



## Important College/Graduation Info

I am sending out your monthly newsletter home this month because it has come to my attention that this information is not always finding its way home. For students and parents of students who are interested in going to college, there is a great deal of information on scholarships, 21st Century Scholars, and financial aid on our website. As the students should know, many college deadlines will be quickly approaching. Several of the state schools deadlines are early to mid-March, around the same time FAFSA filing is due. Attached you will find the list of important FAFSA nights in our area. This information has also been posted on the counselor page of our website. I highly encourage all seniors who are planning to attend college visit at least one of these information sessions. The presenters will be showing you how to file for FAFSA, which is mandatory for all 21st Century Scholars as well as any student needing financial aid. Also attached is information about a website which aims at helping parents determine how much aid a student can receive based on their current financial situation. Some of the presentations will cover this website.



Students,

Be mindful of your grades this last semester. You are nearing the finish line, so to speak. This is the time to push forward rather than slow down. Colleges will be needing an official "final" transcript at the end of the school year. For some of you, this may be the difference between being accepted and not so keep studying and working hard. In general, students need to be diligent in checking their grades to be certain their grades are satisfactory. There will not be an opportunity to re-take a class until after graduation and we want to avoid this at all cost. If you need your student login and password information for the STI system, please have your parents call in so we can supply them with that access.

Overall, the first semester went by very smoothly. Hopefully this trend continues into this, your final semester. For those of you concerned about credits, scholarships, grades, etc. Please see the guidance department for information.

"Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Ralph Waldo Emerson.

### Important dates:

January 24-Randolph Southern FAFSA Night

January 25-Blackford High School FAFSA workshop

January 28-Next SAT Testing Date

February 10-Deadline to sign up for March 10 SAT

February 11-Next ACT Testing Date

February 15-Students should have college transcript requests into the counseling office to allow for sufficient time to send out by college deadlines.

February 15-30-See attached form for other FAFSA workshops

Schedule a second college visit for the Spring if you are still undecided as to which college you would like to commit to.

Please turn in your senior profile sheets to the counseling office so we can place it in the hallway outside the library. As of right now we only have a handful of students who have done this. We would like to have all of them in by the night of Homecoming. If you need another copy of this, please see the guidance department.

Dollars for Scholars information will be coming soon. See our website for more information.