



# OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS CENTER NEWS

FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome to the first edition of our all school newsletter. It will contain events (some through the CCRC, some are community events), important High School and Beyond information and updates, scholarships and more. We will typically send this out around the 15th of every month through Skyward, as well as posting it on our [website](#). Senior Notes will continue to be included at the end of this newsletter and posted on the [website](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Be sure to check out our OHS CCRC [calendar](#) for more upcoming events

**Monday, February 22nd**

**The Bridge Music Project - Songwriting Workshop Begins**

Learn more about this free 8 week workshop [here](#).



**Sunday, February 21st at 11:00am**

**21st Senior Session** (ALL grades welcome!) every 21st of the Month for Class of 21

**Resume Review & Questions** Register in advance [here](#).

\*ZOOM link posted on [Senior Info Page](#) 2/19 at 2pm

**Tuesday, February 23rd 2pm - 6pm**

**College Board BigFuture Days - Virtual College Fair for Southeast Colleges**

Explore colleges in a way that's not overwhelming, and show them you're interested.

Go to [cb.org/bigfuturedays](http://cb.org/bigfuturedays) to register and learn more!

Northeast colleges - March 7th Midwest colleges - March 11th See CCRC calendar for more info.

### Find Your Future

Open to all 8th - 12th grade students & their parents in Thurston County. No admission fee. This year, the Thurston Chamber Foundation is launching Find Your Future as a series of panel presentations from businesses, educators, and graduates to discuss the various pathways to employment after graduation.

Students can register for one or all of the sessions. There is no charge to attend, but we do require all participants to register.

Click [here](#) to register for the Find Your Future events!

**Grades 9-11 also check out the [SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES](#) on our webpage!**

Applications open now!

## Save the Dates



### Green Economy Panel

January 26, 2021 • 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Click here to join day of event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88599232125>

### Careers in Manufacturing

February 16, 2021 • 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Click here to join day of event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84573436743>

### What is Apprenticeship?

March 16, 2021 • 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Click here to join day of event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89365310831>

### Careers in Healthcare

April 20, 2021 • 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Click here to join day of event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132007969>

### Careers in the Wood and Forest Products Industry

May 18, 2021 • 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Click here to join day of event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86328353914>

Find your Future is brought to you by the Thurston Chamber Foundation in partnership with Career Connect Washington, North Thurston Public Schools, Olympia School District, Tumwater School District, Yelm Community Schools & New Market Skills Center.



The Thurston County Chamber, in collaboration with the participating school districts, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability in education programs, services and activities.



# SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

The OHS College and Career Readiness Center has carefully curated a master scholarship list based off of information received from community scholarship donors, state and national donors. Below is the link to this list. It is sorted September - June, to follow our school year. This is a working document and is updated when we get information from donors, so be sure to check it often.

## [CLICK HERE to access>>OHS MASTER SCHOLARSHIP LIST](#)

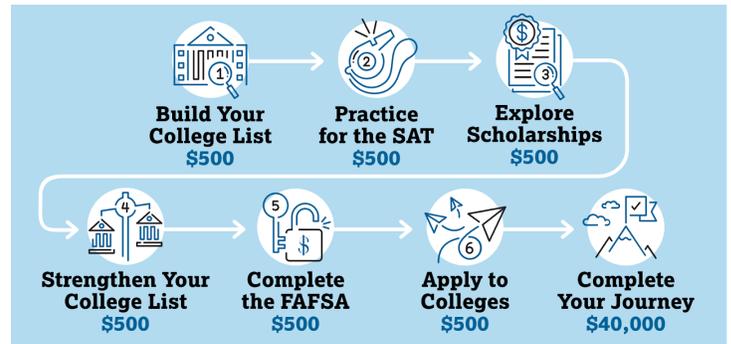
Scholarship List contains opportunities for **Grades 9-12**, National & State Scholarships & **Helpful Links**

### COLLEGE BOARD OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Seniors final entry ends on February 28, 2021.

Juniors start earning your scholarships NOW by building your college list.

See [website](#) for more information and to sign up.



### CREATE A GREETING CARD SCHOLARSHIP

To be considered for this award, students must create and submit an original greeting card design.

[Submit here](#) by **March 9, 2021**

Must be 14 years or older at time of submission.

