

*Middletown High School*  
*Home of the Mighty Middies*

**Senior Newsletter**

**September 2011**

Mrs. Carmela Cotter, Principal

Mrs. Julie Barber (A - Fe)

Ms. Nikki Williams (Fi - L)

Mrs. Karen Gardner (M - Sl)

Mrs. Meg Gooch (Sm - Z)

Mrs. Juli Foley (Success Academy)

Dear Seniors:

Welcome to the 2011/2012 school year! You have many critical decisions to make as you prepare to meet the challenges and rewards of "life after high school." It is our hope that as you face this difficult decision-making process, you will use the resources of the Student Services Department to make the planning less frustrating.

To all Parents:

Counselors will be conducting annual information sessions with students beginning Tuesday, September 6th. The schedule will be:

<b>Seniors</b>	Tuesday, September 6
<b>Juniors</b>	Wednesday, September 7
<b>Sophomores</b>	Thursday, September 8
<b>Freshman</b>	Friday, September 9

Please ask your son/daughter what information he/she received. If you would like to talk with your child's counselor sometime after these presentations, please call 217-2615 to make an appointment.

Thank you!

The Counseling Team

## **Senior Visit - Information Outline**

1. Decide now what you will do next year:  
2-year school; 4-year school; military; work force
2. College resource room in Media Center:  
Information on 2 and 4 year or technical schools  
Career Encyclopedia book to cross reference careers with schools  
Videos on Choosing Colleges; cds; tapes for ACT & SAT practice
3. Newsletter – issued every other month; posted on the school website; also available in Student Services and Attendance offices, Band and Music rooms, Media Center, and senior English classrooms.
4. National College Fair: Sun., Oct. 2, 1-4pm, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati
5. SAT – Oct. 1; must register by Sept. 9  
ACT - Oct 22, must register by Sept 16  
NCAA minimum 2.0 GPA in 16 core subjects; register online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.org](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.org). GPA must be higher depending on ACT/SAT scores.  
Sports eligibility - must have passed 5 subjects each quarter;  
PE does not count; Min 1.55 GPA
6. Things to have on file in counseling:  
Signed transcript release form  
\$1.50 to Mrs. Young; tell her where you want the transcript sent  
NCAA (if planning to play Division I or II ball): [www.ncaaclearinghouse.org](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.org)
7. Timeline
8. College / Scholarship application procedure  
Scholarship file in counseling  
[fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com) (free-so do not pay for scholarship service)  
[www.WeeklyScholarshipAlert.org](http://www.WeeklyScholarshipAlert.org)  
Turn in 5 working days before deadline  
Will be processed in order received  
\$1.50 for each transcript  
Volunteer hours - good for scholarship
9. College applications:  
Can/*SHOULD* apply online. Most colleges only accept online applications.

Print counselor recommendation form and turn in to counselor-**you send everything except transcript and counselor recommendation**-check deadlines; scholarships Oct., early admission Nov. 1-15  
Miami U - one application to Oxford will transfer to MUM

**Types of Admission:**

Early decision - must commit  
Early action - not binding  
Rolling - decide as applications come in  
Fixed - decide after deadline

**Useful College Websites:**

-[www.campustour.com](http://www.campustour.com)  
-[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
-[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)  
-[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)  
-[www.anycollege.net](http://www.anycollege.net)

10. What colleges look for:

-GPA, class decile, major, *rigor of high school courses taken by student*  
-ACT/SAT  
-Activities: school and community  
-Essay (get help from English teacher)  
-Letters of recommendation  
-UC, top 60%, CGPA of 2.7, and ACT of 21

11. FAFSA - financial aide form, CSS profile

-Cannot file until Jan. 1; should file online as soon as possible after Jan. 1  
-Priority estimator is [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) or [www.aicuo.edu](http://www.aicuo.edu)  
-Everyone files for FAFSA

12. ICP - Career Passport, Kuder online

13. Facebook - prospective colleges and employers DO check websites such as Facebook, Xanga, and MySpace. Be forewarned that anything posted there can and will be accessed and utilized in decisions colleges make, including admissions and scholarships.

