

# SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Senior Newsletter NOVEMBER 1, 2015

VOLUME I, 3rd Edition



## "Fall"- ing Into Place



**Mr. and Ms. Wheatley 2015**  
**Darrin Bradley and Eryka Sidney**



**Miss Wheatley**  
**Eryka Sidney**

**Mr. Wheatley**  
**Darrin Bradley**

**2014-2016**

### C-O-N-G-R-A-T-U-L-A-T-I-O-N-S

Are you "falling into place"? By this time you should be finalizing your post-secondary plans. If you plan to attend college, you should have completed or be in the process of completing your college applications. Although some due dates are November through February, it would be best for you to be ahead of the game. If you are considering a military career, contact a recruiter. Contact one of the ROTC instructors for more information. You should also plan to take the ASVAB exam during the second semester if you have not taken it.

Some seniors may not have made any post-secondary plans. This newsletter includes articles offering career information.

#### THIS ISSUE...

Mr. and Ms. Wheatley 2015.....  
Is college not for you?.....  
Transcript Information.....  
The first step of financial aid: Registering your PIN. . . .  
SAT/ACT Registration Deadlines. . . .  
Senior Dues. . . . .  
The Management for High School Students....  
The Value of a High School Diploma...  
Are You ready to Graduate?.....  
Checklist for a campus visit.....

These next few weeks will fly by. Preparation for semester exams, upcoming holidays and numerous school activities will consume a great deal of your time. Use time management skills to help you get through these next few weeks with less stress. This newsletter contains an article from Collegeboard.com, "Time Management Tips For High School Students". If you are overwhelmed or feeling stressed, incorporate a few of these tips into your daily routine. Some of these tips can assist you in your everyday life as well as school life. Be sure to check the **Important Dates and Events** portion of this newsletter.

#### TIME MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

([www.collegeboard.com/student/plan/college-success/116.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/plan/college-success/116.html))

Does it seem like there's never enough time in the day to get everything done? Feel like you're always running late? Here are some tips for

taking control of your time and organizing your life.

1. **Make a "To Do" List Every Day.** Put things that are most important at the top and do them first.
2. **Use Spare Minutes Wisely.** Get some reading done on the bus ride home from school, for example and you'll kill two birds with one stone.
3. **It's Okay To Say "No".** If your boss asks you to work on a Thursday night and you have a final exam the next morning, realize that it's okay to say no. Keep your short- and long-term priorities in mind.
4. **Find the Right Time.** You'll work more efficiently if you figure out when you do your best work. For example, if your brain handles math better in the afternoon, don't wait to do it until late at night.
5. **Review Your Notes Every Day.** You'll reinforce what you've learned, so you need less time to study.  
You'll also be ready if your teacher calls on you or gives a pop quiz.
6. **Get a Good Night's Sleep.** Running on empty makes the day seem longer and your tasks seem more difficult.
7. **Communicate Your Schedule to Others.** If phone calls are proving to be a distraction, tell your friends that you take social calls from 7-8 p.m. It may sound silly, but it helps.
8. **Become a Taskmaster.** Figure out how much free time you have each week. Give yourself a time budget and plan your activities accordingly.
9. **Don't Waste Time Agonizing.** Have you ever wasted an entire evening by worrying about something that you're supposed to be doing? Was it worth it? Instead of agonizing and procrastinating, just do it.
10. **Keep Things in Perspective.** Setting goals that are unrealistic sets you up for failure. While it's good to set high goals for yourself, be sure not to overdo it. Set goals that are difficult yet reachable. Consider these tips but personalize your habits so that they suit you. If you set priorities that fit your lifestyle, you'll have a better chance of achieving your goals.

## THE VALUE OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

(Article from GlobalPost website: <http://everydaylife.globalpost.com/value-high-school-diploma-4626.html>); By Neil Kokemuller, Demand Media

Though it may seem like a cliché, the value of a high school diploma cannot be overstated.

Graduating from high school offers tangible career benefits as well as intangible value to the holder. While higher education often leads to even greater career opportunities, for some, graduating high school is a major accomplishment.

### • College

While many colleges and universities actually allow people without a diploma to apply for admission, your odds of getting admitted to quality schools are significantly greater when you graduate from high school. Colleges usually require that you submit your transcripts with your application for admission. Seeing that you completed high school can influence the perception of the admissions counselor or committee members as they assess your potential for college success.

