

The Guiding Knight

March, 2017



Signs of Suicide Curriculum (SOS)

SOS is a researched based curriculum that Pupil Services presented to all 10th grade students in physical education classes on March 6 and 7. A more detailed letter explaining the curriculum will be emailed to parents of these students. If you do not want your child participating in this curriculum, please let us know.

According to the CDC nearly 30% of students feel sad or helpless and of those 30%, approximately 8% of them attempt suicide (in a school our size that would be 600 kids feeling sad and hopeless and 48 of those feeling sad and hopeless attempting suicide), suicide is the third leading cause of death in individuals aged 10-24, and 90% of students who die by suicide have a diagnosable mental disorder; however, 80% of youth with mental illness are not identified or receiving services.

College Readiness

UW System Placement Tests

If your child is attending a UW System school in the fall, please read this [blog](#) for information regarding placement tests. It is encouraged that your child take these tests as early as possible.

Financing a College Education

Please see this [blog](#) post with links to a webinar on the various ways that families can pay for their child's college education.

I've been denied college admission! Now What?!?

If your senior has been denied admission to their college of choice, here is some advice from Jill Endries, Admission Director at UW-Oshkosh:

Students, and not parents, need to communicate with the college to:

- Find out the reason for the denial and
- Find out if there is an appeal process. If there is, the student should submit new information that the campus didn't previously consider (e.g., mid-year grades, letter of recommendations, etc.)

The student could also consider starting college somewhere else (e.g., MATC, UW-Waukesha) and then transferring to the desired campus. This will give the student an opportunity to have success at the collegiate level.

When applying to colleges at this time of year, it might be helpful to send letters of recommendation and submit multiple applications as soon as possible. Many admission deadlines have passed; however, some colleges will admit students at this time of year if space is available.

Opportunities for Juniors

The American Legion Department of Wisconsin has just announced a new program: The Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy. This program is open to all junior students and will provide first hand experiences and insight into the operations of law enforcement agencies. It will also afford highly motivated young people an opportunity to consider law enforcement as a potential career. The program will be held June 19-23 at Fort McCoy. If you are interested in this program, please click this [link](#) for more information and the application.

Junior Texting Campaign

High School juniors may sign up to receive text messages from UW Help which will assist them with topics including, but not limited to:

- Choosing a rigorous senior year schedule
- Taking the ACT
- Making the most of summer
- Visiting campuses
- Applying for admission

If you are a junior and are interested in this texting campaign, please text PREPARE to 99000. Please join by March 15 to ensure that you receive all tests. You will receive approximately three texts per month.