us about Cornell Notes! Also, Stacey Zachau will do a parent needs assessment survey and we'll hear reports from the various PTA Committees. For more info, contact EHS PTA President Louise Uriu at 425-252-7327.

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EHS Interact Club

The Interact Club, a service club at EHS affiliated with Rotary, meets Wednesday after school in C305. So far this year they have raised \$341.25 for UNICEF by participating in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF and held one campus clean-up after school. Plans are in the works to sponsor a food basket for a family during the Thanksgiving Food Drive, work at Christmas House in December, gather necessities for local shelters in January (soap, shampoo, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, coats, etc...), and a larger fundraiser to raise awareness about the lack of clean water and food for one billion people in the world in the spring. Anyone is welcome to join and participate!

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The Top Ten Things to Know About Needs-Based Financial Aid

Attached is a wonderful resource from Middlebury College about Needs-Based Financial Aid for college. It is not just for Middlebury applicants!

See attachment: MiddleburyFinAidInfo.pdf

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Congratulations to the Volleyball Team:

Congratulations to the EHS Volleyball Team members and their coaches who placed 8th in the State Tournament this weekend. There is only one other time in school history that Everett volleyball ever placed. EHS placed in 1973, when we were 4A! That is 36 years ago!! This was our school's 6th appearance ever and we are very proud of this team!

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In Like Me:

InLikeMe – The College Admission Resource Hub

A Favorite of College Counselors from Boston to Boca Raton

Visit: InLikeMe.com

Top 10 Admission & Scholarship Tips

- If you are a high school freshman, sophomore or junior (or parent) ready to get a jump start on planning for college -- kudos to you. If you are a senior.... [\[Read more\]](#)

Less For More at Public Universities

- Some state universities facing budget cuts are offering fewer classes and raising tuition. The New York Times reported that ... [\[Read more\]](#)

Money to Pay for College: Top 15 List from Scholarship Road Map

- Scholarship List for November 12, 2009 [\[See Top 15 List\]](#)
 - Princeton Prize, AXA, Burger King, BU, Essay Contests, & More

17 Point Check List BEFORE You Submit Your College Application

- Many students are finalizing applications. Before you click "SUBMIT"... [\[Read more\]](#)

19 Common Mistakes in Application Essays and How to Avoid Them

- Many students trip over common obstacles in their college application essays. [\[Read more\]](#)

Early Decision Applications Skyrocket at Duke University

- Applications for the Class of 2014 ... [\[Read more\]](#)

Book Suggestions - SAT, ACT, Guidebooks, Paying For College:

- [Paying for College Without Going Broke, 2010 Edition \(College Admissions Guides\).](#)
- [Fiske Guide to Colleges 2010, 26E.](#)
- [The Official SAT Study Guide, 2nd edition.](#)
- [The Real ACT Prep Guide: The Only Official Prep Guide From The Makers Of The ACT.](#)
- [The Best 371 Colleges, 2010 Edition \(College Admissions Guides\).](#)

PSAT Kicks Off College Planning

- Juniors (and some sophomores) at high schools across the country take the PSAT exam each October. For many college bound students, it is the beginning.... [\[Read more\]](#)

Study Finds High School Guidance Counselors Are Overworked

- A recent study released by the NACAC, the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and reported in The New York Times, found that nearly half of public schools have increased the caseloads of high school guidance counselors. [\[Read more\]](#)

Pedal to the Metal Plan for College-Bound Seniors: Steps to Success...

Scholarships:

- It's never too early to start thinking about college scholarships. Check out [Scholarship Road Map](#) for a jump start.

Admission Scoop:

Check out [Admission Scoop](#) for College Admission News & Updates.

Ultimate College Bound Resource List:

- With hundreds of links, [InLikeMe's College Bound Resource List](#) is a favorite from Seattle to San Juan.

Link to InLikeMe:

- Guidance Departments throughout the USA are linking to InLikeMe. If you haven't done so already, add a book mark or link today!

College Entrance Exam Dates & Registration Deadlines:

You are reading the Official Newsletter of InLikeMe.com, a popular web destination for college-bound students, counselors and parents. Please add CollegeResources @ inlikeme.com to your contact list (white list) to ensure that your copy will make it to your inbox.

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Teacher Education Advancement Program EvCC

Diverse Teachers for Diverse Communities

You can make a difference—join the TEA Program and start your teaching career now!

