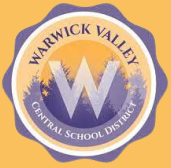
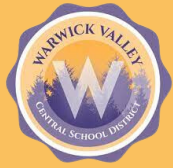


WARWICK VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



WVHS SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWSLETTER



Quarter 2: November - January

QUARTER OF THE WAY THROUGH!

We are now one quarter into the school year! Hopefully all of your students are off to a strong start. Report cards will be posted to the portal on **November 20th**. Contact your student's counselor with any questions. If you are having any parent portal issues please email parentportal@wvcsd.org.

Happy Holidays to all of our families!

Tips for Students Who Are Struggling

- Go in during unit lunch/ after school with your teacher for extra help
- Make sure you are completing all homework and studying for exams/ quizzes at home
- Go to after school NHS/ Mu Alpha Theta Peer Tutoring (Every Thursday after school from 2:40pm-3:30pm)
- Get 1 on 1 tutoring from an NHS member (Tutoring Request forms are available in the Guidance Office)



AP Registration and Payment

If you are taking an AP class/classes and plan to take the exam in May, the deadline to register AND pay for the exam without penalty is November 15th at noon. After this date and time, you will be required to pay a \$40 per exam late fee.

This is a 2 step process:

- 1) Join the AP classroom for your class on the CollegeBoard website/app
- 2) Pay for the exam/exams in Total Registration

BOTH STEPS MUST BE COMPLETED TO HAVE AN EXAM ORDERED.

Please see Mrs. Sekelsky in guidance if you have questions.

FAFSA Rollout

Prepare to complete the 2025-26 FAFSA

- Students are to create their [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) account (FSA ID) and identify which parents will be required to contribute to their FAFSA application. Learn more about [who is considered a contributor](#).
- Federal Student Aid continues to share information and resources to support students and families in preparing for the 2025-26 FAFSA, including a recent revision to provide an estimation of the Student Aid Index (SAI) and federal Pell Grant eligibility calculation.
- FSA will continue to share the latest FAFSA information and updates, so be sure to visit the Federal Student Aid [YouTube](#) channel and their website, [Federal Student Aid](#), for guidance and tools.

2025-26 New York State Tuition Assistance Program Application will open December 1.

- The application will be available at ny.gov/nystap.
- Students will need to create a [HESCPIN](#) in order to access the TAP application.



SchoolLinks



This year Warwick Valley High School will be transitioning from Naviance to SchoolLinks. SchoolLinks is a comprehensive college and career readiness platform that will assist students in and through their journey from high school freshman to post high school graduate.

Beginning in December, Counselors will be working with freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to provide an overview of the program, as well as how to access and navigate all the features available as part of the counseling curriculum.

****Seniors will finish the school year using Naviance****



Upcoming Guidance Events

PSAT/ NMSQT DIGITAL SCORE REPORT WORKSHOPS

- November 21st (Unit Lunch from 11:00am-11:30am in the Media Center)

FALL ASVAB (ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY)

- November 13th (11:30am-2:30pm in computer Lab)

FALL ASVAB RESULTS PRESENTATION

- December 11th (11:30am-12:30pm in Computer Lab)

SUNY ORANGE INSTANT ADMISSION DAY

- December 10th (From 11:00am-12:30pm in the Media Center)

INTRODUCTION TO SCHOOLINKS WITH 10TH/11TH GRADERS

- Week of December 16th in ELA classes

FRESHMAN COUNSELING LESSONS CONTINUE IN SCIENCE ADVISORY CLASSES

- September 30th- January 31st

STANDARDIZED TESTING DATES (MUST REGISTER BY DEADLINES)

- SAT
 - December 7th (Out of District)---Registration Deadline 11/22
 - [REGISTER FOR THE SAT](#)
- ACT
 - December 14th (Out of District)---Registration Deadline 11/7
 - [REGISTER FOR THE ACT](#)

SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS FOR SENIORS

- End of January (Social Studies classes)

END OF MARKING PERIOD 2

- January 24th, 2025



Seniors

COLLEGE APPLICATION SEASON IS HERE!

During September and October counselors met with all seniors to discuss post high school planning.

Post high school options include:

- 4-year colleges
- 2-year colleges
- Trade schools
- Work
- Gap year

Completing applications takes a good deal of dedicated time and energy, so plan ahead!!!

The transcript request form is found in the Guidance Google Classroom Class of 2025.

Pay strict attention to deadlines and requirements and understand that counselors require a minimum of two (2) weeks to process your letters of recommendation and transcripts

Remember that you have an abundance of resources available to you, from your counselor, to Naviance, to the guidance google classroom...use your resources wisely!

**Seniors should regularly check their emails/Guidance Google Classroom for reminders, updates and community service opportunities. **

ASVAB exam November 13th for any seniors interested in the military.

