

April 20, 2020

Dear Juniors:

As we continue through this school closure, the School Counseling department wanted to again reach out to our juniors and encourage you to continue investigating post high school opportunities. Although we are not able to meet with you for your Junior Appointment at this time, there are a variety of resources available on the School Counseling page of the Orchard Park High School website, whether your plans are employment, military, vocational school or college. This is an ideal time to begin completing Brag Sheets for letters of recommendation and browsing the college websites. We encourage you to take advantage of [Virtual College Exploration Week](#) taking place 4/20-4/23. Included in this message is the previously emailed information. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please email your counselor. As we navigate through this pandemic, we hope you stay safe and take care.

Sincerely,
The High School Counseling Department

House 1
Mr. Behm, mikebehm@opschools.org
Mrs. Stahl, jstahl@opschools.org

House 2
Mr. Bove, above@opschools.org
Dr. Cervoni, acervoni@opschools.org

House 3
Mrs. Linder, alinder@opschools.org
Mrs. See, asee@opschools.org

APRIL 1, 2020

Dear Juniors:

We hope this communication finds you and your family healthy during this unprecedented time. We understand that many of you were just beginning to dive into the college planning process. Current closures are having an impact on many things related to the college process including campus tours, admissions criteria, and scholarships so it is important to continue to investigate.

The High School Counseling Department would like to remind you of the many resources available as you continue your college search. We encourage you to research colleges and take virtual tours online. Log into your [SCOIR](#) and/or [COLLEGEBOARD](#) accounts to learn about colleges and careers. If you have not had the chance to create an account, now is a great time to do so. Visit our [SCHOOL COUNSELING](#) web page for a variety of information and resources related to the college planning process. Junior families were emailed a letter regarding Junior Appointments just prior to our school closure. This letter has a wealth of information and can help start you on your search and guide you through the initial process. A copy of the letter can be found on the School Counseling web page. The New York State Association for College Admission Counseling is planning a virtual college fair from April 20-April 22. Once we receive information on registration for this event, it will be sent to your school email address and posted on the website.

Many colleges require letters of recommendation to complete your application. Some of you might consider working on "Brag Sheets", which provide valuable information for counselors and teachers to help them write you a thorough letter of recommendation. These sheets can be found on the School Counseling web page under [RECOMMENDATIONS/BRAG SHEETS](#). You may email a teacher or counselor, requesting a letter of recommendation. Remember to attach the appropriate Brag Sheets. Please return your student and parent Brag Sheets to your counselor and any teacher Brag Sheets to teachers you are asking to write you a letter.

While your Junior Appointment is not possible at the moment, it is still important to begin the college process and to begin to utilize all the resources at your disposal. When we have clearer information about when school will resume, the School Counseling Department will develop a plan to meet with you in some capacity either this year or in the fall of your senior year to discuss post-high school plans.

We will continue to check our email during this closure. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. We hope everyone stays healthy and safe!

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The High School Counseling Department

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