

CAPER NOTES

This newsletter will be available every month online at www.lcmrschools.com. It will contain information about scholarships as well as other information important to seniors and their parents. Most of the local scholarships will be offered after the first of the year. It is the student's responsibility to obtain a copy of the application and to return it completed to the guidance office.

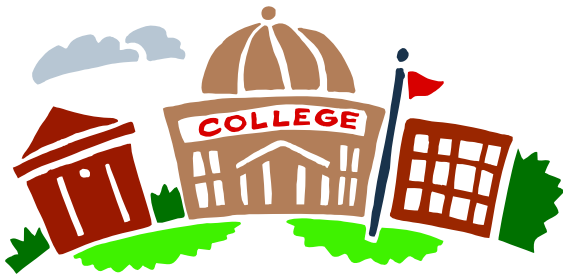
As always students and parents are invited to visit with the Guidance Counselors:

Senior assignment as follows:

Ms. White	All Freshmen
Mr. Courtney	A - E
Ms. Markovitz	F - K
Ms. Nelson	L - Pr
Ms. Novitskie	Pro - Z

~NEW RESOURCE~

Naviance is a new career and college search tool available to all students. Take career surveys, research occupations, perform college searches, and look up scholarships from your personalized *Naviance Family Connection* account. Naviance is also used to send electronic documents to colleges like transcripts and letters of recommendation. For more information on how to register, contact your Guidance Counselor.



ACCC JUMPSTART PROGRAM

ACCC JUMPSTART IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO APPLY TO ACCC, TAKE THE PLACEMENT TEST, AND ENROLL IN CLASSES ALL AT LCMR. STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE AN APPLICATION AND SIGN UP FOR THE PROGRAM IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE. THE FIRST JUMPSTART SESSION WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2011.

IMPORTANT

WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR THE SAT/ACT, YOU MUST LIST OUR HIGH SCHOOL CODE OR SCORES WILL NOT BE SENT TO LCMRHS AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BE LISTED ON YOUR TRANSCRIPT.

LCMR HIGH SCHOOL CODE: 310210

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

Seniors who plan to attend a four-year college and have not taken a college admissions test need to do so very soon. Those who have tested may choose to retake either test in order to try for a higher score. The registration packets for the SAT I, SAT II Subject, and ACT tests are now available in the Guidance Office or you can register online at www.collegeboard.com/sat or www.act.org. You may check the college catalogs or talk with your counselor if you are unsure which test(s) to take. The high school code number for Lower Cape May Regional High School is **310210**. Students planning to attend a community college will not need to take the SAT or the ACT.

The testing schedule for the 2011 - 12 school year is listed below.

SAT I & SAT II SUBJECT TESTS

Test Date	Registration Deadline
December 3, 2011	November 8, 2011
January 8, 2012*	December 30, 2011

March 10, 2012
May 5, 2012
June 2, 2012*

February 10, 2012
April 6, 2012
May 8, 2012

*test given at LCMRHS

The cost of the SAT I is \$49.00; the SAT II Subject Tests range varies depending on the test. Late registration dates are available for an additional \$26.00.

ACT

Test Date	Registration Deadline
December 10, 2011*	November 4, 2011
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012

*test given at LCMRHS

The cost of the ACT without the writing component is \$34.00 and with the writing component is \$49.50. Please check the registration packet for test site locations.



ASVAB TESTING

There are opportunities available to young men and women who can qualify for today's ARMED FORCES. Each branch of the military offers programs of training and technical schooling as well as an excellent college scholarship program. Any senior interested in taking the vocational test for the Armed Services needs to sign up for the test in the Guidance Office. The test is free and will be administered at LCMRHS on **April 24th.**

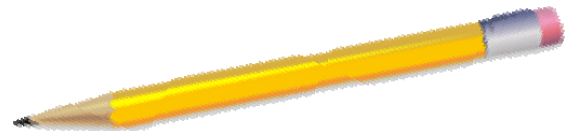
ADMISSIONS: EARLY DECISION OPTION

If you are considering early decision for admission, check immediately with your college of choice for their specific requirements. These deadlines are rapidly approaching and you must plan now if this option is important to you.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Now is when you should be in contact with colleges, securing their applications, filling out their applications, and submitting the different kinds of paperwork required. All colleges have deadlines, some in the fall and others early in the new year. Check your catalogs and don't be caught by a passed deadline. **It is your responsibility to determine where you want to apply and what the specific requirements are.** Information is available in the Counselors' Office to assist you.

Note: It is important that you give teachers and/or counselors 2-3 weeks notice if you want them to write a letter of recommendation. Please plan ahead so you won't miss any deadlines.