EvCC Teacher Education Advancement Program is working to increase the number of teachers of color in

Teacher Education Advancement Program

Contact: Veronica Garay

Director of TEA

local K-12 schools. Our state needs more diverse teachers. The number of people of color in the Washington State and Snohomish County is rapidly increasing, especially in the school age population. The percentage of people of color ages 5-19 in Washington State grew from 19 percent in 2000 to 26 percent in 2007. Forty percent of students in schools statewide are students of color, yet only 8 percent of teachers are people of color. The low percentage of teachers of color demonstrates a tremendous need to recruit students of color into the teaching profession to meet the needs of our increasing diverse k-12 student population.

Program Goals

The TEA Program objective is to increase the number of teachers of color in local K-12 school districts. The TEA Program at Everett Community College supports lower division collegiate coursework required for transfer to Central and Western Washington Universities. The program will increase low-income and minority students access to higher education and increase the number of low income students that obtain two and four year degrees in education. This program is designed to connect with low-income minority youth living and/or attending schools in Everett, Marysville, and Monroe. We thank the Portland Teachers Program for allowing us to adopt their model.

<http://www.everettcc.edu/resources/diversity/tea/index.cfm?id=11098>

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The TEA Program is a partnership with Everett, Marysville and Monroe School Districts & Western & Central WA Universities
Application & Selection C
Program & Services
TEA Flyer
Resources



Middlebury

Top Ten Things to Understand About Need-Based Financial Aid

10. **At need-blind institutions, applying for financial aid does not impact admissions decisions.** The cost of a private college education is such that few families are able to meet the cost without some sacrifices, and frequently without some help. If you think you may need that help, you should not hesitate to apply for it. If you wait on applying for aid until you find out if you are admitted, you may be disqualifying yourself from receiving anything!
9. **The Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) is *not* what a financial aid office thinks a family has “left over” for college expenses after they have covered all of their other living costs.** Need analysis is much more a process of determining how much a family (including the non-custodial family, in cases of divorce) can afford to absorb in educational costs *over time*. That means that a financial aid office will take into consideration all accumulated assets, prior year and current income, and future borrowing capacity. How a family meets its EFC from those three sources is a matter of personal choice, but all of them will be considered.
8. **Assets, such as personal savings, home equity, and investments, are usually *not* the primary “drivers” that determine a family’s EFC.** Families that have such assets are better off than those who do not, so they have to be taken into consideration, but for most families, the greatest portion of the EFC is derived from income, not assets. Families that have saved systematically in the past are still far better off for having done so, since they are in a better position to meet the EFC from those assets than those who have to borrow to do so.
7. **Monthly debt payments are typically *not* taken into consideration by need analysis.** Every family receives allowances (based on factors such as family size, location, and age of parents and siblings) toward housing, food, transportation and other living costs. However, need analysis does not factor in the actual amount that families pay for their home mortgages, car loans, and other debts. To do otherwise would run the risk of subsidizing with financial aid the choices that some families have made that others have not, and need-based financial aid attempts to treat all families equally.
6. **Non-discretionary expenses (e.g., medical costs, siblings’ private school costs, etc.) are taken into consideration in need analysis.** Every family’s financial situation is unique, and you should feel free to share any unusual expenses that your family confronts in case they could be factored into your EFC.
5. **Support for other siblings in college counts!** Families that are supporting more than one son or daughter in college at the same time can receive a substantial reduction in their EFC as a result. That is why there are no income “cut-offs” above which families are not eligible to receive aid. The amount of the reduction may depend upon the relative cost of the institutions attended by other siblings.
4. **Familiarize yourself with the Financial Aid section of the college website.** This is where you will find information specific to that college concerning financial aid application deadlines, the documents required to complete an aid application, the aid packaging policies, the components of an aid package, policies concerning the treatment of outside scholarships, whether financial aid is available for study abroad, and types and terms of various education loans.
3. **Get to know the financial aid counselors at the colleges to which you are applying.** In the long run, openly sharing information with them about your family’s financial situation may be even more important than getting to know the Admissions Office staff. Whatever institution you are admitted to and choose to attend, the familiarity of the financial aid staff with your family’s financial situation may be your most important resource.
2. **Deadlines matter.** In order to be able to receive any financial aid for which you may be eligible, you need to apply by the deadline. Missing a deadline may result in your not receiving any aid at all.

And the #1 thing that families need to understand about need-based financial aid is:

1. **The primary goal of any financial aid office is to arrive at an EFC that makes it possible for any admitted student to attend that institution, and to do so in a way that is fair to all of the other families applying for financial aid.** This is a goal that all need-based colleges strive to achieve. The more information you can share with the financial aid office about your family’s financial situation, the more able they will be to meet that goal.