

SOPHOMORE NEWS FROM GUIDANCE!

Congratulations to all of the sophomores who earned high honor, honor, and merit roll status during the first quarter! You've worked very hard this year. Your hard work will pay off with all of the opportunities you have in front of you at the end of your high school career. Congratulations also go out to **Connor Greenwood** who has been selected as this year's Nordonia representative in the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar. Connor will be attending a weekend seminar this spring with leadership representatives from many high schools in the region.

There are many sophomore activities going on here at Nordonia. Be sure to check the High School Guidance website for updates and other useful information. One of those activities is the selection process for those students interested in attending CVCC during their junior and senior years. Mr. Taylor will be here on December 13th to introduce students to the many programs offered at CVCC. There is a selection process set in place as Nordonia is able to send only 3 students to most programs at CVCC. An explanation of the selection process can be found in the application packet or online at the High School Guidance website. Be sure to ask your son/daughter to share the packet of information they received. Students should pick up the application packet for CVCC in the Guidance Office on Friday, December 16th to earn points in the selection process, even if they are just considering CVCC right now and haven't made a final decision. The next activity to participate in will be the parent/student evening meeting on January 12th at 7:00 p.m. at CVCC, watch your mailbox for a personal invitation. You will have an opportunity to visit programs of your choice and speak with CVCC instructors. Students will also be assigned to a field trip day, on January 25th or 26th, to experience one program at CVCC first hand for an afternoon. It's important that you are aware of all of the selection process activities, as well as concentrate on passing all of your classes this year so that CVCC remains on option.

During the sophomore year, I like to focus on career exploration. In the spring, I will return to English classes to introduce career exploration and visit some career websites that will help students through the career exploration process. You can always get a head start by visiting our website and pulling up the college & career website list. On this list are many different websites to get you started with both the career and college search process.

During the week of March 12 – 16th, students will participate in the OGT (Ohio Graduation Test). This is the first opportunity students will have to take this test to fulfill their graduation requirement. Please refer to the red book that students were given in 9th grade as a resource to the OGT (there is also a link to the red book on the Guidance website). Right now students should be sure to pay attention in their academic classes as teachers will be covering this material as well. In January, students will receive log-in information for Study Island. This is a website that will help prepare students to do their best on this test. It truly is a beneficial website so be sure to utilize it between January and March!

Make the most of this school year and be sure you are getting involved and making the most of your high school experience. This will be important on college applications! It is very important to keep your grades up and pass all of your classes to ensure timely graduation.

Colleges really do look at your grades from your sophomore year. Parents, be sure to check grades on Progress Book for more frequent updates. If you need your password feel free to contact me. I've talked to many students that are still trying to get used to the demands of high school and having to study for class and tests. Sophomore year is a little more difficult and requires daily study time and review of class material. Be sure to prepare for tests and know how to take tests effectively. A great website to help you with this is www.studygs.net. Be sure to take the learning styles quiz to find out what type of learner you are. You will get a list of useful tips on how to use your learning style to prepare for tests.

One final request! I have started an e-mail distribution list for any 10th grade family that is interested in receiving updates, reminders, and useful tips from me. If you would like to receive these e-mails, or would like to add an additional e-mail, send me the e-mail address you would like to have added to the list. If at any time you no longer wish to receive this communication from me, you can let me know to remove you from the list. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (330)908-6003.

Sincerely,

Staci Ross
Counselor, Class of 2014