Grade 12: “A Year of Decision” Preparation Package

Purpose:
Decisions regarding post-secondary activities must be made NOW. Every delay or mistake made during this fall could result in at least a one year delay before going to a post secondary institution.

Dates:
You have been given a calendar with University and College visits to St. Joan of Arc. You can sign up for these visits in the Guidance Office. It is a good idea to have a binder to keep all of your information, especially the material that you receive from OCAS (Ontario College Application Service), OUAC (Ontario University Application Center), Colleges and Universities.

- Final date for submission of University applications: January 11, 2012
- Final date for submission of College applications: February 1, 2012

Applications are done online, so please come to your Guidance Application Appointment with a credit card as your application will not be processed until the fee is paid.
The Application Appointment is the time to apply, all your research should be done prior to this appointment.

NOTE: We will be assisting you with your applications and checking for accuracy, but the responsibility for correctly providing the application centers with your information is YOURS AND YOURS ALONE!!

University and College Application Process:
Applications will be submitted on line. Mrs. Gordon submits all grade and personal information electronically when requested by OCAS and OUAC. It is your responsibility to ensure that all information submitted to these centers is accurate so please check sites regularly. Grades are submitted at the time of your application, semester one final marks, mid term marks in second semester and at the end of the school year. Early acceptance will be based upon the completion of some Grade 12 courses and the anticipated grade for 2nd semester final grades. If your marks drop, acceptance offers may be withdrawn.

NOTE: As University and Colleges will communicate via email, it is important to establish a professional email ie: no hotty@hotmail.com.

Post Secondary Requirements:

College:
Colleges look at all of your grades and in some cases ask for specific courses. You may need to complete an entrance exam (general knowledge + some Math and English), and for specific areas a portfolio/interview/audition will be required (i.e. drama and fine arts). If you are interested in doing some research about college programs and the prerequisites you need, go to: www.ontariocolleges.ca.

University:
You must complete 6 Grade 12 University and/or University/College courses. In Math, Science and English these will be U level courses; humanities, technical areas (i.e.
comm. tech, fine arts etc.), the Universities accept **M level** courses in combination with **U level** courses.

Examples:
- B.A. History: ENG4U + 5 others U and/or M level
- BSC Science: ENG4U, MCV4U, SBI4U, SCH4U, MHF4U + one other U and/or M level course

All grades are sent (i.e. **full disclosure**). You have until 5 days after the first reporting period to remove a course from your transcript. After that time the course code is recorded on the transcript and with a withdrawal notation and the mark you had at the time you dropped the course. Universities will know if you have dropped a course and may lower your overall percentage grade for repeat courses. If you are interested in doing some research about university programs and the prerequisites you need, go to www.einfo.ca.

**Apprenticeship:**
The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program can be explored through co-operative education in Grade 12. Apprenticeships can also be arranged once students have graduated from Grade 12. To explore apprenticeships go to: www.apprenticesearch.com and/or www.oyap.ca

**Not Going to University/College?**
See Guidance for special sessions with Job Connect or Apprenticeship Programs.

**OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program):**
We will be holding a session later in the year and we will bring in an OSAP/Financial Expert to assist you with your financial planning for University/College.

**Scholarships and Bursaries:**
All post-secondary institutions offer scholarships and bursaries to incoming students based on grades and financial need (residence is determined this way as well). The higher your grade the more money you may receive. Websites of the schools you have applied to have a financial aid and scholarship area for you to explore. Apply for any scholarships that you qualify for. You cannot apply for bursaries until you have accepted an offer of admission.

**Scholarships that come into the Guidance Office are:**
1) put into a binder and put on display
2) read over announcements
3) emailed to students who have provided their email to Ms. Timpano in Guidance

We receive scholarships beginning in September all the way through to June. Apply for everything. Websites to check out: www.scholarshipscanada.com and www.studentawards.com

**Community Service Hours:**
Many students have yet to complete their community service hours. You require 40 hours to graduate. **YOU NEED TO DO THIS NOW!**