COMMON APPLICATION

The Common College Application is available through the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Students need only to complete this application once when applying to any of the participating independent colleges and universities who utilize this form. The list of schools using the common application is available in the Guidance Office.

***** We now have a partnership with Common App and Naviance that allows us to send out transcripts and letters of recommendation electronically. If you are applying to a Common App school, please let your Guidance Counselor know.**

ATTENTION SENIOR BOYS

You need to register with Selective Service. It is not the Army, it's not the draft, no one's going to your house-it's just one of the things a man's gotta do. If you are 18, you have to register within 30 days of your 18th birthday. It's the law! If you are 17, you can submit registration information and when you're 18, you'll be registered automatically. Registering keeps you eligible for Federal college loans, grants, and student aid in most states. You can register on-line at **www.sss.gov**, you can fill out a registration card at any U.S. Post Office or you can send back the registration card you may have received in the mail. If you have any questions, check with your Guidance Counselor.

WHAT DO THEY LOOK AT?

Admissions officers consider these factors in roughly the following order of importance:

1. Grade Point Average/Difficulty in Curriculum
2. SAT I & SAT II scores
3. Class Rank
4. Application essays
5. Extracurricular activities
6. Recommendations
7. Interviews
8. Intangibles

Of course, every college is different. The larger the school, the less time it has to spend with your application (sometimes less than five minutes). Big state schools rarely reach number three on this list. Small schools may look past weak grades or test scores if they see something special about you.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

As scholarship information is received in the Counselors' Office, it will be publicized through the "Caper Notes" and/or announcements. It is important to pay close attention to information on eligibility criteria, deadlines, etc. If you are interested in any of these scholarships, please contact the Counselors' Office for applications and/or additional information.

IT IS THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. READ THIS NEWSLETTER
2. OBTAIN THE APPLICATION
3. FILL OUT THE APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY
4. ATTACH ANY REQUESTED DOCUMENTS OR REQUEST IN WRITING THAT THE DOCUMENTATION BE ATTACHED BY THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
5. RETURN THE APPLICATION TO GUIDANCE PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE SET BY THE GUIDANCE OFFICE.

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Jersey Youth Soccer Paul and Donna Hausser Scholarship: New Jersey Youth Soccer will award two \$1000 scholarships to students who intend to go to college and pursue a career in education and have played

for an affiliated NJ Youth Soccer club. Deadline is **December 14, 2011.**

New Jersey Youth Soccer Jeannie Willis Scholarship: New Jersey Youth Soccer will award two scholarships to students who intend on going to college or an accredited technical school and have played in the NJ Youth Soccer Cup program for two seasons. Deadline is **December 14, 2011.**

New Jersey Youth Soccer Brett Fenster Scholarship: \$1000 awarded to a high school senior who intends to go to a college or an accredited technical school and have played for an affiliated New Jersey Youth Soccer club. Deadline is **December 14, 2011.**

Richard C. Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship: \$2500 awarded to a senior with a GPA of at least a 2.0 and plans to attend a trade or vocational school after graduation. Deadline is **December 19, 2011.**

DAR Betty Bradbury Vail Scholarship: \$2000 awarded to a student who will be attending college or university in the United States and major in Political Science, History, Government, or Economics. Student must return FOUR copies of the application complete with attachments. Deadline is **January 3, 2012.**

Mensa Foundation Scholarship Competition: Applicants complete an essay that describes his or her career, vocational, or academic goals. Scholarship amounts vary. Deadline is **January 9, 2012.**

Burger King Scholars Program: Awarded to graduating students with a GPA of at least a 2.5 who plans to enroll full-time, without interruption, for the entire 2012-13 academic year at an accredited two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school. Apply online at www.haveyourwayfoundation.org/bksp_scholarship_eligibility.html. Deadline is **January 10, 2012.**

Ronald McDonald House Charities Asia Scholarship Program: Awarded to college bound seniors with at least one parent of Asian-Pacific heritage and a GPA of at least a 2.7. Deadline is **January 20, 2012.**

Ronald McDonald House Charities HACER Scholarship: Awarded to college bound seniors who have at least one parent of Hispanic/Latino heritage and a GPA of at least a 2.7. Deadline is **January 20, 2012.**

Ronald McDonald House Charities Scholars: Awarded to college bound seniors with a GPA of at least a 2.7. Deadline is **January 20, 2012.**

Ronald McDonald House Charities Future Achievers: Awarded to college bound seniors who have at least one parent of African American or Black Carib-

bean heritage and have a GPA of at least a 2.7. Deadline is **January 20, 2012**.