14. Honors Diploma

Graduation Ceremonies will be May 21, 2012, 7:00pm - Princeton Pike Church of God in Fairfield; seating by ticket; the administration is confident plenty of space will be available; all students will be seated alphabetically; the top 20 students will be recognized at the graduation ceremony.

Check Graduation requirements - OGT – October 24-28

**It is your responsibility to check deadlines on materials needed for colleges and scholarships and turn them in *5 working days in advance!***

## **8 THINGS YOU NEED TO GET INTO COLLEGE**

- 1) **Cumulative Grade Point Average** - Are you consistent throughout all 4 years of high school? If you had a lower semester, did you improve?
- 2) **Strength of Schedule** – What do your grades mean? Did you take challenging courses?
- 3) **Essay** – Who are you? What are you going to do and study at our university? The biggest mistake students make is focusing on what they want to after college and for their careers. Colleges are interested in what you can do for them.
- 4) **ACT/SAT Scores**
- 5) **Letters of Recommendation**
- 6) **Extracurricular and Volunteer Activities**
- 7) **\*Interview** – this is not optional even if the school says it is. If they offer an interview, take the interview.
- 8) **Audition** this is typically for performance majors such as dance, music, or theater.

## **Suggested College Application Time Line**

### **August or September**

- Have senior pictures taken. They are due to Mrs. Hambright in Media Center by Jan. 15.
- Register for ACT or SAT tests.
- Turn in transcript release form to counseling office.
- Revise resume and give a copy to your counselor.
- Ask 3 people for letters of recommendation (give them a copy of your resume).

- Register with NCAA Clearinghouse if you are an athlete planning to play Division I or II at the college level.

**October 10**

- Senior Assembly: Cap, gown, and announcement orders taken

**September or October**

- Complete your college essay and keep a copy on your computer.  
- Narrow college choices to 3 and visit all 3 if possible.

**October**

- Take ACT and/or SAT test.  
- Have 3 letters of recommendation.

**October 28**

- Deadline for submission of materials for United States Service Academy through Rep John Boehner's office.

**December**

- Have all college applications complete and counselor portion turned into your counselor.  
- Have senior picture turned in.

**January**

- File FAFSA online as soon as possible.

**February 15**

- Priority deadline for FAFSA

**TESTING INFORMATION**

**ACT DATES – 2011-2012  
(American College Testing)**

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Regular Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Late Registration Deadline</b>
October 22, 2011	September 16, 2011	Sept. 30, 2011
December 10, 2011	November 4, 2011	November 18, 2011
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 20, 2012
April 14, 2012	March 9, 2012	March 23, 2012
June 9, 2012	May 4, 2012	May 18, 2012

**SAT DATES – 2011-2012  
(Scholastic Aptitude Test)**

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Regular Deadline</b>	<b>Late Deadline</b>
November 5	Oct. 7	Oct. 21
December 3	Nov. 8	Nov. 20
January 28	Dec. 30	Jan. 13
March 10	Feb.10	Feb. 24
May 5	April 6	April 20
June 2	May 8	May 22

**SAT & ACT Preparation**

**Miami University Middletown - ACT:** Miami University offers an online ACT prep course that many have found very beneficial. Two months of unlimited access for \$175 or four months of unlimited access for \$275 (fee includes cd rom). Practice tests and skills reviews are included. Please call Office of Continuing Education at 513-727-3300 for further information.

**LEAP – ACT/SAT/College essay preparation:** Classes offered at various locations including Monroe, Fenwick, and Lakota East High Schools on four Saturdays prior to test date; \$155 includes required textbook; registration required at: [www.leaprogram.com](http://www.leaprogram.com) or call 513.754.2240.

**www.March2Success.org – FREE** website sponsored by the U.S. Army providing unlimited online access to test practice for ACT, SAT, and OGT.

**SAT Website - www.collegeboard.com** - register online; immediate confirmation and admission ticket; best choice of test centers; email reminder before test day. Credit card required.

