February Highlights

Seniors
- **Diablo Valley College Enrollment Meeting**: Wednesday, February 28th @ 6th Period
- **Update your Naviance account as you receive admissions decisions**. To update, click on the pencil icon next to any college under “Colleges I’m Applying to,” select the decision from the drop-down menu, and click update at the bottom of the page.
- **Pay careful attention to all e-mails** and instructions on your colleges’ portals. They may request additional materials or note that they have not received items.
- **Follow up with Admissions Officers**. If deferred, follow up with local admissions officer and/or general admissions to ask if there is any additional information you can provide them with. Make sure to tell them that you still want to be considered.
- **Interviews**: If asked to interview with a college, either with an admissions officer or alumni, please make sure to communicate in a timely manner and send a thank you after the interview.
- **Withdraw Apps after ED Admission**. When students apply under an Early Decision plan and are admitted, they agree to withdraw their applications to all other colleges. To do this, students must contact these other colleges directly.
- **Research scholarships**. There are many scholarships listed on Naviance Family Connection in the “Scholarship List.” You may also drop by the College & Career Center for applications.

Juniors
- **Attend College Mondays at Lunch in Room 1204**. The College & Career Center will be hosting a variety of college-related session during the lunch period throughout the spring semester to help you feel on track with college planning. [Click here for the schedule.]
- **Stop by the College & Career Center to set up an 1-on-1 appointment** with Ms. Cranmer and start the discussion about your post-high school plans.
- **Develop a timeline for taking the official ACT or SAT** this Spring (March, April, May or June) for the first time. There are plenty of free resources available in the College & Career Center, as well as free practices tests in the San Ramon Valley area.
- **Keep track of colleges you are interested in** on the “Colleges I’m Thinking About” section on Naviance. As you start to receive college brochures and think what schools may interest you, there are many resources to help you with this search (see the links in the left hand box).

Freshmen & Sophomores
- **Get to know the course offerings at DVHS** and consider which courses interest you most to take as a sophomore, junior, and senior.
- **Get to know your high school counselor** and discuss post-high school plans with her.
- **Continue exploring your interests in extracurricular activities**: sports, school clubs, music, drama, or community service.
- **Explore summer opportunities**. Look for a job, internship, class, enrichment program, and/or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
- **Take advantage of Spring Break** to tour college campuses.
- **Attend Spring College Fair** at Saint Mary’s College of CA on May 5, 2018.

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Helpful Websites

Below is a link to a document that contains a list of websites that the DVHS College & Career Center finds most useful.

To view this document, [click here.](#)

Favorite College Research tools:
The Fiske Guide
Naviance Family Connection
College Board Big Future
College Data
California Community Colleges
Colleges that Change Lives
Test Optional Schools
Western Undergraduate Exchange
Upcoming Events

Why Consider Out-of-State Colleges?
Wednesday, March 14 6:30 - 8:30 pm  DVHS Commons
This event will provide DVHS students and their families (Grades 9-12) with information about options beyond California and the associated benefits of considering an out-of-state institution. College representatives will join us to demystify the admission process and cost of attendance, offer examples of scholarship opportunities and other financial aid, discuss student life and diversity, among other helpful information to help students find their match school. The evening concludes with a college fair, allowing students to benefit from the contacts they make and ideas they explore. To RSVP, sign up on the Google Form.

USA Gap Year Fairs
March 3 12-3pm PM  March 4 1:3:30 PM
Los Altos High School  Jewish Community High School of the Bay
201 Almond Avenue  1835 Ellis Street, San Francisco
Los Altos, CA 94022  Parking: 1227 Pierce Street

A gap year is a year spent taking time off between life stages. This increasingly popular option provides time for traveling, volunteering, learning a new language, or experiencing any number of other activities for personal growth. Typically, students take a gap year after graduating from high school and before attending college.

USA Gap Year Fairs provide students with a broad exposure of gap year programs and the opportunity for face-to-face conversations with professionals in the field.

For more information, visit here, here, and here.

