Hello!

Thank you for visiting our website. I know senior year can be overwhelming and emotional but with the current state of the world things are amplified! I want to help as much as possible so here are a few things to get you started.

1. Scholarships-The best thing to do at this point in the game as far as scholarships go is to apply for institutional scholarships. These scholarships are available from the college/university and usually are the most bang for your buck. Applications for these are usually rolled in with the admissions application and most universities have a universal application for all of their scholarships. We will have local scholarship applications available in the spring but right now this is your best bet.
2. Financial Aid- All students must complete the FAFSA regardless of income-the schools will not allow you to enroll without a completed FAFSA on file. If your student is planning to attend school in the state of MS they also need to complete the MS Aid Application. A lot of students do not think they will be eligible for funds from FAFSA but it does let the school know about other scholarships you may be eligible for so even if you don't get a lot of money from FAFSA it could help you in the long run. The FAFSA opens October 1st.
3. College Admissions-I usually tell students they should apply to 3-5 schools. Any more than that and you haven't done your homework and narrowed down your options. Any less and you may not have enough options. I do encourage all students to apply to Northwest-there's no application fee and the application is very simple. It can also be helpful if you have to take summer school classes-they already have your information. Also with so many students taking dual credit courses they are already NWCC students so the ball is already rolling there. Most of the applications are online. Fee waivers are available to students with free or reduced lunch. I have those in my office-students can come get one at any time. There is no limit to the number of fee waivers you can use.
4. Picking a major-there are a few cites that can help with this. I encourage students to check out "My Big Future" through the College Board. It can help you compare colleges/majors and a lot of different things in one place. We are also going to be using a new program this year to help students with career options. I will have that set up for students sometime first semester.
5. Communication-I know seniors are not the best at relaying information, so I try to send out parent emails at least twice a month. Just to keep everyone on the same page and remind parents of important deadlines. If you receive the email updates from the school and district you will receive mine as well. I plan to start these the second week of school. I am also going to put all seniors in a Schoology “course” so they can easily access me and other information.

If you would like, we can meet and talk about everything. Senior year and preparing for college can be overwhelming so I am happy to help. We will be utilizing Zoom more this year just to cut down on the number of people entering the building.

Please let me know how I can help.

Mrs. Brown

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