

COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

February 2019

Happy February and **Black History Month**. We would like to recognize civil rights leader John Lewis. Lewis is one of the 13 original "Freedom Riders" that drove from Washington D.C. to New Orleans to establish that segregation on interstate bus travel is unconstitutional. As you receive these Counseling newsletters, you will find specific information for your grade level and important upcoming dates.

Tutoring Schedule

Free tutoring is available after school to all students. The tutoring schedule is posted on the counseling website for your convenience. Please take advantage of valuable supports.

Upcoming Important Dates

President's Day (NO school) - February 18th, 2019

Interim 3 Testing (All Grades)- February 25th and February 26th

SENIORS

Mid Year Reports and Official Transcripts

Seniors, many of the colleges you have applied to may require a mid-year report. If you applied to colleges using the Common Application, they will most likely require a mid-year report, which includes your senior fall semester grades. For all other colleges please check your individual student portals to see if there are any application items still needed to complete your application please see Ms. Caudillo immediately. Mid-year reports are also be referred to as semester 1 grades, updated senior year transcript, etc.

2019 - 2020 FAFSA Application

We encourage **ALL seniors** to apply for Financial Aid! Many scholarships and university-based grants are calculated based on information from FAFSA or Dream Act applications. Completing the FAFSA/ Dream Act application is a **REQUIREMENT** to be eligible for **FREE MONEY**! Money is distributed on a first come, first served basis! Don't wait to submit the deadline is March 1, 2019. In order to complete FAFSA/Dream Act application you will need your parent's 2017 income taxes. Please make an appointment with Ms. Caudillo to assist with completion before February 28, 2019.

2019-2020 Income Verification Forms

CSU schools will start requesting completion of financial aid documents in you "To Do List" for assistance please see Ms. Caudillo.

UC Schools Decision Days

UC schools will start notifying students of acceptance or denial start the beginning of March via student portals.

Senior Scholarships

1. **TIGER WOODS FOUNDATION** is partnering up with Alliance for the second year in a row in extending an opportunity for your high school seniors to apply for **2018-2019 EARL WOODS SCHOLARSHIP**:
 - Only six Alliance Schools can apply and Luskin is one of those schools:
 - Seniors with above a **3.0 GPA** and over with a plans to attend a 4-yr college are eligible
 - Successful candidates will be selected on the basis of *academic achievement, demonstrated financial need and a proven commitment to community service*.
 - Winners receive a **\$5,000** recurring scholarship and wrap-around services while their in college.
 - Services include: financial assistance, dedicated mentors, specialized internships, career development, and other workshops that are key to college success.
 - **THE APPLICATION IS DUE MARCH 20TH, 2019** - Completed applications must be mailed to the address on page 3. Our suggestion is for teams to collect the applications and mail them in bulk via a tracked package. Scholars are able to submit the applications via mail on their own as well.
 - This application is not available on the website and Ms. Caudillo has made copy of scholarship application and are ready for pick up in counseling office!
2. **2019 ALLIANCE COLLEGE SUCCESS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION:**
 - The scholarships available this year include (but are not limited to) are ONLY for Alliance wide seniors:
 - **Up to \$50,000** Alliance YPN Inspiring Leader Award (1 awardee)
 - **\$25,000** Alliance Gayle Miller Leaders of Change Award (4 awardees)
 - **\$20,000** Carson Scholarship (6 awardees)
 - **\$5,000** Alliance Young Leaders Scholarship (5 awardees)
 - To apply, students will need to write three essays, submit a resume, and provide some basic information **by 5pm on March 8th**
 - *Please note that there will be no extension of the 5-week application window and that applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.*
 - **Finalists will be required to participate in a mandatory in-person interview on April 6th (no makeups, alternate dates, or phone interviews will be available). Finalists will be required to provide college admissions and financial aid information prior to and during the interview.**
 - **The promotional flyer, which includes a link to the online application, may be found here:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qjiv6XfaoJeRcDmCpLj8ZA61BFEZmOk2?usp=sharing>
 - **The application may be found here:** <https://goo.gl/forms/KyZlqgqRigMXqoK53>.
3. **FAMILY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS:**
 - Applicant must be graduating in the current year with a minimum scholastic **GPA of 2.5**.
 - Each grant will total **\$1,000** in value to be awarded in 4 installments over four years.
 - Applicant must provide proof of enrollment in the college/university.
 - Applicant's total family income cannot exceed four times the Federal Poverty Level for the number of family members living in the household for the current year.
 - Applicant must meet the citizenship eligibility requirements of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
 - Applicant must be in the process of completing or have completed an application for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
 - Applicant must provide their Data Release Number (DRN) and a copy of their SAR (Student Aid Report).
 - Please see Ms. Caudillo for a hard copy of scholarship packet.

Community College:

On Thursday, February 28, 2019 El Camino Outreach Office will be on Luskin campus to help students apply to El Camino College. Please sign up with Ms. Caudillo prior to event.

