

# COLLEGE APPLICATION and IB DIPLOMA PLANNING CALENDAR FOR THE GWIB CLASS OF 2011

Distributed on August 26, 2010

## 2010

### **Aug 26 Mandatory senior meeting with Mrs. Geimer and Ms. Lane — 3:30 PM, GWHS Auditorium**

Seniors will turn in a list of 1-7 colleges to which they intend to apply, the names of three teachers who have agreed to write their recommendations, the Secondary School Report Form from the Common Application, a draft of the Common App personal essay, and an updated résumé. They will receive detailed information about deadlines and procedures for requesting documents from the IB office to complete their applications.

**All Fall College representative visits to GW**, with the greatest number occurring during the **week of Oct 4**. Check the college visit schedule on Naviance frequently for updates. If you complete the "Colleges I'm Thinking About" section under the Colleges tab in your Naviance account, you will receive e-mail notifications of upcoming visits by reps from those colleges. Be judicious about the number of rep sessions you attend, and get permission and a pass from your teachers before missing class!

### **Sep 11 Workshop on Self-Advocacy in the College Application Process – Noon -2 PM, GWHS Auditorium**

Seniors and their parents are STRONGLY encouraged to attend this program by IB college counselor Rusty Haynes on how to present yourself most effectively via college visits, admission interviews, and the application itself, including the essays. (This information will be offered for juniors in the spring.)

### **Sep 14 IB Parents Meeting – "The Admissions Game" with Peter Van Buskirk – 7 PM, GWHS Auditorium**

The Admission Game" is a lively and informative program that teaches students what makes a college a good fit for them and what makes an applicant attractive to that college. All are welcome at this return engagement with college admission advisor Peter Van Buskirk. You can learn more about Mr. Van Buskirk's approach, and sign up for his blog at <http://www.theadmissiongame.com/>

### **Sep 25 Workshop on "The Realities of Financial Aid" – Noon–2 PM, GWHS Auditorium**

Rusty Haynes will present crucial information on techniques for maximizing your chances of receiving need-based and merit-based aid from colleges. Unless you are willing and able to pay the full cost of attendance (over \$50,000 per year at many schools), it is essential to have this information BEFORE you finalize your list of 7 colleges. Seniors and their parents are STRONGLY encouraged to attend. All others are also welcome.

**Oct 1 CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE**, required for aid/scholarship consideration at many private schools, becomes available for online filing at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>. Submit at least 2 weeks before the first deadline, as set by your colleges of interest.

**Oct 4 GWHS will host a College Fair**, 9:00-10:30 AM, run by Colorado Day/Night College Fair Programs. Evening sessions of this fair are offered at several metro area schools; see [www.coloradocouncil.org](http://www.coloradocouncil.org).

**Oct 7 Out of State College Night, 6:30-8:30 PM, J. F. Kennedy High School**, offered by College Fairs of Greater Denver ([www.collegefairsdenver.org](http://www.collegefairsdenver.org))

**Oct 9 Cherry Creek College Fair (In- and Out-of-State), 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Cherry Creek HS**, offered by College Fairs of Greater Denver ([www.collegefairsdenver.org](http://www.collegefairsdenver.org)). This is the largest of the college fairs, with many schools represented and a wide variety of workshops and information sessions for students and parents.

**Oct 4 Deadline to PAY for IB exams**. Make your check payable to GWHS, put "IB exams" in the memo line, and bring or mail it to Mrs. Geimer in the IB Office": \$727 for 6 exams, \$490 for 5 exams, or \$394 for 4 exams, and \$96 for an extra certificate. If mailing, send a self-addressed stamped envelope for your receipt. Students who have submitted the Free and Reduced Lunch form are eligible for assistance with these fees; bring your confirmation letter to the IB Office.

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## COLLEGE APPLICATION and IB DIPLOMA PLANNING CALENDAR FOR THE GWIB CLASS OF 2011 (continued)

- Oct 4-22** REGISTER for IB exams in the IB Office as directed. This second step is essential! You must go to Mrs. Geimer's office, sit at her computer, and enter your exam registration details. Please note that Mrs. Geimer will be **unavailable Oct 8-13**, so you will not be able to register on those dates. **Students who fail to complete all parts of the registration and payment process (including having your check clear) by November 4 will have to pay \$400 in late fees.** This is a new and non-negotiable IBO policy.
- Oct 18** **Deadline to submit Early (Decision/Action/Notification/Priority) Application** details to the IB Office: completed half-sheet, addressed envelope, and postage for each EA/ED/EN school; School Supplement form(s) if required, application fee/waiver (if a college wants it submitted with the school report).
- Oct 28-29** **Fall Break** is a good time to complete college visits. If you **MUST** extend your trip to include October 25- 27, please make prior arrangements with your teachers so you can stay current. Since school is not in session October 28-29, faculty will assume that seniors will be using that time to complete any final revisions to their extended essays.
- Nov 1** **Deadline to submit YOUR portion of ED EA, EN, Scholarship, and Priority** applications at many colleges. Check your selected schools' timelines and requirements carefully.
- Nov 15** **Deadline to submit Regular and Rolling Decision** application details to IB Office: completed half sheet, addressed envelope, and postage for each RD school; School Supplement form(s) if required, application fee/waiver (if a college wants it submitted with the school report). Complete your "Colleges to Which I'm Applying" list in Naviance.
- Dec 1** **Deadline for submitting Early Notification applications to U of Colorado – Boulder**, in order to be notified by January 15. All materials, including those sent from GW, must be RECEIVED by CU Admissions by this date to qualify for early notification. CU's Regular Application deadline is January 15, with notification by April 1.

## 2011

- Jan 1** **Deadline for submitting your Regular Decision applications to many colleges.** Again, check your selected schools' requirements carefully. Some schools have earlier deadlines, particularly if you want to be considered for scholarships.

Also on Jan 1, the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, required for aid/scholarship consideration at most colleges, becomes available online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. Plan to have parents' and student's 2009 federal and state tax returns prepared (not necessarily submitted) as early as possible in January, to facilitate this process. Many colleges have a financial aid application deadline of February 1, and the FAFSA is an essential part of the app (as is the CSS at most private colleges).

- Mar 31** **Virtually all college decisions are mailed or posted online by this date.** Financial aid packages typically arrive simultaneously, or within a week of the acceptance.

**\*\*\* Notify the IB Office of your outcomes, scholarships, and final decision ASAP, \*\*\*  
and enter the information on Naviance as well.**

- May 1** **Deadline to respond** to colleges that have offered you admission, and to send a confirmation deposit (typically \$200-500) to your chosen school.

- May 3-23** **IB exam period.** Be sure you know when your course exams are scheduled. There are NO MAKE-UP dates, unless you arrange to test in November or May of next school year.

### May 23 GW graduation

- **Remember that numerous IB assessments are due September through March. A detailed schedule will be distributed early in the fall and will also be posted on the website under "Student Info." PLAN AHEAD!**