The 20 community service hours needed for graduation for the class of 2025 is due by the end of the third marking period (4/30/2025). If your student does not have the required hours, please have them complete community service opportunities in the near future.

Good luck to our senior early applicants!

We wish all our seniors who applied early action or early decision the best of luck.

Decision notifications from these applications will generally arrive via email or mail mid-December. Be sure to let your counselor know the results of all of your admissions decisions!

FAFSA

Prepare to complete the 2025-26 FAFSA

Students are to create their studentaid.gov account (FSA ID) and identify which parents/guardians will be required to contribute to their FAFSA application. Learn more about who is considered a contributor. [Higher Education Services Corporation \(HESC\)](#) offers a variety of online resources to help students and families better understand the federal and state financial aid process and plan and pay for college.

SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

Counselors will be visiting senior classrooms during the end of January to walk seniors through the scholarship process and help them navigate how to apply to local scholarships.

Juniors

PSAT Results

In early fall, counselors shared information about the PSAT with the 10th and 11th grade students. The PSAT was administered on October 26th at WVHS.

The PSAT scores will be available during the middle of November for students who took the exam on 10/26. If you need help understanding your scores, please sign up to attend the workshop. Counselors will help walk students through the score report. The PSAT should provide a context for what work needs to be done in order to prepare for the SAT or ACT, as well as a base score range to use in considering potential colleges. Scores will be released on 11/14.

Please Register to attend: [2024 PSAT/NMSQT Score Report Workshop Registration](#)

College Planning

Juniors - it is never too early to get a head start on looking at colleges! College representatives visit our high school during unit lunch a few times a week. Come stop by and meet the representatives that will one day be reviewing your applications. This is a great way to get more information about schools and ask questions.

Juniors begin to look at when SAT/ACT exams will be offered in the spring. We recommend juniors take their first SAT/ACT during the spring of their junior year.

Junior year is a big year to showcase your potential in classes. Make sure to put your best foot forward for the final three quarters. If you have struggled so far this year do not forget it is a long year and your final average is not determined by one quarter.

Students with Testing Accommodations

Students with existing testing accommodations must submit an application to receive such accommodations on any standardized testing (PSAT, SAT, ACT or AP exams). Please contact your counselor to apply. Completing these forms does not guarantee that you will receive accommodations, but allows the college board and/or act to review whether you are eligible. The college board application only needs to be completed once during your high school career and the act application needs to be filled out for each test.

CollegeBoard Accommodation Application Deadlines:

January 17, 2025 for the March 8th SAT

January 24, 2025 for May AP Exams

March 14, 2025 for the May 3th SAT

April 18, 2025 for the June 7th SAT

Note: These are CollegeBoard deadlines not WVHS deadlines



Sophomores

PSAT Results

Scores will be released for any students who took the PSAT on 11/14. There will be a digital score report workshop for any students who need help accessing scores/ understanding their scores. The workshop will take place during unit lunch on November 21st from 11:00am-11:30am.

Please Register to attend: [2024 PSAT/NMSQT Score Report Workshop Registration](#)

How to Access Your Scores

- Access the BigFuture® School mobile app if you provided your mobile number on test day.

Freshmen

Counselors have been into every 9th grade Science Advisory class for their first lesson. Counselors will continue heading into these classes to work with freshman on their remaining freshman lessons.

The following topics will be covered:

- Getting to know you lesson
- Stress Management/ Mental Health
- Goal Setting
- Introduction to School Links
- 4 Year Plans/ Future Letters to Yourself



Counselor Contact Information

MARY FOX

DIRECTOR OF COUNSELING

MFOX@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: U-Z; GRADE 10: U-Z; GRADE 11: U-Z; GRADE 12: U-Z (PLUS ALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS)

845-987-3050, EXT. 12601,

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

COLLEEN AMIDENEAU

CAMIDENEAU@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: M-P; GRADE 10: M-PER; GRADE 11: MB-RIV; GRADE 12: MB-P

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

DANIELLE DESTASO

DDESTASO@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: Q-T; GRADE 10: PES-T; GRADE 11: RIW-T; GRADE 12: Q-T

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

NICHOLAS PONESSE

NPONESSE@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: A-COQ; GRADE 10: A-C; GRADE 11: A-CER; GRADE 12: A-C

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

JULIE SEKELSKY

JSEKELSKY@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: H-L; GRADE 10: H-L; GRADE 11: H-MA; GRADE 12: H-MA

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

SERENA SZE

SSZE@WVCSD.ORG

GRADE 9: COR-G; GRADE 10: D-G; GRADE 11: CES-G; GRADE 12: D-G

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

GUIDANCE OFFICE

845-987-3050 EXT. 12600