

STUDENT AND PARENT TIMELINE FOR Senior Year 2020 - 2021

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Your School Counselor is Mrs. Conville. Mrs. Schuster is the Guidance Secretary. 570-621-2964
- Your schedule has been completed with the classes you requested and/or the courses necessary for graduation.
- CHECK YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL DAILY for emails from Mrs. Hummel, your teachers, and Guidance.
- You should be researching majors that interest you and colleges that may offer them.
- You should be researching careers that interest you and the skills necessary to obtain those careers.
- Not sure about college or you know it's not in your plans, that is perfectly okay! Research the skills necessary to get a job and work on them this year. You'll need a good resume and be able to interview well. Visit Mrs. Conville for help with this.
- Visit www.pacareerzone.org to do a career interest inventory.
- Practice for SAT's and/or ACT's on www.khanacademy.org
- **SAT OPTIONAL** – Many schools are now SAT optional, including Penn State. This means if you have not taken SAT you can still apply to college and they will review other criteria to decide on admission. If you took an SAT you can still be SAT optional and ask them not to consider yours scores.
- Check with your college to see if they want or need you to take the SAT Subject test. You should not take these exams unless your school prefers you to.
- Visit Colleges Virtually. (Check to see if the College uses a **Common Application** - it saves time!!)
- Planning to play a **sport in college**, request your final transcript be sent to NCAA Clearinghouse. It is your responsibility to notify Guidance where to send your final transcripts.
- **Need a transcript sent out?** EMAIL Mrs. Schuster or Mrs. Conville and they will send out your OFFICIAL transcript lschuster@pottsville.k12.pa.us or mbconville@pottsville.k12.pa.us !
- BE CAREFUL OF WHAT YOU POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA!! Colleges, future employers, scholarship committees, landlords, can and do research their applicants, so be very careful of what you put out there for all to see!! (http://mashable.com/2012/09/04/students-social-media-warnings/#_15RzZ5Dn8qn , <http://www.businessinsider.com/what-you-post-can-wreck-your-life-2017-8>)
- **Join** Mrs. Conville's Class of 2021 Google Classroom for valuable information and check the Guidance website. <https://classroom.google.com/c/MTQyMDg3MjUwNTU2?cjc=rzhg44x>

August & September

- Sign up for the any of the FALL SAT Reasoning Test or SAT Subject Tests. The earlier you take them the earlier you will hear from a college that you apply to. **SIGN UP AT: www.collegeboard.org**
- See Mrs. Conville for an SAT fee waiver if you receive free or reduced lunch.
- Visit with Mrs. Conville to discuss your future plans. We can visit in person or virtually. Just send me an email and we will set something up.
- If you apply for any jobs, or do a college application that needs a reference, from Mrs. Conville OR Any Teacher OR Administrator – ASK us first!! Always provide a us with a list of your activities when asking and ALWAYS give at least 2 weeks notice!!!! You can ask in person or email us, but giving a heads up is greatly appreciated.
- Begin filling out college applications. Remember to stop by Guidance or email Mrs. Schuster @ lschuster@pottsville.k12.pa.us, to request your transcript to be sent. A transcript will not be sent if YOU do not request it.
- Transcript fee: There is a fee of \$2.00 for every transcript you send out **after 4 colleges. The first 4 are free** and scholarships are free. If you request more than 4 college transcripts to be sent, please attach the fee of \$2.00 cash, money order, or check made payable to "PASD" to the transcript request card available

in Guidance. This includes Common App, Sendedu, and Coalition. If you send out 16 applications on Common App, then you owe \$2.00 for 12 applications.

- Fill out your Senior Information Sheet and return to Mrs. Conville asap. This is the time to brag about yourself, so fill it out completely!
- Financial Aid Night will be held virtually. Parents and students are encouraged to participate. Details will be announced.
- Search the internet and PAHS Guidance websites for Scholarship applications.
- Order your Yearbook and submit your photo.