### • Employability

A diploma gives you much better odds of landing a job than someone who doesn't complete high school graduation requirements. A July 2006 "RWM" article noted that the U.S. Department of Labor found that a high school diploma meant you were 37.5 percent more likely to get a job than those who did not have a diploma. The diploma also enhances your options, as many employers only consider applicants who have graduated from high school.

### • Better Pay

The same Department of Labor study found that high school diploma holders earned an average of \$554 a week compared with \$396 earned by employees who lacked a diploma. This adds up to \$8,268 more in earnings per year with a diploma. Over the course of a lifetime, the combined earnings differential provides evidence of the tangible value of earning your diploma.

### • Self-Worth

*Earning a high school diploma can also provide a significant boost to your self-worth, according to Internet-based Excel High School, which emphasizes this point in recruiting prospective students. Not only does the diploma represent the hard work and education that you have earned, it shows an ability to stick to commitments and persevere through obstacles. When you are applying for jobs and building your career, being able to say you have a high school diploma can greatly improve your confidence in professional and relationship development.*

---

### **IF COLLEGE IS NOT FOR YOU**

*(A Guide for Parents and Students-Higher Education Your Stairway to Knowledge; American Legion National Committee on Education Revised August 2004)*

*Your future plans may be such that they would not be furthered by a college education. The cost and the effort involved may be too great for you or you may lack the academic ability needed to do successful college work. In any case, your education will not stop the moment you receive your high school diploma. Education is a continuous, never-ending process. There are several thousand technical vocational training schools in the United States. Examples are: beauty operator and barber school; flying schools; schools of art, music, drama and related fields; health service schools, and mechanical schools. A number of them require a high school diploma. Depending upon the program, your course of study may take anywhere from a few weeks to several years. The purpose is to provide direct, practical training-as opposed to theory in a trade, craft or skill. Tuition varies widely from school to school and from state to state.*

---

### **TRANSCRIPT INFORMATION**

*With college and scholarship application deadlines approaching, the requests for high school transcripts have been numerous this month. Listed below are a few tips to assist and expedite the transcript process.*

*< Transcripts for colleges/universities, mid-year reports, scholarships, and final transcripts must be requested from Ms. Green in the Registrar's Office*

*< A Transcript Request Form must be completed to have transcripts sent electronically or prepared for mail-out.*

---

### **ARE YOU READY TO GRADUATE?**

The Wheatley High School Guidance Counselors and staff are currently reviewing senior academic histories. They are checking the graduation status for their seniors. Seniors and/or their parents are encouraged to schedule an appointment with the guidance counselor to review their senior status. To schedule an appointment, students can come by the Guidance Office or call the Guidance Office

@713.671.3900

---

### **CHECKLIST FOR A CAMPUS VISIT**

A campus visit is highly recommended. Before you visit the campus, consider some of the options below. It is also important to develop a list of questions and plan specific activities in order to accomplish your goals.

- Meet with an admission officer.
- Verify admission requirements (tests and high school preparation).
- Discuss your chances for success in certain programs.
- Find out how to apply.
- Obtain a school calendar and a catalog.
- Determine college costs.
- Meet with a financial aid officer and discuss opportunities as well as deadlines, forms required, etc.
- Meet with faculty in the department of your intended major.
- Ask questions about academic requirements/offerings.
- Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style, academic atmosphere.
- Ask about the placement record for graduates in the field you might study.
- Identify career planning service for undergraduates.
- Tour the campus (be sure to check out the dorms, dining hall, library, etc.).
- Talk to students about the general academic environment and the amount and kind of study necessary for success.
- Find out what student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) are available and about campus life in terms of dating and social activities.
- Investigate transportation options.

## THE FIRST STEP TO FINANCIAL AID: REGISTERING FOR YOUR PIN

The first step in the financial aid process is registering for your PIN. Although you cannot begin the financial aid process until January 1, 2016, you can register for your PIN now. You and your parents will need to register for a PIN.

**Note:** If your parent has a PIN for a sibling or themselves, they will not register for another PIN. They will use their PIN when completing your FAFSA. Your PIN can be used each year to electronically apply for federal student aid and to access your Federal Student Aid records online. If you receive a PIN, you agree not to share it with anyone. Your PIN serves as your PIN to anyone, including commercial services that offer to help you complete your FAFSA. Be

## SENIOR DUES

Check with Ms. Allen on the scheduled date. The agenda will cover your suggestions.

