

# Citronelle High School Class of 2020

#### Counselors

- Last Name letter A-L: Mr. Stephen Watts
  - swatts1@mcpss.com

- Last Name letters M-Z: Mrs. Heather Byrd
  - hbyrd@mcpss.com

#### Staying in Contact with Your Counselors

- Facebook is the method through which all college visits and scholarship opportunities will be communicated to students.
   Additional info may be posted to the school's website.
- Facebook: Citronelle High School Guidance and Counseling Services
- https://www.facebook.com/CitronelleHSCounselor/
- School's Website > Guidance
  - Links & Calendar

#### If You Need to See Your Counselor...

- Complete the Google Form.
- We will call you from class to our office as needed.
- bit.ly/CHSCounselor
- Transcript Request
  - 1. Complete the Google form.
  - 2. We'll call you from class.
  - 3. Sign to have your transcript released.
  - 4. We will send your transcript to the college of your choice.
  - NOTE: Allow at least TWO WEEKS (2) from the date of your request until the date that we send the transcript!



#### Senior Checklist

☐ 10 hours of Community Service ☐ FAFSA (Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov) ☐ Apply to at least 1 college ☐ Cover Letter (Templates are on www.al.kuder.com) save to KUDER portfolio ☐ **Resume** (Templates are on <u>www.al.kuder.com</u>) save to KUDER portfolio ☐ 3 Career Explorations Evidence on KUDER (<u>www.al.kuder.com</u>) save to **KUDER** portfolio ☐ Complete Pathway (3 classes within the same pathway) **■ 28 credits** for regular/Advanced or **30 credits** required for HONORS

# Required Courses

- Regular/Advanced:
  - 4 English
  - 4 Math
  - 4 Science
  - 4 Social Studies
  - 1 Career Prep/LJROTC
  - 1 Life PE
  - ½ Health
  - 3 pathway CTE
  - 6 ½ Electives

**Regular/Advanced- 28 credits** 

- **Honors:** (3.5 GPA)
  - 4 English (Hr/AP/Dual)
  - 4 Math(Hr/AP/Dual)
  - 4 Science(Hr/AP/Dual)
  - 4 Social Studies(Hr/AP/Dual)
  - 2 Foreign Language
  - 1 Career Prep/LJROTC
  - 1 Life PE
  - ½ Health
  - 3 pathway CTE
  - 6 ½ Electives

**Honors-30 credits** 

# **Applying to College**

- Narrow your choices to 5-10 colleges.
- Find out application deadlines for each college.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss application fee waivers (if applicable for the college of interest).
- Take ACT if not taken. (See counselor for waiver.)
- See counselor for college application fee waivers.
- Fill out college applications.
- See counselor to request transcripts to be sent to each college applied.
- See counselor for letters of recommendations (if applicable).
- Apply for financial aid (FAFSA).
- Plan to visit the college campus.

# **College Visits**

- Must visit on your own time.
- Must provide your own transportation.
- May be made by personal appointment or on campus-wide day.
- 2 excused visits during senior year.
- See your counselor for an excused college visit form.

# Types of Scholarships

Merit-based	Need-based
<ul> <li>Academic or merit-based scholarships are awarded to recognize outstanding academic performance, talents and leadership abilities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Need-based scholarships are awarded to those who demonstrate financial need.</li> </ul>
Academics	Athletics
<ul> <li>Scholarships awarded based on a student's intended are of study</li> <li>Most common areas of study: education, health, science, technology</li> <li>Professional organizations or companies affiliated with majors offer scholarships to entice students into their field.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Traditional athletic scholarships are very competitive</li> <li>Scholarships offered by colleges will be run by the NCAA, NAIA or NJCAA</li> <li>Scholarships also available for athletes who play not to make a career of a sport, but because they enjoy the game.</li> </ul>

#### <u>Scholarships = Paying for Your Education</u>

- Think small and look wide.
- Be patient; finding scholarships is hard work.
- Start the process early.
- Take time to understand the financial aid process and your financial aid package.
- Ask questions, and do your research.

# <u>Useful Scholarships Links</u>

- Fafsa.ed.gov
- Fastweb.com
- Scholarship.com
- CHS Guidance/School Counseling Facebook Page
- College Websites

#### GPA (Grade Point Average)

- GPA for Top 10 will be calculated after the end of 1st semester.
- Remember that colleges may ask for weighted or unweighted GPA.
  - Weighted Accounts for the extra GPA points from more rigorous courses such as AP and Dual Enrollment.
  - Unweighted Does not include any extra GPA points from advanced, more rigorous courses.
- Ultimately, GPA is only ONE piece of data that a college evaluates!
  - ACT scores, AP test scores, individual class scores, community service, athletic team membership, and extra-curricular activities matter as well.

# <u>ACT</u>

- Next Test Date: October 26
  - Registration Deadline: Was September 20 without Late Fee
- Next Test Date: December 14
  - Registration Deadline: November 8

- See counselor for a fee waiver.
  - Each student can receive 2 waivers per year for juniors and seniors—for ontime registration only.

#### **FAFSA**

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - fafsa.ed.gov
- FAFSA is available on October 1!
  - Complete FAFSA early! Do not wait!
- Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID now!
  - studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid
  - You will need this ID to complete the FAFSA.
  - It can take a couple of weeks to be issued a FSA ID, so create one now!
- Colleges recommend that ALL students complete the FAFSA.
  - Don't assume you will not qualify for financial aid.
  - Completion of the FAFSA is a requirement for many scholarships.

# Student Responsibilities

1. Be aware of deadlines – admission, scholarships, financial aid, etc. These are different for every college.

2. Submit student portion of the application at least two weeks in advance of deadlines.

3. Request to have official test scores sent.

4. Request transcripts to be sent two weeks in advance.

#### Counselor Responsibilities

#### 1. Transcripts

- Students must follow appropriate protocol for requesting transcripts.
- 2. Counselor will submit a copy of student's transcript with the counselor portion of the application (if applicable).
- 3. Counselor is available to answer questions the student may have regarding the application process. Student should sign up to see his/her counselor. Please use the QR code or link to request to see one of us.
- 4. Letters of Recommendations (Student Personal Inventory Form must be submitted via google forms)

REMEMBER: AT LEAST TWO WEEKS TO PROCESS ALL REQUESTS.

# College Visits at CHS

- Conference Room
  - Usually during advisory block on Wednesdays, but other days will be planned as well.

- When are the college reps coming?
  - Advertised on CHS Guidance/Counseling Facebook Page and Website.
  - Sign-up list near front office a few days before visit.
  - Students with eligible GPA and/or ACT score will be given a pass.

#### MCPSS College Fair

- Tuesday, October 8.
- All seniors will attend with counselors and senior sponsors.
- Busses will leave at 7:30 AM, so tardy students will be left behind.
- May have lunch off-campus, so plan to bring lunch money.

#### Seniors: Tell Us About YOU!

• bit.ly/CHSSenior2020

 Personal Inventory Form MUST be completed for your counselor to be able to write and submit a letter of recommendation to any college or university for you.

