

OCTOBER 2009

AURORA  
CHRISTIAN

# GUIDANCE NEWS

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## Checklist ...



- Have discussions as a family about your post high school expectations. Are you seeing eye to eye? Do you have the necessary tools and resources to make plans for the future?

Thank you to Susan Daly of College Planners for the financial seminar presented October 6th. The comments I heard from parents were all positive and they felt it was very informative.

Check out their website at [www.collegeplanners.com](http://www.collegeplanners.com) to get more details about the services they provide.



## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

- Thursday 3:30-8:00 and Friday 9:00-2:30
- I will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding Academic Guidance on Thursday evening from 3:30-8:00.



## College Planning

**9th...** last week the students were able to spend the morning working through three individual classes that should help to improve their academic life. The first class helped them to analyze their own learning styles in order to understand the best ways to study new information. The second class section walked through helpful test taking strategies, and the third focused on their four year plan for courses, what is required for graduation, and how their transcript is effected by the decisions they make now. Be sure to ask them about it.

**10th...** The PLAN test that you took last week is an excellent practice tool for the real ACT that you will take next year. When the results come in, we will analyze the scores and the career interest survey. Results should be in within the next eight weeks.

**11th...** The PSAT taken last week was a practice SAT exam. Towards the end of your junior year, you will need to take your official college entrance exam. You can choose from either the SAT or the ACT. Almost all colleges accept either exam. The biggest difference between the tests is that the ACT has a science portion, but the SAT does not. In general, the SAT tends to be more language based and longer than the ACT. Throughout the year, I will let you know about available options to help you prepare for these exams. Remember, you can retake the exams as many times as you need to. Check out [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to get further information about the exams.

**12th...** For those of you that are still working on applications, check those deadline dates. Many early action deadlines are November 1st. Follow up with me to make sure that all of your transcripts and ACT's have gone out. Be sure to note whether you want reference letters to go with your documentation materials, and follow up with the colleges themselves to make sure they have received everything they need to make a timely decision. The goal is to send applications to your top 5 schools by December.

## National Honor Society

Students in grades 10—12 that have a grade point average (gpa) of 3.5 or higher are eligible to become members of the National Honor Society. Membership in this club offers them a variety of opportunities to use their academic strengths to support other students and the staff at school and in the surrounding community. The student's involvement, in groups like this, looks great on college applications and scholarship forms too. The membership applications are due by next Wednesday, October 28th. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this program or the requirements for membership in the National Honor Society.