Senior Events for Month

You will not earn senior privileges if you are not on track to graduate and currently receiving NP's, poor attendance and tardies:

1. Senior Breakfast - Friday, February 15, 2019
2. Getty Villa - Wednesday, February 20, 2019

JUNIORS

As we begin our college admission journey there a few things I would like to communicate with you:

1. PSAT scores are now available. You must create an account on Collegeboard.org. If you cannot create an account you can see Ms. Caudillo to view scores.
2. Juniors will take college entrance exams such as the SAT and ACT for the first time during their junior year.
 - It is highly recommended that students take both the SAT and ACT exams and based on their results take one of the exams again after studying or practice.
 - SAT - Tuesday, April 9, 2019
 - ACT - Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Luskin Academy HS
 - Ms. Caudillo will register all 11th graders by Friday, March 8, 2019
3. Summer Programs participation looks good for college admissions. So please look into the following programs and guidelines:
 - **YOUTH LEADER SUMMIT:**
 - The Young Leaders Summit, presented by the Youth Leadership Consortium (YLC), is a free, four-day, overnight, college empowerment conference at the University of Chicago for a **diverse cohort of 200 low-income high school juniors from all ethnic backgrounds**, selected through a competitive application process. It is designed to give these young leaders the practical tools they need to successfully apply to top universities, have full access to scholarship and financial aid opportunities, and set a course for academic and career success.
 - **Eligibility:**
 - Current high school junior (Class of 2020)
 - **Students from all ethnic backgrounds** are welcome to apply
 - **Low income, as defined by Pell eligibility** (more details are included in the application)
 - **3.0 GPA or above**, on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent based on your school scale
 - Currently attend high school in the United States or a US territory
 - Plan to enroll full-time, in a four-year degree program, at a US accredited, not-for-profit, private or public college or university after high school graduation
 - Go to the [YLC website](#) and create a profile as a "Student"
 - **Deadline to Apply March 8, 2019**
 - [QuestBridge College Prep Scholars Program:](#)
 - Here are a few ways you can support your students:
 - Learn more about [who should apply](#)
 - [Share our application resources](#) with students who have started an application.
 - The deadline for students to apply is **March 20, 2019**.

SOPHOMORES

Time to talk about college! Did you know that there are over 280 colleges in California alone? So, how do students qualify for admission into UC or CSU?

To qualify for CSU as an incoming freshman:

- Earn a high school diploma or the equivalent.
- Complete your “a-g” subject requirements with a grade of C- or better.
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 in all “a-g” coursework.
- Submit SAT or ACT test scores.
- Have a qualifiable eligibility index (combination of Grade Point Average (GPA) and official SAT/ACT scores).

What are "a-g" requirements? Here is a quick overview of the “a-g” subject requirements:

- Area “a” History/Social Science: 2 years required.
- Area “b” English: 4 years required.
- Area “c” Mathematics: 3 years required, 4 years recommended.
- Area “d” Laboratory Science: 2 years required, 3 years recommended.
- Area “e” Language other than English (LOTE): 2 years required, 3 years recommended.
- Area “f” Visual and Performing Arts (VPA): 1 year required.
- Area “g” College Preparatory Electives: 1 year required.

A college education is the gateway to success in today’s knowledge-based, global economy. It’s an investment in each student’s future.

- Individuals who have a college degree earn an average of \$22,000 more per year than those with only a high school diploma.
- A college education gives a person more job security. People with a high school diploma are more than twice as likely to be unemployed.
- For most students who go to college, the increase in lifetime earnings far outweighs the cost of their education.
- College is more than just a classroom. It’s an important time in life to learn and grow as a person while gaining independence and life skills.
- Statistics show that a college education impacts health, family and community involvement.

Talk to your scholar about what colleges they would like to attend and what they would like to study. Additionally, it is important to discuss the financial aspect of your education and how you plan to pay for college. It is important to start talking with your scholar as soon as possible about options and plans.

FRESHMAN

Upcoming field trip:

Where: Fulcrum Adventures

When: Friday, March 1st, 2019

Field trip description: Get ready for an adventure based team building experience with your classmates and teachers. Students will be challenged to lead, solve problems, make decisions, and take carefully designed “perceived risks,” such as climbing a 50-foot wall tethered to another student.

Important: Please turn your permission slip before March 1st.



Overnight College Trip: *Washington D.C*- Congratulations to the students who have been nominated by teachers to participate in an overnight college trip. Your hard work and determination is inspiring to the Luskin Community. Have a safe trip! Would you like to participate on an overnight college trip? See Ms. Gutierrez today to find out more.

PSAT

Your PSAT scores are now available! Visit CollegeBoard.org today and create an account to view your test scores and begin practicing for your next PSAT in Fall 2019. It is never too early to prepare for the SAT. Stop by the Counseling Office today if you need assistance in creating an account.

Spring Semester Conversations

Ready for a one-on-one meeting with your counselor to discuss your transcript and develop a 4 year plan? **SPRING CONVERSATIONS** will take place starting in the month of February where you will get the opportunity to reflect on how you did academically first semester and set goals to help improve or maintain your grades. Ms. Gutierrez will discuss summer opportunities including concurrent enrollment, volunteering and or the process for summer employment. Students will learn about the benefits of participating in volunteer/ extracurricular activities and how they connect to academic, career and personal interests.



