



**GUIDANCE
DEPARTMENT
PROGRAM
2018-2019**

**SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY
11570**

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

255-8960

FAX: 255-8823

WEBSITE: www.rycschools.org

Laurie Levy

Supervisor of Guidance & Student Support Services

COUNSELORS:

Greg Brennan

Kevin Downey

Alexandra Foukalas

Marcy Pedone

Joanna Zweben

ROCKVILLE CENTRE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Many important decisions will need to be made during your time at South Side High School. Our counselors are eager to help each student along the way towards achieving his/her individual goals. We strongly encourage all of our students to take advantage of the guidance services available to them. Following is a brief description of these services and a timetable of important programs, including approximate dates for grades eleven and twelve. We will make students aware of specific dates through PA announcements, guidance bulletins, Naviance e-mail, and the Senior Segments newsletter. However, we urge students to take the initiative, seek out information and become familiar with their guidance counselor. The counselors are trained professionals and will always welcome their questions.

GRADES 9 AND 10

Orientation Program

During the first year at SSSHS, freshman students will participate in an Orientation Program. The goal of this program is to ease the transition between the middle and high school. Orientation consists of a number of different activities that begin in January of eighth grade. Parents and students will meet with counselors to review high school requirements and choose elective classes for ninth grade. The week before the initial opening of school, appropriate school personnel will give presentations to familiarize students with high school life. Once school begins, guidance counselors will meet with all ninth graders in groups periodically throughout the year.

Career Planning

Our program for ninth and tenth grade students focuses on providing information and materials that will help to begin course planning, career awareness and a familiarity with students' interests. We use a number of instruments that aid in this process. Ninth graders begin the dialogue in their student-counselor groups.

Tenth graders will complete an ability/interest survey. These inventories measure the students' likes and dislikes in various career areas. The goal is not to push students into making early career decisions, but to introduce them to the first step of the career development process, which is discovering and analyzing individual interests and abilities.

GRADES 11 AND 12

We continue our career awareness program in the eleventh grade with information on the college search process, including exploration of the different college majors. Since early college planning is very important, eleventh graders are asked to familiarize themselves with the college component of Naviance. This internet based computer system has information on over 3,500 four year and two year colleges. All students will have the opportunity to meet with admissions representatives after school in

the Guidance Office and again when more than 100 colleges are represented at our annual college fair in the fall. Students may also attend a number of college fairs that take place in Nassau or Suffolk County and the SSHS College Symposium Night in February. In May, South Side participates in a consortium fair with five other districts (H.O.L.L.E.R.), where panels of college admissions reps discuss the application and admissions process. This is a chance to ask questions and gather information about colleges in small groups.

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES

GRADE 11

September-October:

- Register, prepare for and take PSAT/NMSQT
- Attend Financial Aid Night and the Student Athlete Workshop.

November-December:

- Consider all options for SAT or ACT prep in the spring.
- Review PSAT results.
- Meet with counselor about course planning for senior year.

January:

- Complete Junior Conference materials and college essay.
- Schedule Junior Conference and begin planning visits to colleges.

February-April:

- Review registration deadlines for April ACT and May or June SAT or SAT Subject tests. Check with colleges of interest to verify which tests are required for admission.
- Meet with ROTC and military academies if interested.
- Attend SSHS College Symposium Night.
- Consider summer internships and job opportunities.

May-June:

- Take SAT Reasoning and/or SAT Subject Tests
- Consider ACT as an alternative exam.
- Continue planning visits to colleges during the summer.

GRADE 12

September-October: If your plans include attending college, meet with your counselor to discuss college applications. Discuss graduation and diploma requirements.

- Make appointments for visits and interviews at colleges.

-Information regarding Early Decision/Early Action applications must be conveyed to Guidance by mid-September.

-Prepare your Extra-curricular activity list and personal essay used for most college applications.

-Registration deadline for October, November and December SAT, SAT Subject, ACT Exams

-If you are planning to work after graduation, meet with your counselor to discuss job opportunities.

-Submit FAFSA form on-line as soon after October 1st as possible.

-Attend Financial Aid Night.

November-December: Final chance to take SAT, SAT Subject and/or ACT exam for regular decision applications.

-Make sure that you meet all college application deadlines. All remaining application documents must be requested from Guidance prior to the Thanksgiving break.

-Attend college fairs and meetings with college representatives held during the year.

-Attend Student-Athlete Workshop.

-File financial aid forms, Profile and FAFSA, for the colleges to which you are applying, adhering to deadlines.

-Complete all applications to business and technical schools.

-All students should review mid-year grades with counselor and parents.

January-February: Apply for scholarships.

-Check with college admissions to ensure all application material has been received.

-Consider summer programs listed in the guidance office.

March-April: Make final college decisions based on where you have been accepted. Seek help from your counselor if you need additional advice.

-Notify colleges of your decisions as soon as possible. Notify your counselor of your choice.

-Schedule interviews with recruiting military personnel if you plan a career in the armed services.

May: Fill out student information sheet informing Guidance of your college choice. We will use this to send out final transcripts.

We believe this information will be helpful to you. Our hope is that you will use your high school years wisely. Good luck!