October & November

- **PHEAA Financial Aid Night Virtual Presentation** October 13th at 6:00 p.m. – packets are available in Guidance for parents/guardians planning to participate. Please have your student stop by to pick one up or call the Guidance Office to make arrangements to stop by and pick one up @ 570-621-2965.
- To attend the webinar: Click Here<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__pheaaconf.webex.com_pheaaconf_onstage_g.php-3FMTID-3Ded0737efae271a9239f6447475eb0ae56&d=DwIFAw&c=9ut6RcAKs8AF_YMM4QH5hA&r=YJC2yUcR0zr-1BOchx8S9Q&m=pMHXXks_NVRW6kJqvZa2o-NtZs7nFEnzYNNa7G0xLB4&s=-m3F3F7NLRc5kduyMWTzd4NyM6i5dNvwGsFtQeU01bs&e= >
- **FAFSA completion** program will be VIRTUAL. Monday, November 9th from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registrations details will be available after October 13th.
- FAFSA opened on October 1st, 2020 and parents/guardians/students need their 2019 taxes completed to file. Students do not need to be accepted to college to file FAFSA. They can list up to 10 different school on FAFSA before even applying to the college if they/parents/guardians wish to get this ball rolling.
- Continue to virtually visit college campuses and to explore careers and the skills needed to get the job.
- **ASVAB Testing** - **NOVEMBER 10** (periods 1 through 4) For Students interested in the Armed Services or who would like to take an interest inventory exam. All Juniors are encouraged to take this exam to help them find careers – not only military careers – that would be good for them based on their answers. Plus it's FREE! SIGN UPS WILL BE IN HOMEROOMS AND BY EMAIL FOR FULL VIRTUAL STUDENTS. Testing will be in-person, in the Auditorium for social distancing.
Practice for free: <https://asvabpracticetestonline.com/>
- **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!! PLEASE READ!!** Once you submit your application ONLINE; you WILL receive a letter or an email from the college/university stating that your transcript has not been received. This can be very *alarming*, but please understand that this is an automatic response from the colleges/universities to send this out before you even get a chance to request your transcript from Guidance. Once you request your transcript to be sent from Guidance, we send them with a card that the colleges sign and return to us acknowledging they received it. If you get a notice that your transcript has not been sent to them, please come see us, call us, or email us before getting upset. We are here to help, and 9 out of 10 times the transcript was received, and crossed paths with the auto response notice.

December

- Begin obtaining the correct financial aid forms for your college.
- Begin obtaining scholarship applications from the Guidance Office. All scholarships are also listed on the Pottsville Area School District website: www.pottsville.k12.pa.us .
- Focus on maintaining a strong GPA.

- A local scholarship packet will be available in mid DECEMBER. Pick one up, show it to your family, and start working on it. Deadlines creep up fast – DON'T miss them!!!

January & February

- Submit applications for Scholarships.
- College is not for everyone! There are fabulous jobs available but you have to be serious about joining the workforce and be dedicated to a career. **Visit Career Link.** They have job fairs weekly and can assist you in filling out applications. Check out various job search websites to see what skills are needed to apply for certain jobs. Visit Mrs. Conville for help with applications and resumes and to talk about the next step.
- Check out the Guidance website for hot off the press **Career information:**
<https://www.pottsville.k12.pa.us/Page/310>

March & April

- Evaluate acceptances and financial aid packages and make final decisions.
- Watch for College/University financial aid deadlines.
- Not planning on college? **Visit Career Link.** They have job fairs weekly and can assist you in filling out applications. Visit Mrs. Conville also for help with applications and resumes.
- 🍀 **MARCH 17TH!!!!** Local Scholarship Deadline to Guidance! (If there is a snow day they are due on the next school day – no exceptions!!!!!!!)
- Attend the Prom. APRIL 24, 2021

May & June

- Work hard and don't give up!! Finish Strong!! We are here to help, just ask your Teachers, Guidance, Principal, friends, and family for help if you need it!!
- **Complete your FINAL Senior Information Sheet** with finalized plans. This is used for scholarships and awards as well as to send out your final transcripts.
- **Request your final transcript be sent to the college or university you plan to attend** and any scholarships you are applying for. This is usually done on your FINAL SENIOR INFORMATION SHEET!!!!
- Don't forget, if you are planning to play a sport in college, request your final transcript be sent to NCAA Clearinghouse. It is your responsibility to notify Guidance where to send your final transcripts. **Final transcripts are free of charge.
- Graduation is tentatively **June 3, 2021** (*weather permitting*). Keep your grades up! The events are wonderful and a once in a lifetime opportunity! You don't want to miss out due to failing academics..
- Return your technology and books. Pay any fines, transcript fee, or lunch balances.
- Pick up your Cap and Gown.
- Pick up your yearbook.
- Write **Thank You Notes** for any and ALL scholarships or awards you receive.
- **OUTSIDE GRADUATION AWARDS** - If you receive an award at graduation from an outside company like Sol Lipton, Schuylkill Area Foundation, *you must contact them* if you have any questions or concerns. The high school promotes their applications and assists you in receiving these awards, but after that we cannot help with any other questions or concerns. Their contact information will be included with your Congratulations letter if you are chosen by them for an award.