EMAIL: [pallen1@houstonisd.org](mailto:pallen1@houstonisd.org)

KIK:triceybear2009

## SAT DATES 2015-2016

Test Date	Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Score Release Date
October 3, 2015	September 3, 2015	September 22, 2015	October 22, 2015
November 7, 2015	October 9, 2015	October 27, 2015	November 26, 2015
December 5, 2015	November 5, 2015	November 23, 2015	December 24, 2015
January 23, 2016	December 28, 2015	January 12, 2016	February 11, 2016
March 5, 2016*	February 5, 2016	February 23, 2016	March 24, 2016
May 7, 2016*	April 8, 2016	April 26, 2016	May 26, 2016
June 4, 2016*	May 5, 2016	May 25, 2016	June 23, 2016

\*New SAT Test

## SAT/ACT REGISTRATION DEADLINES

SAT/ACT deadlines are very important for seniors at this time. Seniors require ACT and /or SAT scores for college admissions. Keep in mind, late registration requires a late fee along with the original cost of the test. The testing services prefer you register for these tests online at: <http://www.actstudent.org> for the ACT and <http://www.sat.org/register> for the SAT. Remember that when you take the ACT or SAT you must have your test scores sent to the colleges or universities to which you are applying. Although the scores are on the official transcript that is sent to the college from Wheatley, most colleges do not accept them as official scores.

## ACT DATES 2015-2016

Test Date	Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Score Release Date
September 12, 2015	August 7, 2015	August 21, 2015	Sept. 21; Oct. 5, 2015
October 24, 2015	September 18, 2015	October 2, 2015	Nov. 10, 17, 2015
December 12, 2015	November 6, 2015	November 20, 2015	Dec. 23; Jan. 6, 15-16
February 6, 2016	January 8, 2016	January 15, 2016	Feb. 16, 23, 2016
April 9, 2016	March 4, 2016	March 18, 2016	April 27; May 11, 2016
June 11, 2016	May 6, 2016	May 20, 2016	June 22, 29, 2016

## IMPORTANT DATES

November 6, 2015-Fall Sports Parent Night

November 4, 2015 –Early Dismissal

November 13, 2015- Report Card Day

November 18, 2015-Early Dismissal

November 24, 2015-First Installment Due Date for Senior Package (see Ms. Allen)

November 25-27 – Thanksgiving Holiday(s)

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Name	Eligibility	Awards	Deadline
<a href="#">TicketCity Annual College Scholarship</a>	US Citizen or permanent resident. Enrolled as full-time Freshman, Sophomore and Junior student at an accredited 4-year university in the United States. Must be able to verify enrollment. Employees and affiliates of Ticket City and immediate families not eligible. Minimum 2.5 GPA	\$3,000	Now Nov. 11, 2015
<a href="#">American Indian Services</a>	Enrolled in a university, college, junior college or technical school. One-Quarter (1/4) Northern-Native American Indian Blood. Undergraduate student with no more than 150 semester credits or 210 quarter credits. Full-time or part-time status - excluding non-credit courses. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25		Now Nov. 15, 2015
<a href="#">Youth Volunteer Scholarship</a>	Over the past 2 years a student must have completed a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer work. Over the past 2 years a student must have maintained a GPA of 3.5 or greater. A student must be under the age of 21 years of age on the day of the deadline. A student must submit an essay on the topic prior to the deadline.	\$500	Now Nov. 29, 2015
<a href="#">Education Matters Scholarship</a>	Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application. Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education  <b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b>	\$5,000	Now Nov. 30, 2015
<a href="#">New Look Laser Tattoo Removal Scholarship</a>	Minimum of a 3.0 GPA	\$1,000	Now Nov. 30, 2015
<a href="#">Civil Rights Defense Scholarship</a> <b>AB540 Friendly :)</b>	Freshman-Seniors in High school may apply by responding to an essay	\$100- \$1,000	Now Dec. 1, 2015
<a href="#">Dormbedding.com #fortonfleek scholarship</a>	Must be 13 years of age or older as of the date of entry. Must be a high school or college student. Must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher as of his/her last official transcript.	\$1,000	Now Dec. 1, 2015
<a href="#">Addiction Story Scholarship</a>	The competition is open to currently enrolled students and those students who have been accepted to a school in which they intend to enroll within the next six months. All entrants must be at least 18 years old.	\$1,000- \$5,000	Now Dec. 11, 2015



