



Lake Park High School

Postsecondary Planning Newsletter, September 2019

Hello Lancer Families:

I am sending this newsletter to provide you with a listing of the many events and resources that will be available this school year to assist students and parents/guardians with post-graduation planning. As Lake Park's College and Career Counselor, I am available to assist all families with these planning processes and I encourage you to please contact me if there are any items that I can assist with. In the meantime, please refer to the resources on the following pages that can be very informative for many of the common steps in the planning process. The last page of this newsletter is a quick reference guide for some key events and resources.

Two primary resources for the college and career planning processes are the [College Resources](#) and [Career Planning](#) pages on the Lake Park website. These pages are continuously updated and provide numerous resources to assist Lancer families. In addition, many email, text, and voicemail messages will be sent throughout the school year regarding upcoming events - please be sure that you are receiving and checking these messages!

Thank you,

Mr. Joe Ziemba
College and Career Counselor
630-529-2289
jziemba@lphs.org

Class of 2020 Counseling Team:

Ms. Taylor Severino (A-L)
630-529-2286
tseverino@lphs.org

Mr. Mario Fernandez (M-Z)
630-529-2288
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**Presentations with the Class of 2020:**

- On Friday September 20, counselors will be conducting an informational session with all senior students during their assigned P.E. period. The presentation will provide an overview of the college application and financial aid processes and some information regarding careers and opportunities with the military.
- In the few weeks immediately following these presentations on September 20, counselors will also be visiting all senior English classes for one period to provide a review of key information, to answer any student questions, and to allow students time to start or continue their post-graduation planning and application processes.

Application Essentials Toolkit:

In order to assist Lake Park students with completing college applications and related processes, the [College Application Assistance Resources website](#) lists information and instructions that students can use as they progress through these items. The website includes instructions for creating a Parchment account and sending transcripts, sending official SAT score information from the College Board, answers to common questions on general college applications, Common Application, and the Coalition Application, the 2019-20 Lake Park School profile, and so forth.

Please note that standardized test scores are not listed on the Lake Park High School transcript and students must request any test scores be sent directly by the testing agency as applicable. Beginning with the Class of 2019, Lake Park High School does not report class rank of any kind.

Transcript requests must be submitted via [Parchment](#), counselors do not send transcripts and requests submitted through external systems such as SENDeDu will not be processed.

Evening Office Hours in October:

In order to provide additional opportunities to assist Lancer families with the postsecondary planning process, Mr. Ziembra will be hosting evening office hours on October 10, 17, and 24 from 5:00-8:00PM in the area just inside the Main Entrance of West Campus. Appointments are required and can be scheduled by contacting Ms. Helms at 630-295-5341 or ahelms@lphs.org

Please note that at least one parent/guardian is required to attend these evening appointments with their student.



Important Events/Presentations:

The [Upcoming and Past Events/Presentations](#) web page lists upcoming events and presentations (both in- and out-of-district) that provide postsecondary planning information. It is recommended that students and families check this site regularly for applicable details.

Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) representative visits to West Campus:

An ISAC representative will be visiting West Campus from 8:00AM-12:30PM on the following dates to provide free assistance with general questions regarding the college application and financial aid processes, questions regarding special circumstances, and the representative can also provide individualized assistance for completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). It is recommended that all graduating students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents complete the FAFSA to determine their financial aid eligibility.

September 20, October 4 & 18, November 1 & 15, December 6, January 24, February 7 & 21, March 6 & 20, April 17 & 30, May 1 & 15

Please contact Mr. Ziembra (jziembra@lphs.org) if you wish to schedule a meeting with an ISAC representative on any of these dates.