**ACT website - www.actstudent.org** - Online registration; early scores and score reporting; information about test dates; deadlines; content of test; free test prep questions and information; college search and online applications; financial aid need estimator; the ACT store. Credit card required.

## **Scholarship Corner**

As **general scholarship** information becomes available it will appear in the following places:

- School intercom announcements
- Senior English classes
- Student Services Office
- MHS Media Center and Band room
- Local church bulletins
- MHS Web page
- TV Middletown

Almost every college/university sponsors **college/university scholarships** for those students applying to that specific higher education institution; when visiting colleges ask about scholarship application procedures and availability.

Extensive files are now being set up in Student Services and will be available for students to select those scholarships they wish to apply for based upon their school of choice and career focus. Students may sign out copies of scholarship applications. Be sure to ask your counselor for assistance if you have any questions when completing an application form. **We will be calling you down individually to show you where the scholarship file(s) are located and to further discuss any questions you may have.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE PRIMARILY AN INDIVIDUAL FAMILY SEARCH LED BY STUDENT AND PARENT. SCHOLARSHIP LEADS ARE PUBLISHED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE AND/OR IN THE SENIOR NEWSLETTERS ON THE MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE. STUDENTS AND FAMILIES MUST INDIVIDUALLY FOLLOW UP ON OPPORTUNITIES.**

**REMEMBER, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU VIEW AND/OR PRINT EACH COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER AS IT IS POSTED ONLINE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE IN SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER, JANUARY AND MARCH. THIS WILL HELP YOU KEEP TRACK OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

**Ohio's Junior Miss Scholarship Program** - Scholarships available for several Ohio Colleges. For information and to apply, visit the website: [www.ajm.org](http://www.ajm.org). **Deadline is Sept. 30.** Parents with additional question may contact Laura Szenas at 740-393-0391 or email at ohiojuniormiss@yahoo.com.

**Wendy's Heisman Scholarship** – must have 3.0 or better gpa and participate in at least one school-sponsored sport. Apply online at [www.wendysheisman.com](http://www.wendysheisman.com) by **Oct. 2 deadline.**

**AES Engineers** – \$500 scholarships awarded based on character as determined by evaluation of a student's essay. Further information, including previous winners, and application available at [www.aesengineers.com/scholarships](http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships). **Deadline Oct. 7.**

**Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps** - NROTC scholarship of up to \$150,000 can be used at over 50 universities nationwide. To qualify you must be a US citizen, SAT of 1000 or ACT combined Math and English score of 45. If interested apply at: **[www.nrotc.navy.mil](http://www.nrotc.navy.mil) by Oct 15.**

**Washington University in St. Louis** – Danforth Scholarship worth partial or full tuition for 4 years; merit based; essay and short answers required. See Mrs. Barber for details if attending this university. **Deadline: Oct. 5.**

**Nominations for US Service Academies** - If you are interested in applying for a service academy you need to contact John Boehner in writing to request an application packet. **Deadline for submitting materials is Oct. 29.** John A Boehner, 7969 Cincinnati-Dayton Rd. Suite B, West Chester, OH 45069. For more information contact Erin Clemons in Rep. Boehner's office at 1-800-582-1001.

**Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation** - \$10,000-20,000 - Selection is based upon academic achievement, leadership, and community service. **Deadline is Oct. 31.** If interested apply at: [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org)

**Ron Brown Scholar Program** - \$10,000 - \$40,000 - Applicants must be African American U.S. Citizens. **Apply by Nov. 1** and your application will also be sent to other scholarship providers. Apply as late as **Jan. 9** to be considered for Ron Brown Scholarship only. **For further eligibility details and to apply online, visit [www.ronbrown.org](http://www.ronbrown.org).**

**Prudential Spirit of Community Award** – based solely of community service; minimum of 100 certified hours; applicant should submit his/her application to Mrs. Cotter for consideration and certification; only one candidate chosen. \$1000 award for state-level winner; \$5000 award for national-level winner. Application available online at [www.spirit.prudential.com](http://www.spirit.prudential.com). **Deadline Nov. 1.**

**Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest** – \$4000 - \$60,000. **Deadline Dec. 1.** Contact Terri Cochran at 513-594-5453 or [tcochran1@att.net](mailto:tcochran1@att.net) for further information. Awards based on scholarship, leadership, and financial need.