Teens Exploring Technology

The Summer Coding Leadership Academy (SCLA) is an immersive 10-week experience where young men of color develop as technology leaders. Students will receive mentorship and instructions in developing an application that meets a social need. Ready to make an impact on your community? Join!

Eligibility: Boys currently enrolled in 9th or 10th grade (No GPA requirement).

Important dates: Regular deadline is March 16th, 2019

Visit the counseling office to pick up an application



“Student Success Tip of the Month”

Complete all assignments. Work that is not completed can affect your grade tremendously and work against your ability to learn new content. Grades tend to improve once more work is completed and submitted. Start building this habit of success today! Assignment logs are available in the counseling office if you need a tool to help you stay on track with class assignments.

College & Career Fairs

[Cash 4 College Workshop](#)

Where: Crenshaw STEMM Magnet High School

Date: 02-20-2019 5:00 PM

Students and families can attend FREE Cash for College workshops across California for help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act (CADAA) and Chafee Grant for Foster Youth applications.

College Tours & Helpful Links

A good way to get more information is to visit the colleges in person. A campus visit is your opportunity to get a firsthand view of a college. Top tier schools, such as Power 150 and Tier B universities have been proven to have a higher graduation rate for minority students. Four year colleges and universities are also great choices for your scholar to attend. A visit gives you the chance to talk to students, faculty, and financial aid and admission officer as well. Here are some helpful links for some local college tours!

Claremont McKenna College

<https://connect.cmc.edu/portal/visit>

Whittier College

<https://admission.whittier.edu/portal/campustour>

California Institute of Technology

<https://www.caltech.edu/content/tours>

Scholarships



- [College Board Opportunity Scholarships:](#)

Deadlines: June 30, 2019 - February 29, 2020

The College Board is investing \$25 million in a new scholarship program that doesn't require an essay, application, or minimum GPA. Instead, it rewards student effort and initiative. Starting this December, class of 2020 students complete key steps along their path to college for a chance to

earn scholarships ranging from \$500-2000. If they complete all six steps they are eligible to earn a \$40,000 scholarship.

- [Live Mas Scholarship:](#)

Deadline: February 21, 2019

This scholarship is for the innovators, creators and dreamers who want to share his/her passion and receive support to pursue this passion through a higher educational outlet. This is not needs or obstacle based; it is a passion based scholarship program.

Eligibility: Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia, at least 16 years of age and no older than 24 years of age, located in the United States or D.C. and on track to apply for or currently enrolled in an accredited post-high school/post-secondary educational programs located in the United States or D.C. (including accredited two-and four-year colleges, universities, vocational-technical and trade schools). To be considered, you must create and submit a video of up to two minutes in length that tells the story of your life's passion.

Award: Up to \$25,000

- [Let Grow Scholarship:](#)

Deadline: February 28, 2019

Let Grow is a non-profit dedicated to restoring resilience that wants students to think about what it means to be "protected" from speech, ideas, discomfort and disagreement.

Eligibility: Must be 13 years of age or older and planning to enroll in a college or university for the first time no later than fall of 2023.

Award: One \$5,000 scholarship and three runner up \$1,000 scholarships, payable to winner's choice of college.

- [Maureen L. & Howard N. Blitman P.E. Scholarship:](#)

Deadline: March 1, 2019

Intended to support talented students studying engineering, scholarships are made possible through generous contributions from National Society of Professional Engineers members, corporations, and friends of NSPE.

Eligibility: This award offered by the NSPE is for a U.S. minority high school senior who plans to pursue an engineering degree at a four-year college or university.

Award: \$5,000

- [P.O. Pistilli Scholarship:](#)

Deadline: March 1, 2019

The objective of the P.O. Pistilli Undergraduate Scholarship for Advancement in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering is to increase the pool of professionals in Electrical and Computer

Engineering and Computer Science from under-represented groups (female, African-American, Hispanic, Native American, and disabled students).

Eligibility: awarded annually to 2-7 high school seniors from the above-mentioned under-represented groups who have a 3.00 GPA or better (on a 4.00 scale), have demonstrated high achievement in math and science courses, have expressed a strong desire to pursue careers in electrical engineering, computer engineering, or computer science, and who have demonstrated substantial financial need. U.S. citizenship is not required, but applicants must be U.S. residents when they apply, and must plan to attend an accredited US college or university.

Award: \$4000 per year, renewable for up to 5 years

College FRIDAY

Remember to wear your college gear on the first Friday of each month! This upcoming College Friday, we will take a virtual tour of Spelman College. Is there a college you will like more information about? Visit the Counseling Office today to get information on your prospective University.

College & Career Spotlight

Chapman University



Orange, California

Private, Founded in 1861

Total # of undergraduates: 6,281

Graduation rate: 74.5% - Acceptance rate: 48%

The most popular areas of study are business, film and the performing arts

Notable Alumni: Emmett Ashford – first African American umpire in Major League Baseball