

Fish Food for Thought

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Mavericks

Careers

Who is my counselor? This is determined by the first letter of your last name.

Mrs. Markel A-D

Mrs. Cook E-La

Mrs. Garris Le-Ra

Mrs. Ottinger Re-Z

Mrs. Watkins, Transition Counselor

Mrs. Evans, Lead Counselor



*"If you can imagine it,
You can achieve it.
If you can dream it,
You can become it."
- William Arthur Ward*

In October, counselors visited Freshman advisories to talk to students about careers. High school is an important time to explore what interests you. Where do you start? Think about what is important to you and what you want out of life, and utilize this information as a starting point for career exploration. Find out

everything you can about careers that interest you, and make sure they have a great future in the area you want to live in.

Once you graduate from high school, vocational school, or college, you will spend more than 2000 hours a year working— that's more than anything else, with the exception of sleeping! Choosing how you will spend that time is important financially, emotionally, and mentally.

Next, talk with your counselor about developing a plan. The purpose of a plan is to help you focus on your goals. But that is only one step in the process— you must make a conscious effort to work toward the goals you have set. Right now that means getting your homework turned in, studying for tests, and passing your classes, so when the time comes, you can take the electives you want to help you determine your career goals.



Dates to Remember

- October 26-School Holiday
- November 13- End of 2nd six weeks
- November 17-Academic Excellence Awards
- November 23-27- Thanksgiving Holidays
- November 30-December 4- College Week
- December 21-January 1- Winter Holidays
- January 14- End of 1st semester

Countdown to College- Part One: Finding Out Who You Are

How do you know what you like or don't like? Try new things and find out!

- Join a sports team or a club: Your advisory teacher and counselor have lists of organizations available.
- Volunteer: By graduation, you should have over 100 hours of volunteer time logged. Check with the counseling center for opportunities in our area.

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- Explore the arts: Consider joining the band, choir or orchestra. If music isn't your thing— try acting or technical theater.
- Get involved: work on fundraisers, attend sporting events, performances and dances. Make the most of your



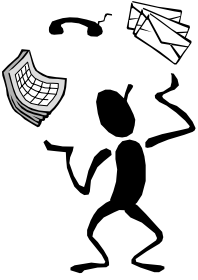
time as a Maverick. Don't just attend school— be a part of your school!

Mavericks always run ahead of the herd.



us out at www.pasadenaisd.org/pmhs

Getting Organized



“Success consists of getting up just one more time than you fall.”- Oliver Goldsmith

You have a quiz tomorrow, but you can't find your notes. You thought they were in your binder, but you can't find them and now you will probably get a bad grade. Sound familiar? You need to develop a plan of attack. Good grades don't just happen. You need to develop good study skills. Start with the following guidelines:

- Use a daily planner or calendar: look at the upcoming month. Decide when you will schedule time for homework, extracurricular activities, and chores. Be
- aware of approaching deadlines.
- Use color coded notebooks or folders for each subject to make things easier to find.
- Set up a study area: find someplace with few distractions that is well lit and supplied with materials you may need.
- Take breaks and find what works best for you— not everyone studies the same way.

- Develop a nightly routine: put everything you will need for the next day out the night before. Go to bed at a decent time and try to get 7-8 hours of sleep each night.

Being organized and having a well balanced schedule will help you to complete assignments on time, be prepared for tests, and improve your grades.

Failing to Plan is Planning to Fail

Pasadena ISD College Night

Students and parents, mark your calendars and plan to attend College Night, December 1st, 6:30 p.m. at Sam Rayburn High School. Fifty to seventy-five universities and colleges from around the U.S. will be set up at tables in the cafeteria. Students, alone or with their parents, can go from table to table to gather materials and question college representatives. There are a number of great colleges and universities out there that students know little or nothing about. Come learn more about these institutions and what they

have to offer. Schools will be providing specific information about scholarships, financial aide, admission processes and requirements, as well as application deadlines.

You may be wondering why its important to start working on your college plans so early. Here are four main reasons:

- #1: Every bit of education you get after high school increases the chances you will earn good pay.
- #2: The more education you

get, the more likely it is you will get a job.

#3: Training/education after high school is much more important for your generation than it was for your parents. Today, most jobs require more than a high school diploma.

#4: Education beyond high school allows you to meet new people, gain new experiences, and explore new interests.

Your Freshman Year Counts!

Making the most of your high school years means starting now. Your semester grades become a part of your high school transcript. Your high school transcript will be an important part of your college applications. Colleges look at the following to

determine who gets admitted:

- Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank
- SAT/ACT scores
- Extracurricular activities/Volunteerism

- Essays
- Teacher/Counselor recommendations

The choices you make now will either limit your future or expand your future. Make good decisions, study hard, and your dreams will follow.



Decisions you make now impact your dreams.