Teen Job & Career Fair
Saturday, March 3, 2018  1-4 PM
Pleasant Senior Center
5353 Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566

Free food, meet with employers, apply for jobs, participate in mock interviews, attend résumé workshops, and learn how to sell yourself on a job. Bring a copy of your résumé and dress in professional attire. For more information, visit ptownlife.org, (925) 931-33432, or info@ptownlife.org

Summer Programs
Summer is an ideal time to pick up a new interest, explore a possible major, volunteer in your community, take a class, or get a job. The College and Career Center has a wealth of information about summer opportunities. To access information about summer opportunities, visit the “Summer Opportunities” section on the College and Career Center website.
February Highlights

Doctors on Board Pipeline Program
The “Doctors On Board Pipeline Program” is an innovative and exciting opportunity for underrepresented minorities students who are African American/Black, Native American, Filipino, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander. Post-baccalaureate, pre-meds, college/university students, community college students, high seniors, juniors and sophomores interested in becoming physicians or pharmacists will experience a rare snapshot of what it takes to become a physician or pharmacist. [Click here to apply online] by March 2! Spots fill up quickly.
Location: Claremont Hotel • 41 Tunnel Road • Berkeley, CA 94705
Program Schedule: Saturday, March 17, 2018 6:30am-5:00pm
There is NO cost to students for this program.

Financial Aid Updates
The FAFSA opened Oct. 1. Students may now update their FAFSA application with 2017 tax information. The FAFSA application is due by March 2nd. For more information and frequently asked questions, visit studentaid.ed.gov
The Financial Aid section of the DVHS College & Career website has some helpful resources for families applying for financial aid.

Please make sure to check if your schools require the CSS Profile. This is typically required at private colleges and is due around the same time as the FAFSA.

Financial Aid Packages: Once colleges receive the information provided on the FAFSA, CSS Profile, and if necessary institutional forms, they will notify families of their financial aid awards. Awards usually consist of grant money, work study, and/or loans.

Per Year Estimated College Costs:
Every year, San Francisco State University produces a document of the estimated cost of attendance for California Community Colleges, CSUs, UCs, and Private/Independents. [Click here to view the 2016-2017 version].

Scholarship Programs for Sophomores and Juniors
Calvin Coolidge Full-Ride Presidential Scholarship (Juniors)- For students who demonstrate academic excellence, an interest in public policy, and a display of humility and leadership. Application deadline: February 22, 2017.

Quest Bridge Scholars Program (Juniors)- For academically outstanding high school juniors who demonstrate strength in character and from families earning less than $65,000/year for a family of 4. Receive full tuition to top colleges, a head start on applying to college, and distinction of a College Prep Scholar. Application Deadline: March 21, 2018

Buck Fellows Program (Sophomores)- for talented Northern California high school students who demonstrate high academic and leadership potential, but who lack resources, support, and guidance to fully realize that potential. Receive academic support, local college visits, and college application guidance. Application Deadline: March 31, 2018

Senior Scholarships:
To view the full list of available scholarships, go to:
Naviance → “Colleges” tab → Scholarship List
PG&E Scholarships
February 5, 2018
32nd District PTA County
February 5, 2018
Youth on Course
February 18, 2018
Lewis Howard Latimer
February 19, 2018
Asian Pacific Fund
February 23, 2018
Sons of Italy Scholarship
March 1, 2017
Mt. Diablo Legal Professionals Association Scholarship
March 1, 2018
Here are some other useful scholarship websites:
www.fastweb.com
www.collegeboard.org
www.myscholly.com
www.chegg.com
February Highlights

February Parent College Information Session

DVHS students and parents are invited to attend this evening information session about how families can best utilize Naviance Family Connection for career/major exploration and college planning. There will also be time in the end for questions. Students and families from all DVHS grade levels are welcome!

Wednesday, February 21
7:00 – 8:00 PM
DVHS Commons

Click Here to RSVP by Monday, February 19.

Articles of Interest

- College has evolved. So should your search.
- Tips, Tales and Truths for Teens: 3 Tips (video)
- Why your financial aid award is smaller than you expected

Ms. Cranmer’s College Corner:
Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

2,720 undergraduates/4,500 graduates

Illinois Institute of Technology is a private, technology-focused research university offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in engineering, science, architecture, business, design, human sciences, applied technology, and law.

Distinguishing Factors:
- The cell phone, magnetic recording, tall building architecture, and barcode technology are just a few of the innovations associated with Illinois Tech.
- Wide range of engineering programs: aerospace, biomedical, mechanical, as well as strong architecture and science programs.
- Urban Farm- students work in teams to solve problems toward food preservation, environmental education, food production, and dominant food systems using urban agriculture initiatives.
- Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program features teams of students from a variety of majors that develop solutions to real-world problems using design-centered methodology and innovative thinking.
- Qualified students can take graduate-level courses in their 3rd year of undergraduate study and earn both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees.

Students thrive best at IIT with:
- an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit
- independence and urban curiosity
- desire to grow in collaboration and leadership