

## COLLEGE CORNER

**Global Competency & College Readiness:** We cannot solve problems on the same level of awareness that we created them.-Albert Einstein

### Inside this issue:

Global & College Ready	1
Investigating the World:	1
Recognizing Perspectives	2
Communicating Ideas	2
Support : College testing	2

### Special points of interest:

- November 12th - Rice University visit
- December 13th- I-FEST

We prepare our Sharpstown International Students for Global Competency and to be ready for College. Our International Magnet instructs our students in grades 6-12 to connect their learning to the four pillars of Asia Society Schools:

1. Investigate the World
2. Recognize Perspectives
3. Communicate Ideas
4. Take Action (Problem Solving).

Students do better in school when their parents are active in school events. Keep in touch with the school even if your child tells you not to. Most children, in-



Our school community has a tradition of celebrating together.

cluding teenagers, respect their parents for caring about what happens in their school. Discuss your student's school work, Friday club, Naviance program, volunteer service, college plans, grades, attendance, and family school nights like the I-FEST.

Teenagers like to be independent but they need adult

help in making good choices. The choices our students make can expand or limit their future options. Learn which courses your student must take to be able to go to various colleges. Encourage dinner table discussions. When students talk about their ideas and observations, they become better thinkers. Parents, teachers, and other important adults in student's lives shape their attitudes about learning. With a positive attitude, an inquiring mind, and well-directed energies, a student can attain just about any educational goal.

### Spartans Investigating the World: I-FEST (Dec. 13th)

Come celebrate the cultural diversity found across the planet earth; from sea to shining sea at our school's I-FEST. Join us for a special evening to be remembered on December 13, 2013. There will be remarkable performances from our band, taiko drum-

mers, cultural guitar group, choir, performing club groups and from International themed star auditions. Each Advisory is responsible for a display, activities, and food coordination. Preparing for the festival is a great way for students to

present their understanding about the four pillars of our International Magnet School. Student advisories will be researching a specific country. Ask your child's advisory teacher what food you should contribute to the I-FEST.

## Recognizing Perspectives: College Bound Opportunities

### Top 5 “I’m not eligible “ Myths:

1. My family income isn’t low enough to qualify for financial aid
  2. My parents have already saved a lot for my college education, so we won’t get any aid.
  3. My older brother/sister wasn’t eligible last year, so I won’t be eligible either.
  4. I am only going to go part time, so I’m not eligible for financial aid.
  5. I am not a U.S. citizen, so I don’t qualify.
1. The federal government has a formula that determines the amount your family is expected to contribute to your college costs. Any costs above that have a chance to be covered by financial aid.
  2. The federal formula provides allowances for savings and assets.
  3. The number of family members in college has a big impact on your financial aid eligibility.
  4. Financial aid is available for part-time students.
  5. If you are a U.S. permanent resident with an I-551 or I-551c, or you fit under one of the classifications with an I-94, then you are eligible for aid.

## Communicating Ideas: Searching for Scholarships

Searching for scholarships takes time and energy, but you need to remember it is free money for your college education.

Many scholarships are based on select criteria, like:  
Grades, chosen college, cho-

sen major, artistic ability, leadership ability, athletic ability, gender, race, religious affiliation, parent’s place of work, military background, and economic need.

Many web sites have large scholarship databases that will do the grunt work for

you. Some sites to check out are:

Naviance scholarship list, [www.fastaid.com](http://www.fastaid.com), [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net), [www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org), [www.scholarshipsforhispanics.com](http://www.scholarshipsforhispanics.com), [www.salliemafund.org](http://www.salliemafund.org), [www.ocanatl.org](http://www.ocanatl.org), and [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org).

The financial aid flowchart:

Get a FAFSA PIN # for students and parents at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).

Get a FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and research scholarships. You fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1st of your senior year.

## Support : AP/SAT/ ACT

The SAT, is still the most common standardized test for college applications. The highest possible score is 2400. It is based on critical reading, math, and writing.

The ACT has four multiple-choice sections called subject tests and an optional essay. The highest possible score is 36. It is composed of an English test, math test, reading test,

science test, and an optional writing test. The AP exams are your chance to prove that you have internalized the college-level material. Additional Online resources for test prep are : <http://testprep.sparknotes.com> [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)