Important information for students who wish to participate in college athletics:

Any students who wish to participate in college athletics should contact their counselor and/or Mr. Ziembra as soon as possible to ensure that they are on track to meet any applicable academic requirements and so forth. Please view the [Information for Prospective College Student-Athletes](#) site for additional information. It is recommended that students who wish to pursue NCAA Division I or II athletics [create an account](#) with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

FAFSA will be available on October 1, 2019:

The [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) applicable for college attendance during the 2020-21 school year will become available on October 1, 2019. It is recommended that all eligible graduating students planning to attend college during the 2020-21 school year complete the FAFSA as soon as possible for maximum consideration for financial aid opportunities. Additional financial aid information and resources, including assistance for completing the FAFSA, can be accessed via the [Lake Park website](#).



Scholarships:

Students can begin researching possible scholarship opportunities right now! Generally, there are two types of scholarships that students can pursue:

- Scholarships that are contingent on a student attending a specific college that can be identified by reviewing a college's website and/or consulting with the Admissions or Financial Aid offices...One quick way to find these types of scholarships is to do a Google search for "the name of the college" + "scholarships", an example would be "Illinois State University scholarships"
- General scholarships that are not necessarily specific to a certain college - please refer to the [Financial Aid and Scholarship Information site](#) for some general scholarship search resources

College Admission Representative Visits to Lake Park:

During the academic year, admissions representatives from many colleges and universities visit Lake Park to meet with 11th and 12th grade students and provide information regarding their institution, programs, opportunities, etc. The [College Visits and Fairs](#) site provides applicable information about these visits - when the representatives are visiting, how students can register to attend a session, and summaries from these visits (including contact information for admission representatives assigned to assist the Lake Park community - please do not hesitate to contact these representatives with admissions questions).

ASVAB to be offered at Lake Park on October 2:

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a timed multi-aptitude test that is administered in over 14,000 schools and military facilities nationwide. Lake Park will be offering the exam at no cost to juniors and seniors who are interested in pursuing the military as a possible postsecondary path on Wednesday October 2 at West Campus. Additional information regarding the ASVAB test administration will be communicated to the Lake Park community.

Final Thought:

It is strongly recommended that students start the exploration and application processes early so that there is time to address any questions and complete applicable tasks. Do not ever hesitate to contact LP staff members and/or college admission representatives with any questions - the admission representatives are excellent resources who also often review student applications.



2019-2020: Quick Reference Guide for Postsecondary Planning Events and Resources

Tuesday Sept. 17	College Application/Financial Aid Presentation (Spanish Language Only)
Thursday Sept. 19	College Application/Financial Aid Presentation
Friday Sept. 20	Post-graduation planning presentation w/ the Class of 2020 during P.E. class
Weeks of Sept. 23 & 30	Presentations in senior English classes
Tuesday Oct. 1	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) becomes available
Weds. Oct. 2	Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test administration @LP
Thursday Oct. 3	FAFSA Completion Workshop
Saturday Oct. 5	National Assn. for College Admission Counseling-Chicago National College Fair
Thurs. Oct. 10	Evening appts. w/ Mr. Ziemba, contact 630-295-5341/ ahelms@lphs.org for appt.
Tuesday Oct. 15	Illinois Regional College Fair at College of DuPage
Thurs. Oct. 17	Evening appts. w/ Mr. Ziemba, contact 630-295-5341/ ahelms@lphs.org for appt.
Tuesday Oct. 22	Choices Fair 2019 at New Trier High School - Northfield Campus
Thurs. Oct. 24	Evening appts. w/ Mr. Ziemba, contact 630-295-5341/ ahelms@lphs.org for appt.
Tuesday Oct. 29	College Application Completion Workshop
Thursday Nov. 14	FAFSA Completion Workshop

* Listed above is a sampling of events/presentations; please visit the [Upcoming and Past Events/Presentations](#) and [College Visits and Fairs](#) websites for a full listing of events/presentations

Resources:

[College Resources website](#)

[Career Planning website](#)

[College Search Resources](#)

[FAFSA and Scholarship Assistance](#)

[College of DuPage Information](#)

[College Application Assistance](#) - assistance for applications, transcripts, and test scores