Award Amount: \$10,000



### CANCER PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP

The Cancer Unwrapped Teen Writing Contest is an annual event sponsored by Gilda's Club. This essay writing contest is for any teen in grades 9 through 12, in Washington State, who has been touched by cancer either through a personal diagnosis or that of a family member or friend.

[Applications due March 14, 2021](#)

Award Amount: \$500 & \$1,000



**OPENING  
MARCH 15TH  
OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOLARSHIP  
APPLICATION!**

#### **SCHOLARSHIP TIP**

Don't wait until your senior year to start applying to scholarships. There are plenty of scholarships available for students of all ages. The more you apply to, the better your chances of getting them.

**Start applying NOW for [summer opportunities](#) at educational camps and for [pre-college programs](#).**

# DO'S & DON'TS FOR WRITING A SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Getting a scholarship is easy to do if you have a good application to turn in. However, it is not simple to separate your application from the many. The scholarship essay is your best shot to stand out and showcase why you should receive the award. You can't change the way the scholarship committee reviews your application, but there are some "do's" and "don'ts" that will help to create a better scholarship essay.

## **DO:** Know Your Audience

It is important to understand that every scholarship committee is looking for specific students to meet their criteria. Understand the true purpose of the organization and their goals to better respond to the questions at hand.

## **DO:** Make It Personal

Although it is important to write in an academic and professional manner, that does not mean your essay must be rigid and formal. Make the committee connect to you on a personal level by illustrating personal stories and accomplishments.

## **DO NOT:** Get Sappy

If writing your personal story, don't assume that a sad story will make the committee sympathize with you. Write your essay in a way that demonstrates your strength through struggle. Committees admire perseverance and determination more than grief and sorrow.

## **DO:** Think Outside-the-Box

Catch the scholarship committee's attention with a unique application. Devise a way to make your story stand out and you will get a better reception.

## **DO:** Record Your Answer Out Loud

Do you struggle with writing? Consider recording your responses then transcribing it. Save time by using speech-to-text technology. Make sure to review the spelling and grammar since AutoCorrect can sometimes have a mind of its own!

## **DO NOT:** Miss Deadlines

Plan far in advance and make sure you get your application in on time. Give yourself enough time to craft an outline and write your essay. Most scholarship committees will not accept an application once the deadline has passed.

## **DO:** Edit and Review

Prior to submitting your application, have a teacher, parent, or a friend review your essay. A few minutes of proofreading by a trusted editor can make a huge difference.

Article courtesy of [Scholarship Owl](#)

## NAVIANCE

Naviance is the software tool that will help students complete the assigned graduation requirements for the High School & Beyond Plan. [More information and how to videos here.](#)

**Tasks:** As a reminder of what tasks you need to do, go to the High School and Beyond Plan [webpage](#), under your graduating year click on the Fall and/or Winter Lesson for a review.

**Communication:** Please add [<mailer@email.naviance.com>](mailto:mailer@email.naviance.com) to your contact list so our emails are not filtered to your trash or spam folder. Emails from this address will be VITAL in the completion of your post high school applications & requirements for HSBP. Please also remind your parents to update this setting too.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The [Association of Washington Student Leaders](#) is seeking a current high school sophomore from Western Washington to serve a two-year term on the [AWSL Student Voice & Advisory Council](#), who will also serve as the student representative to the State Board of Education (SBE).

This position requires a student who can communicate effectively, listen, observe, and provide input on educational policy issues in Washington State. As a member of the AWSL Student Voice & Advisory Council, the student will participate in meetings and conferences, which will allow them to gather student input on issues affecting today's schools. The student selected to serve this two-year term must be interested in educational matters and be willing to commit to a rigorous meeting schedule. This position is equivalent to working a part-time job, with weekly commitments ranging from five to 20 hours per week.

Applications must be submitted by **Monday, March 31, 2021**. See website for more information and application.

**More volunteer opportunities [here](#).**

# WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT

[Wave Learning Festival](#) - Offers workshops, tutoring services, college and career panels, and more. Wave Learning Festival is now an official certifying organization for the [Presidential Service Award](#). If you are interested in tutoring or teaching a topic you can apply for the award at the end of each term.

[Coursera](#) - Coursera works with universities and other organizations to offer online courses, certifications, and degrees in a variety of subjects.