**University of Cincinnati – Cincinnati Scholarships** recognizing student scholarship and service range from \$2000 up to full tuition, fees, room, board and book allowance. Must have minimum 3.2 cgpa. Apply online at [www.admissions.uc.edu/apply](http://www.admissions.uc.edu/apply) and click on scholarships by **Dec. 1 deadline.**

**Gates Millennium Scholars** – must be African American, American Indian/Alaska native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American; citizen/legal permanent U.S. resident; Pell Grant eligible; demonstrate leadership in community service and extracurriculars, *and be nominated by an educator.* All online forms, three recommendations, and application due before **Jan. 11, 2012** deadline. Visit [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org) for very specific guidelines and application materials.

**SAE Engineering Scholarship Program** - \$1000-\$10000 - If you intend to earn a degree in engineering or a related science, you are encouraged to retrieve further information and an online application at [www.sae.org/students/engschlr.htm](http://www.sae.org/students/engschlr.htm). Deadline for application is **Jan . 15, 2012.**

**Elks Legacy Award Scholarship** – must be child or grandchild of living Elk member; must take ACT or SAT prior to 12/31/2011. Awards range from \$1000-\$4000 and are renewable for up to four years. Applicants judged on the values of knowledge, charity, community, and integrity. **Deadline Feb. 1, 2012.** Apply online at [www.elks.org/enf/scholars](http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars).

**Otterbein College**-Otterbein offers scholarships ranging from \$500-\$13,000 to make their private college affordable. For more information visit [www.otterbein.edu](http://www.otterbein.edu).

## College Visits

College representatives will be available to give you information and answer your questions. Please listen to announcements for colleges who scheduled after the newsletter has been distributed. Meetings will be held in the Cafeteria unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday	Oct. 4	lunch	Ohio Dominican University
Friday	Oct. 7	lunch	Tiffin University
Friday	Oct. 14	lunch	Otterbein University
Monday	Oct. 17	lunch	Bowling Green State University
Monday	Nov. 7	lunch	College of Mt. St. Joseph

## FYI

**Miami University - Bridges: A Program for Excellence** – is a selective overnight visit program, Sunday and Monday, November 6 & 7, for academically ambitious Ohio high school seniors from underrepresented populations. Must have at least a 3.0 GPA or top 25% of class, college prep curriculum, and strong leadership/co-curricular involvements. Potential **\$2500, four-year renewable scholarship and admission application fee waiver**. Apply online at [www.muohio.edu/bridges](http://www.muohio.edu/bridges). **Deadline Sept. 15.**

**Northern Kentucky Regional College Fair – Tues., Sept. 27** at Thomas More College Connor Convocation Center. Contact [billy.sarge@thomasmore.edu](mailto:billy.sarge@thomasmore.edu) with questions.

**Middfest International** celebrates Peru on **Sept. 30 - Oct. 2**. This is a great opportunity for students to **earn community service credit** by volunteering to be a docent. Please contact Executive Director Virginia Ritan at [middfest@siscom.net](mailto:middfest@siscom.net) or call the Middfest office at 425-7707 with questions.

**National College Fair - Sun., Oct. 2, 1 – 4 p.m.**, Duke Energy Center.

**National Portfolio Day – Sun., Oct. 2**, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH. For more information, visit: [portfolioday.net](http://portfolioday.net)

**College Fair for students with Learning Disabilities – Oct. 5, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**, Gahanna Lincoln High School Cafeteria, 140 S. Hamilton Rd., Gahanna, Ohio (Columbus area). For more information contact Phyllis Solove at [solvep@gjps.org](mailto:solvep@gjps.org) or 614-478-5500 ext 126.