The Kingdom of Lucerne Award: \$500 awarded to a senior that has received an A or B in history, English, math, and science throughout high school. Student must present a letter of acceptance at a college or university. Deadline is **February 23, 2012**.

American Legion Auxiliary Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship: Awarded to seniors who are daughters, stepdaughters, sons, stepsons, grandsons, granddaughters, great grandsons, great granddaughters, etc. of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion. 50 hours of Community Service and essay required. Deadline is **February 23, 2012**.

Fred Baker Memorial Scholarship: Awarded to a student pursuing a career in Law Enforcement of the Fire/Rescue Field. Deadline is **March 22, 2012**.

LCMREA John R. Maxwell Scholarship: \$500 awarded to a male and female student who will be majoring in education at an accredited college. Involvement in extracurricular activities and/or community involvement is required. Deadline is **March 27, 2012**.

Lower Cape May Regional Education Association Scholarship: This award goes to a student with a parent or guardian who is an LCMREA member and will be attending a two or four year college in the fall. Student must have a GPA of at least a 3.0 and show some type of school activity or community involvement. Deadline is **April 2, 2012**.

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of NJ 2012 Grant: Dorothy Kellerman: Awarded to a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of a Veteran who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion. Award is based on character, Americanism, leadership, scholarship, and basis of need. Essay required. Deadline is **April 2, 2012**.

American Legion Auxiliary Past President's Parley 2012 Nursing Grant: Awarded to a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of a veteran who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion who is entering in the field of nursing or related vocation. Essay required. Deadline is **April 2, 2012**.

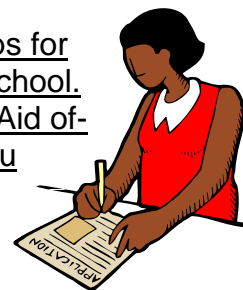
American Legion Auxiliary Clair Oliphant 2012 Grant: \$1800 awarded to a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of a veteran who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion. Awarded based on character, Americanism, leadership, scholarship, and based on need. Essay

required. Deadline is **April 2, 2012**.

Christopher J. Loftus Memorial Scholarship: A \$1000 scholarship awarded to a student who has been personally affected by violence. A one page essay is required detailing what you have done to turn your life around and what you have done to help turn those experiences into positive actions. Deadline is **April 3, 2012**.

The Morgan Hand II Scholarship for Rutgers University: Awarded to a student who will be attending Rutgers in the fall. Preference is given to those students majoring in engineering, but any student may apply. Must have a GPA of 2.5 or better, demonstrate qualities of character, leadership, and ability, and require financial assistance. Deadline is **April 3, 2012**.

Most universities offer scholarships for students planning to attend that school. You should contact the Financial Aid office at each of the schools that you are interested in attending.



College Application Reminders

1. Register and take the SAT or ACT as quickly as possible, if needed. **NOW!**
2. After investigation, narrow your college list to a manageable number. **NOW!**
3. Write, call, fax, or go on-line with each college to request information and applications for admissions, scholarships, financial aid, housing, etc. **NOW!**
4. Complete and submit application for admissions well in advance of deadlines. Do the same for housing, scholarships, and financial aid. **SOON!**
5. Attend the **Financial Aid Meeting on January 11, 2012** at LCMRHS. The **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** will be distributed at the meeting and will be available in the Guidance Office following the meeting. This form is to be mailed on or after January 1, 2012. (Note: some private schools use the CSS Profile application also. Follow your school's instructions)

Remember: The best source of information about a particular college is their own catalog. Also, the best source of financial aid information is the Financial Aid office of the college to which you are applying.

Tips for a Killer Essay

With more colleges asking unique essay questions, the student's job of writing an interesting essay has become more challenging and more time consuming. Those students applying to multiple colleges are no longer able to simply rehash the standard question for each school. Here are seven tips to guide you through the evolving world of the college essay.

1. Treat the essay seriously, but be creative and original.
2. Allow yourself at least a month to think about, write, review, and revise your essay.
3. Outline your ideas first so you know where you're going.
4. Make sure you answer the question completely, providing specific examples to back up your points.
5. Use your own voice, and don't just respond with what you think a college would like to hear.
6. Get a second opinion on your first draft from a friend, family member, or teacher.
7. Proofread carefully, and submit a neatly typed version.