[MasterClass](#) - Learn from the world's best. Pursue your passion with online classes taught by award - winning chefs, writers, and performers. With 90+ hours of lessons, you'll never stop learning. Here are some of the classes offered: Annie Leibovitz teaches photography, Penn and Teller teaches The Art of Magic, Alicia Keys teaches Songwriting and Producing, Tony Hawk teaches Skateboarding... just to name a few.

[WorkSourceWA](#) - WorkSource is a statewide partnership of state, local and nonprofit agencies that provides an array of employment and training services to job seekers.

[Virtual College Tours](#) - Covid-19 has made it mostly impossible to do typical college tours, luckily we have discovered this spreadsheet of links to virtual tours to many colleges in the U.S., Canada and the U.K.!

[Industry Engagement](#) - The State of Innovation Challenge is back and accepting submissions from students now through March 4. Visit the [Challenge website](#) for information on getting started with this career connected problem solving challenge. As part of the Challenge, students can join live webinars with Washington industry leaders every Tuesday and Thursday to explore careers in Washington State.

[Career Connect WA](#) - We are business, labor, education, and community leaders who are creating work-based and academic programs for young people to explore, learn, and earn money or college level credit. We believe all students in Washington deserve a future of purpose and prosperity—and the support necessary to achieve it.

## How can my school counselor help me?

School counselors aim to help students thrive academically, personally and socially, and assist them in exploring their options after high school. Our mission is supporting academic, career and social-emotional development with all students. We do all of the above by engaging with students and parents offering direct and indirect support.

Examples of direct student services include instruction, appraisal and advisement, professional assistance during times of transition or stress, or other situations that may negatively affect students. Indirect student services include consultation and collaboration with parents or school staffers on behalf of the student and referrals.

We are a vital member of the education team. Outside of the classroom, we serve in a supporting role. We like to think that we are really the heart of the school because we know the students, we know the families, we know the classrooms and we know the school staff.

We hope by now that we have already talked to you in individual counseling sessions about what your abilities are, and what your skills are, and what your passions are. But if not then please make an [appointment](#). It's not too late. We continue to work on matters such as scheduling, transcripts and college applications right up through graduation. We can also help with the college search, discussing financial aid and of course writing letters of recommendation. We can help with exploring options such as attending a local community college, joining the workforce or enlisting in the military.

Many students and parents at OHS think that they must go to a four-year school, but we know that's not necessarily the right journey for everyone. We are here for all students to find a path after high school to include those students who may struggle academically. Don't ever be embarrassed to ask for help.

For students who have been struggling the first semester, we can help connect you with resources or zoom with your teachers to identify problem areas. Beyond your individual student needs, we can also serve as a valuable resource for your family. Counselors can offer your family strategies on better connecting with you and recommend family therapy if there are serious issues at home. Parents can always arrange an appointment if needed.

Of course we can also provide one-on-one help to discuss any and all personal issues such as bullying, or crisis counseling. We are here for academic and career development as well as social and emotional issues. We know this year we have had a big increase in anxiety and stress and maybe trauma that our students have been experiencing due to Covid-19.

Although we work with students on issues related to stress and anxiety, we are not mental health professionals. We can't provide long-term therapy but we do have resources for issues beyond our expertise and can make referrals. Please don't be afraid to reach out if you are suffering from anything related to long-term sadness, depression, eating disorders, substance abuse, or high levels of anxiety for a long period of time.

Remember that we chose this profession because we want to connect and because we want to help to make a difference in your lives.

[Contact info for all Counselors here](#)



# SENIOR NOTES

Senior Notes contain important information and updates just for Seniors, if you are a Senior, be sure to read this information thoroughly.

## UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS

Be sure to check out our [calendar](#) for more upcoming events

**Sunday, February 21st at 11:00am**

**21st Senior Session** (Attendance Optional)

**Resume Review & Questions** Register in advance [here](#).

\*ZOOM link will be emailed to those early registrants and posted on [Senior Info Page](#) 2/19 at 2pm

**2/28 LAST DAY** to order OHS designed Senior Class of 2021 ¼ zip or Nalegene bottle - <https://wa-olympia-donate.intouchrecepting.com/OHSClassof2021>

## CAP & GOWN ORDERS / GRADUATION

[Video message from the Jostens team](#)



We know there are many questions surrounding graduation and the answers to many of them may still be unknown. Yet, we know for sure that you are the Class of 2021 and you will be celebrated with an amazing commencement ceremony.

