

Counselor's Corner

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If your child is not successfully completing or is at risk of not completing necessary credits for graduation required by Coopersville High School and the Michigan Merit Curriculum, please contact your child's teacher or school counselor about the availability of tutoring or other supplemental educational support that may be available.
Requirements for graduation may be found in the Coopersville High School Student Handbook or Course Description Booklet available online at www.coopersvillebroncos.org

Don't Let Money Be the Reason

Did you know that at Coopersville High School 42% of seniors enter 4-year colleges/universities and 41% of seniors enter 2-year colleges/trade schools?

Did you know, according to a 2007 College Board Study, *Education Pays*, earning a bachelor's degree will result in a 60% income increase over those holding only a high school diploma? Track it over a whole career and the difference between you and someone with a high school diploma is more than \$800,000.

If your student wants to go to college, don't let this economy discourage you. The information in this issue is for all parents, regardless of the age of your student. The earlier you start planning for college, the better prepared you will be to make important decisions along the way and the more choices you will have available to you.

IT'S CHEAPER!

"I'm going to start out at "CC", get my basics, and then transfer."

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SHOP WISELY! 16 credits, tuition only (not including fees, books or room and board):
Grand Valley State University = \$8,630 Grand Rapids Community College = \$2,896

*But did you know? Muskegon Community College = \$1,904 AND parking is FREE!
It is important to state that money is NOT the only thing to consider when choosing a college!
See your counselor for tips on comparing and selecting a college.*

CHOOSE WISELY! Not all credits transfer from one college to another. Work closely with the counselor at your community college to choose classes that will transfer easily to other schools. You can also see what transfers at www.MichiganTransferNetwork.org. Do your research before-hand! It'll save you time and money in the future!

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS FREE MONEY!

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Fact: More than \$168 billion in financial aid is available to students and their families. About 2/3 of all full-time undergraduate students receive grant aid. In 2009-10, estimated aid per student in the form of grants and tax benefits averaged about \$3k (2-yr college), \$5.4k (4-yr), and \$14.4k (private 4-yr). (www.collegeboard.com)

Finding "free money" is like a full time job. The more effort you put into it, the more success you will have. Top 3 tips:

1. Complete your FAFSA application as soon as possible after January 1st of your senior year. FAFSA can initially be submitted based on estimates!
2. Spend time on-line and with the CHS daily bulletin to learn about scholarships and to apply to as many as possible. Use English teachers for help on essays. Every scholarship we advertise is posted on our web site.
3. Meet with a financial aid advisor at the colleges you are considering. Finding ways to pay for college is their FULL-time job. Use them!

Coopersville High School

198 East St
Coopersville MI 49404

We're on the Web!
www.coopersvillebroncos.org

2nd Semester is around the corner!

You can now see your 2nd semester schedule on the portal. If there is a problem with your schedule, changes can be made in Student Services from Jan. 11-Feb. 5. Students should come prepared with any and all changes they need to make. Students get only one chance to meet with their counselor to make necessary changes to their schedules. Requests to be in classes with friends, to have specific teachers, or to switch lunches cannot be honored.

Scheduling for 2010-2011 school year starts in February!

JUNIORS

Did you miss the Junior Parent Meeting in October? Contact Joanne Maki to receive a copy of the handouts.

Although the meetings above are targeted at seniors, the information will be good for you to know too! Please feel free to come.

MAX the Cash

If your student is a senior and contemplating college,
make sure you attend ...

College Goal Sunday

February 12, between 2-4 p.m.

Have an expert help you fill out the FAFSA
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Talk to financial aid professionals about financial aid resources
and how to apply.

Get information regarding state-wide student services,
admission requirements, and more!

Not sure about college? Apply for the money and decide later!
If you wait, chances are you'll get less.

Go to CollegeGoalSundayUSA.org for details on what to bring

Grand Valley State University—Pew Campus
DeVos Center
401 Fulton
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6431

Baker College—Muskegon
The Library Learning Connection
1903 Marquette Ave
Muskegon, MI 49442

SENIORS

Two Important Dates!

Scholarship Search Workshop

Wednesday, December 16, 7 p.m.
Room C112 in the High School
RSVP to Angie at (616) 997-3508
or AWurm@Coopersville.k12.mi.us

Financial Aid Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 7 p.m.
CHS auditorium
No RSVP required.

FRESHMEN

Freshmen will be updating their on-line EDPs (Educational Development Plans) and will complete 4-year plans soon. Both documents are fluid, meaning students are not locked in to any final decisions, but skills learned during this experience will help them continue to make important decisions about course selection, college options, career goals, etc. Each freshman home will receive a copy of the student's EDP at the end of the semester.

Have Health class now? EDP unit starts in December at the end of this semester.

Have Health class 2nd semester? EDP unit starts at the beginning of the semester.