Test Strategy

•**Get Familiar**: Learn the content and format of the test

•**Practice, practice, practice!!**

•**Get your rest**: Get plenty of sleep the night before the test, and leave yourself enough time to get to the test site. Arrive at least 30 minutes before the exam and bring necessary materials to the test site: admission ticket, photo identification, several pre-sharpened pencils with good erasers, and a calculator.

•**During the test remember to:**

- Read the directions and questions carefully
- Pace yourself
- Answer easy questions first
- Use logical reasoning and process of elimination for tougher questions
- Review your work
- Be precise in marking your answer document
- Erase wrong answers completely

•**The most important advice:**

Stay cool, calm, and collected.

Don't let the test stress you out!

www.kaplanpracticetest.com

www.review.com

www.number2.com

www.collegeboard.com>satprep

www.act.org/aap/index.html

SAT vs. ACT

The road to college can be a confusing and hectic one. Choosing the right admissions test to take—SAT or ACT—doesn't have to be. While most colleges across the country accept scores from either test, the SAT and ACT are significantly different, measuring different skills. Check with your guidance counselor and preferred colleges, then use the information below to decide which test is right for you.

SAT

- No science section
- No trigonometry section
- Vocabulary emphasized
- Non multiple-choice questions included
- Guess penalty
- No English grammar
- Math accounts for 50% of your score
- Questions go from easy to hard in most sections
- All of your SAT scores reported to colleges

ACT

- Science reasoning section
- Math sections include trigonometry
- Vocabulary less important
- Entirely multiple choice
- No guessing penalty
- English grammar tested
- Math accounts for 25% of your score
- Easy and hard questions mixed within sections
- Report scores only from the test dates you choose

BACKYARD SCHOLARSHIPS AND HOW TO FIND THEM

By Gen & Kelly Tanabe authors of *Get Into Any College: Secrets Of Harvard Students*, *Get Free Cash For College: Scholarship Secrets of Harvard Students*, and founders of www.SuperCollege.com where you'll find more tips, secrets, and strategies. Copyright 2000.

Each year there are large scholarships awarded by nationally recognized companies such as Coca-Cola, Tylenol, and USA Today. While you should definitely apply to these awards, keep in mind that competition is stiff and of the thousands who enter, only a few will win. While applying these national jackpots you should not overlook one of the best sources of scholarships—your own backyard.

Think about all of groups, clubs, businesses, churches and organizations in your community. Each of these is a potential source for scholarships. Plus, because of their limited marketing budgets, many are not widely publicized. That means fewer applicants and higher odds of winning.

There are probably some great local scholarships that are just waiting to be discovered. Here's how to find them:

School Activities. One fringe benefit of participating in activities might be a scholarship sponsored by the organization. Inquire with the officers or advisors of the organization about scholarship funds. Bands, newspapers, academic clubs, athletic organizations, and service organizations often have scholarships that are awarded to outstanding members.

Community Organizations. Don't limit yourself to only organizations that you belong to. Community groups will often sponsor scholarships that are open to all students who live in the community. For example, local Rotary and Lions clubs often offer scholarships for outstanding students in the community whether or not their parents are members. They view scholarship programs as a way of serving their community. Open a phone book and call the five largest organizations in your area. Chances are that at least one will offer a scholarship.

Employers. Many businesses that employ young people offer scholarships as a way to reward students like you who both study and work. Ask your manager if your employer has a scholarship fund and how you can apply.

Parent's Employer. Companies often award scholarships to the children of their employees as a benefit for their employment. Your parents should speak with someone in their Human Resources department about scholarships and other educational programs offered by their company.

Parent's Union. Some unions sponsor scholarships for the children of their members. Your parents should speak with the union officers about scholarships and other educational programs sponsored by the union.

Parent's Organizations. Are your parents involved in civic or other local organizations? These organizations may offer scholarships for members. Ask your parents to find out.

Church Or Religious Organizations. Religious organizations may provide scholarships for members. If you or your parents are members of a religious organization, check with the leaders to see if a scholarship is offered.

Local Government. Some cities and counties provide scholarships specifically designated for local students. Often, local city council members and state representatives have a scholarship fund. Even if you didn't vote for them, call their offices and ask if they offer a scholarship.

Local Businesses. Local business owners who want to see students in their community succeed often set up scholarship funds as a way to thank their customers and customers' children. Contact your local chamber of commerce to see if there are local businesses that offer scholarships for student in the community.

Internet. One of the benefits of online scholarship directories is that they can be updated at any time. Thus, if you search an online scholarship directory you can find up-to-date information on new scholarships.

Local scholarships are truly the hidden backyard gems of financial aid. Students often find the greatest success with smaller, local scholarships. You'd be surprised how quickly the awards add up.