

# THE GUIDANCE TIMES

AN UPDATE FROM THE DIVISION AVENUE HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

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VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [WWW.LEVITTOWNSCHOOLS.COM](http://WWW.LEVITTOWNSCHOOLS.COM)

## Important Testing Dates

Upcoming  
SAT & ACT Dates

**October 6<sup>th</sup>**  
SAT I & II (DAHS in  
NOT a test center)

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**  
PSAT/NMSQT  
@ DAHS

**October 27<sup>th</sup>**  
ACT (DAHS is NOT  
a test center)

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
SAT I & II @ DAHS

**December 1<sup>st</sup>**  
SAT I & II (DAHS is  
NOT a test center)

**December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
ACT (DAHS is NOT  
a test center)

Visit [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or  
[www.act.org](http://www.act.org) for more  
information.



## WELCOME BACK DRAGONS!!!!

### GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

#### FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES

Don't forget the things you can do to make this school year a success: Write down homework and project assignments in a designated book. Complete all classwork in a timely manner. Find a quiet place to do homework and study for exams. Take good notes in class that can easily be reviewed by you before taking a test. Get involved!!!!

#### JUNIORS

Register for the October 13<sup>th</sup> PSAT and explore the SAT/ACT prep courses available through Levittown. Start researching post-high school options now. Begin visiting colleges of interest. The Naviance program is a fantastic resource with its college search engine and up-to-date data.

#### SENIORS

Good luck with your final year and the college search process. Remember, the counselors have been through this many times. Use him/her as a resource. Utilize the guidance department to your advantage. If you plan on playing a DI or DII sport in college, make sure you are registered for the NCAA Clearinghouse (information listed on p. 2) Register for the upcoming Fall SAT/ACT dates (listed in the left panel). Attend the October 11<sup>th</sup> District Financial Aid Night (7pm in the DAHS auditorium).

### TIME TO GET INVOLVED

What extracurricular activity or club have you tried lately? If the answer is none, than now is the perfect time to start. Try something new or be part of something familiar. Potential colleges and employers look for motivated students to be part of their community. Don't just sit there, be part of something great and find your club or activity to explore today. See your counselor for more information!

## FINANCIAL AID ON THE WEB!!!

Looking for more information on financial aid and scholarships?

Try some of these helpful sites:

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

## FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Info

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

### What Colleges Want

1. A challenging high school curriculum.
2. Grades that represent strong effort and an upward trend.
3. Solid scores on standardized tests (SAT, ACT).
4. Passionate involvement in a few activities.
  5. Community service.
6. Work or out of school experiences that illustrate responsibility.
  7. A well-written essay.
8. Letters of recommendation.



### NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE

Prospective student-athletes who plan to participate in intercollegiate athletics at an NCAA division I or II institution must register with the clearinghouse prior to graduation. Visit <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/> for more details.

## The Balancing Act: Choosing High School Courses for College Success

Part 1 of a 4 part series

### Building a foundation

"Choices made as a freshman and sophomore could affect choices for the rest of the student's life," says Kristin Crouse from ACT media relations.

That's because what you study now forms the foundation of your education. Doing well in Algebra 1 will help you succeed in Algebra 2 and in even more advanced math courses. Taking an honors English course as a sophomore or junior will help you do better in senior English, write better application essays, and even influence your success in that college freshman English composition class.

In addition to preparing you for college work, taking solid high school courses makes you more competitive in the college admission process.

"Admission committees primarily focus on the strength of curriculum taken and performance within that curriculum," says Donald Hapward, director of admission at South Dakota School of Mine & Technology (SD). "Grade point average and class rank and usually SAT or ACT results are considered third or fourth."



HAVE A WONDERFUL YEAR!!!!