If you have already ordered, Jostens pick up of graduation items will be March 31st 3-5:30pm at the OHS Carlyon Ave parking area/new entrance to OHS. If you haven't ordered yet, it's not too late! For delivery of most items at the delivery event, you MUST order by March 15th, 2021.

The best way to order is online at [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) or you can call 1-800-JOSTENS (567-8367). To order ONLY the 2021 Stole & Tassel (white scarf & tassel) you have to call 1-800-Jostens (this is if you are borrowing a past grad cap & gown from graduations 2015 - 2020).

If you're interested in ordering your official letter jacket, click the link below, then click your school's letter jacket to go to your design website. <http://bit.ly/JostensLetterJacketChart> Make sure to check out Free Performance Hoodie promotion as well.

Please reach out if you need any help or have any questions, we are here to help! Questions: 1-800-Jostens (567-8367) Email: [mortonoffice@jostens.com](mailto:mortonoffice@jostens.com)



If you or your family is struggling financially and are unable to purchase the required graduation cap/gown/stole/tassel for graduation PLEASE reach out to [YOUR COUNSELOR](#) or [Mrs. Boelts](#) ASAP.

### OHS Graduation Statement as of January 14, 2021:

OHS will graduate the class of 2021 on June 18 at St. Martin's Pavilion. We will work with the Thurston County Department of Health and follow all guidelines and recommendations for our event. As always our graduation ceremony is live streamed on Facebook Live and a recording of the ceremony is available for purchase. Time is TBA.

# SENIOR REMINDERS

## Naviance Emails

Settings have been turned off to REMIND you, eliminating unnecessary emails.  
\*\*\*Senior HSBP Tasks must be **completed by 3/1** \*\*\*

## Senior Essay UPLOADED **after** APPROVED by English Teacher - **deadline 2/1**

How to [Upload Your Senior Essay <<<Link](#)  
[Senior Reflective Essay](#) assigned in Senior English SEM1

## Resume reviewed for accuracy - **deadline 2/1**

[Resume Evaluation <<<Link](#)  
[Resume Help](#)

Resume Workshop - Senior 21st Session on Feb 21st from 11-12 (Sunday) [link](#)

I already uploaded, but it's showing **INCOMPLETE or IN PROGRESS**? If you completed it, ignore it. Don't worry these are first year Naviance quirks. We are working to fix it.

We have submitted the reviewed and approved FIRST ROUND of students with completed HSBP. We continue to process these plans & will have them marked as MET on transcripts as soon as possible.

## Mid-Year Transcript Release Date - message publicly posted on [OHS Senior Info](#) page

- SEM1 Mid-Year Transcripts will AUTO SEND to all Seniors "Colleges" listed in I'M APPLYING TO list in Naviance by [Feb 24th](#).
- OSD SEM1 ends Feb 5th, grading is then opened & transcripts cannot be printed or sent during open grading period. This is not a "typical" end of semester date, due to this delay with the district calendar and from distance learning schedules, mid-year transcripts for SEM1 will be processed & available by the above mentioned date.
- If you REQUIRE a current progress report before this release date of mid-year transcripts please contact your assigned A-Z [Counselor](#). <<link

# YEARBOOK

Senior Parents! The 2021 OHS Yearbook is still being published and still accepting senior ads. In previous years we have averaged around 170 ads per year, but this year have only received 26. We know that many of you are looking for some kind of "normal" for the year so having a senior ad might help. [Click here for more information for creating a senior ad](#). All ad sales will stop on **March 31**. Please don't miss out! If you have any questions, please email [Mark Zarate](#)

# RESOURCES FROM STUDY.COM

Study.com recently developed several comprehensive college guides for students from a number of different backgrounds. These guides contain lists of resources for academic support, community support, career and college organizations, scholarships, and more.

- [College Guide for Homeless Students](#)
  - [College Guide for LGBTQ Students](#)
  - [College Guide for Undocumented Students](#)
  - [College Guide for Veterans](#)
  - [College Guide for Women in STEM](#)
  - [First Generation College Student Guide](#)
  - [College Resource for Students with Disabilities](#)
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We are both working remotely, if you must contact us, email is the best form of contact.