Sophomore Newsletter

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Personal Reflections

The best plans for your future start with knowing yourself. With a life full of choices ahead of you, begin by thoughtfully and honestly doing some self-assessment.

What are your academic interests? Connect those fields of study to a career or college major.

What kind of student are you? Motivated, independent, relaxed, connected, competitive, supported...

How do you learn best? Participating in discussions, large or small classes, online or in-person...

What activities outside of class matter most to you? LOTS or a few choices, music, athletics, competition, community service, leadership...

What is your personality type? Look for careers that play up your strengths and personal preferences.

Where do you want to live after graduation? close to home, a big city, explore the world, near lots of bookstores, near the water...

What kind of social and cultural environment do you like best? A sense of community, faith-based, artsy, familiar, new faces...

If you're considering college, learn about the different types.
Which might you prefer?
What role will finances play in your decisions?
How important is prestige and reputation to you?

In this newsletter you can expect:

- Personal Reflections
- Plans and Goals
- Career Choices
- Scholarships
- Resources
- Upcoming

Planning and Goals

Tenth grade is a good time to assess your academic plan. If you have some ideas of what you want to do after graduation, figure out what classes you need to help you learn and prepare. If you have no idea, talk to your parents, teachers, and academic advisor about your strengths, and create a course plan that lets you show off your skills and interests while you decide.

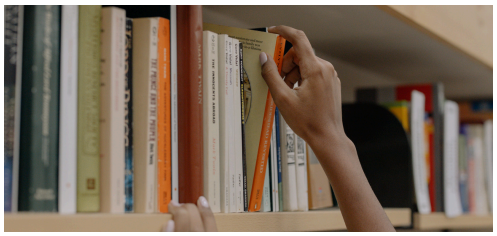
Your next newsletter will share more on self-reflection and building on your strengths! Spend time noticing what you enjoy and are best at!

You should also use this time to set goals and build habits that will help you throughout high school. Set a realistic GPA goal and check your progress consistently. Form good study habits like keeping track of assignments, studying ahead of tests, and finding quiet places to focus. Learn how you study best. Do you learn by writing out notes, using/creating graphic organizers making flashcards, practicing problems, talking through ideas, or teaching someone else? The best method might be different for each class, so be willing to experiment and find what works for you.

Career Considerations

Free Career Planning: Michigan Career Pathfinder is a free, comprehensive resource for post-graduation planning. Click on “Get a Job” for labor market data and the Michigan Hot 50 job outlook!

Have you considered alternatives to a traditional 4-year university program? Oakland Community College offers apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships and internships in many majors and fields. Check here to learn more about them, and scroll further down for a calendar of upcoming events.



Resources and Events

Scholarships for Sophomores:
scholarships.com, jlvcollegecounseling

Book Recommendation: 3 Big Questions that Shape Your Future

College Visits during Advisory:
***October 8 -** Central Michigan (Mt. Pleasant, MI), Grace College (Indiana), and Hope College (Holland, MI)
***October 21 -** Kettering University (Flint, MI)
***October 29 -** Cedarville University (Cedarville, OH)