<a href="#">Burger King Scholars Award</a>	Must be a resident of the United States, Canada or Puerto Rico. Must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Must be a high school senior at time of application and plan to enroll in an accredited two- or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school no later than the fall of 2010. Must work part time an average of 15 hours per week.	\$1,000	Now	Dec. 15, 2015
<a href="#">Foreclosure.com Scholarship Program</a>	13 years of age or older. <u>Must be currently enrolled in a Post-Secondary institution.</u> Open to only legal residents	\$5,000- \$1,000	Now	Dec.15, 2015
<a href="#">Custom Made Scholarship</a> <b>AB540 Friendly :)</b>	Any student enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program in Fall 2015 or Spring 2016 at any accredited American college, university or trade school. Applicants must submit an essay of 1,000 words minimum.  <b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b>	\$1,000	Now	Dec. 15, 2015
<a href="#">Mental Health Education Scholarship</a>	Any student currently enrolled in any accredited college is eligible to enter.	\$1,000	Now	Dec. 15, 2015
<a href="#">Unigo 10K Scholarship</a>	Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application. Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education  <b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b>	\$10,000	Now	Dec 31, 2015
<a href="#">Top Ten List Scholarship</a>	Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application. Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education  <b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b>	\$1,500	Now	Dec 31, 2015
<a href="#">Gates Millennium Scholars</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are African American, American Indian/Alaska Native*, Asian &amp; Pacific Islander American** or Hispanic American -Are a citizen, national or legal permanent resident of the United States</li> <li>• Have attained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.3 on an un-weighted 4.0 scale or have earned a GED</li> <li>• Will enroll for the first time at a U.S. located, accredited*** college or university (with the exception of students concurrently pursuing a high school diploma) in the fall of 2016 as a full-time, degree-seeking, first-year student. First-time college enrollees can also be GED recipients.</li> <li>• Have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities</li> <li>• Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria</li> <li>• Have completed and submitted all three required forms: the student's application (Nominee Personal Information</li> </ul>	<b>Support for the cost of education by covering unmet need and self-help aid, including graduate school funding for continuing Scholars in the areas of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics,</b>	Now	Jan 13, 2016

	Form), an evaluation of the student's academic record (Nominator Form) and an evaluation of the student's community service and leadership activities (Recommender Form) by the deadline	public health or science.		
<a href="#">I Have a Dream Scholarship</a>	<p>Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application.</p> <p>Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education</p> <p><b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b></p>	\$1,500	Now	Jan 31, 2016
<a href="#">TheDream.US Scholarship</a> <b>AB540 Friendly;</b>	<p>Either earn an associate's degree from an accredited community college by the end of the 2015-2016 academic year or have already earned your associate's degree from an accredited community college; Have earned a college GPA of 3.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale; Not have yet enrolled in a bachelor's degree program; Intend to enroll full-time in a bachelor's degree program at one of TheDream.US Partner Colleges in the 2016-2017 academic year; Be eligible for in-state tuition if seeking to attend a Partner College that is a public institution; Have come to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday; Be DACA or TPS eligible and have applied for or received DACA or TPS approval; and Demonstrate significant unmet financial need.</p> <p><b>*For students who are working on their Associate's Degree and High School seniors</b></p>	Varies	Now	Feb. 15, 2016
<a href="#">Vegetarian Resource Group</a>	Applicants will be judged on having shown compassion, courage, and a strong commitment to promoting a peaceful world through a vegetarian diet/lifestyle.	One award of \$10,000 and two awards of \$5,000	Now	Feb. 20, 2016
<a href="#">Sweet and Simple Scholarship</a>	<p>Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application.</p> <p>Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Must submit a 250 word essay on the prompt provided.</p> <p><b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b></p>	\$1,500	Now	Feb. 29, 2016
<a href="#">Superpower Scholarship</a>	<p>Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application.</p> <p>Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of</p>	\$2,500	Now	March 31, 2016

	<p>2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Must submit a 250 word essay on the prompt provided.</p> <p><b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b></p>			
<a href="#">All About Education Scholarship</a>	<p>Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application. Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Must submit a 250 word essay on the prompt provided.</p> <p><b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b></p>	\$3,000	Now	April 30, 2016
<a href="#">Park Plaza Dental Scholarship</a>	<p>U.S. Citizens, Part time or Full Time. Enrollment in an accredited university or tertiary school in the U.S. GPA 2.75 or higher</p>	\$500	Now	May 25, 2016
<a href="#">The Pensters Scholarship</a>	<p>We don't care about your gender, age, race or nationality. Our only requirement is that you should be a current high school/college/university student. Only in this case, will we check your essay.</p>	\$1,000	Now	May 31, 2016
<a href="#">Fifth Month Scholarship</a>	<p>Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application. Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia. Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Respond to an essay prompt.</p> <p><b>*Undergrad Students Can Apply!</b></p>	\$1,500	Now	May 31, 2016