**Western Kentucky University Leadership Conference – Oct. 14;** registration deadline **Oct. 7** at [www.wku.edu/hslc](http://www.wku.edu/hslc).

**National Portfolio Day – Oct. 9**, Columbus College of Art and Design. Representatives from 41 institutions offering professional programs accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. Call 614.224.9101 for more information.

**Performing and Visual Arts College Fair – Cincinnati, Tues., Oct. 11**, 7-9 p.m., University of Cincinnati Tangeman Center. Visit <http://ccm.uc.edu/prep/calendar.html> for more info.

**Eastern Michigan University Music and Dance Audition Days –** begin as early as Nov. 11. Visit: [www.emich.edu/music](http://www.emich.edu/music) for details and to apply.

**2011 Overture Academy Awards, Aronoff Center for the Arts –** Registration information available online at [www.CincinnatiArts.ORG/overture\\_academy](http://www.CincinnatiArts.ORG/overture_academy). **Application & materials deadline: Nov. 14.**

**Colorado State** prefers students apply online using **the Common Application-** [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) by **Feb. 1.**

**Eastern Kentucky University –** Honors Program recommendation forms and application **deadline Feb.1, 2012.** Must have 3.5 or better cgpa; 26 or higher ACT score; and complete an essay. Visit [www.honors.eku.edu](http://www.honors.eku.edu) to apply.

**Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) National Scholarship competition is April 30, 2012 –** for students planning on attending this California school, six scholarships will be awarded for tuition, fees, books, and most supplies. Call 800-262-3436 for more information.

**Ball State University**, Muncie, Indiana, offers in-state tuition rates to Butler, Warren and Preble county students.

**Denison University** will waive its \$40 application fee for students registering online. Apply using the Common Application- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

**Kenyon College** has Trustee Opportunity Travel Grants that provide financial assistance to first-generation and underrepresented students to make it easier for them to visit Kenyon and decide whether the College is a good match for them. To learn more about the program, go to [www.kenyon.edu/x1697.sml](http://www.kenyon.edu/x1697.sml)

**Waynesburg University, PA** – students planning to attend this university who have a minimum cgpa of 3.0 and are majoring in science or math can compete for the Ohio Honors Scholarship worth over \$100,000. Email [admissions@waynesburg.edu](mailto:admissions@waynesburg.edu) for application and details.

## **College Open Houses**

**Eastern Kentucky University** – will hold a regional reception **Sept. 21**, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Cincinnati Marriott at River Center Blvd., Covington, KY. Register at <http://admissions.eku.edu/receptions>

**Grove City College, PA** - Senior Crimson Days: **Sept. 10 or Oct. 15**. Register at [www.gcc.edu](http://www.gcc.edu).

**Washington University in St. Louis** – Admissions Information Session, **Sun., Sept. 15**, Dayton Grand Hotel, 11 S. Ludlow St., Dayton. Call 937.461.4700 for more information

**Thomas More College – Fall Preview Day, Sat., Sept. 17, & Nov. 19, 9:00 - Noon**. To register visit [www.thomasmore.edu/preview](http://www.thomasmore.edu/preview) or call 859-344-3332.

**University of Akron – Hispanic Heritage Day, Fri., Sept. 23**. Register online at [www.uakron.edu/visitUA](http://www.uakron.edu/visitUA).

**The University of Dayton- Fall Open Houses, Sept. 25, Oct. 23 and Nov. 13** at The University of Dayton John F. Kennedy Student Union. Space is limited and reservations are required. More information is available at: [admission.udayton.edu/openhouse/](http://admission.udayton.edu/openhouse/) or by calling 800-UD PRIDE (800-837-7433).

**Bridgewater College** – located in Bridgewater, Virginia:  
**2011/2012 Open Houses are Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Jan. 28 and Feb. 11**. Register online at [www.bridgewater.edu/Admissions](http://www.bridgewater.edu/Admissions) or call [800-759-8328](tel:800-759-8328) to schedule a visit anytime.

Middletown High School  
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**MHS Student Services**