



CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**1033 VIRGINIA STREET, EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25301**

10 January 2012

Dear Parents:

Now that we are in the countdown for graduation we wanted to remind you of a few fast approaching deadlines.

The **PROMISE Scholarship** application is available on-line. To qualify for PROMISE seniors must have 1) a 3.0 overall GPA, 2) a 3.0 in their core (English, math, social studies, and science) classes, and 3) a 22 composite on their ACT with 20's on all of their sub-scores **or** a 1020 SAT with at least a 490 in Critical Reading and a 480 in Math. Seniors **must fill out the Promise application on-line before I March AND submit the FAFSA before I March.** PROMISE applications **submitted after I March will NOT be eligible.** A student can always turn down the scholarship, but she cannot apply once the deadline has passed. Students do not need to send their ACT/SAT scores or their transcripts to PROMISE. CCHS is contacted directly about this information. Students wishing to defer their college admission while maintaining their PROMISE award may apply for a deferment under the leave of absence provisions. Students who plan to attend an out-of-state college should still apply for PROMISE in case their college plans change before school begins in August. If a student enrolls and attends an out-of-state college and wishes to return to West Virginia she may reclaim her scholarship **if she returns to a West Virginia college or university no later than one academic year after high school graduation and re-enrolls at an eligible institution.**

All families are encouraged to submit the **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** since many scholarships are awarded based on the results. First, go to www.pin.ed.gov to request two pin numbers, one for you and one for your child. Once you have your pin numbers, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov to fill out the form and submit it. Those of you who have not completed your taxes before filling out the FAFSA should estimate the information as accurately as possible and update that information at a later date. **The deadline for completing the FAFSA for West Virginia students is I March,** but we suggest submitting the FAFSA earlier in case you come across a problem. As the deadline approaches, the FAFSA help lines are often overloaded. **A representative from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy**

Commission will be at CCHS on Wednesday, 18 January to help parents complete their FAFSA.

Some colleges use the CSS/Financial Aid Profile to collect information to match students with nonfederal funds. Information for this application is found on the College Board website. Once you are on the site, tab on Students and then to the CSS/PROFILE link under "Pay for College." If you have specific questions about the PROFILE, you may e-mail them at help@cssprofile.org or call 305.829.9793.

Enclosed in this mailing is a WV Grade Report Form. This completed form is required by the WV Higher Education Policy Commission in conjunction with the PROMISE Scholarship. The top section of this form is to be filled out and signed by you and your child and returned to Mrs. Lycan immediately. Mrs. Thomas will fill out the rest of the form and mail it to the WVHEPC.

The Fine Arts graduation requirement is to be complete by the end of the third quarter, Friday, 16 March. Seniors will lose their exam exemption if these are not turned in on time. Any questions about missing fine arts assignments should be directed to Mrs. Lycan.

The Community Service graduation requirement is to be complete by Friday, 11 May. Seniors will lose their exam exemption if these are not turned in on time. Any questions about missing hours should be directed to Mr. or Mrs. Mehle.

Many colleges require Mid-Year Grade Reports. If the colleges your child applied to require these first semester grades, and you have not already done so, please turn in stamped, addressed, business-sized envelopes along with any required forms to Mrs. Thomas by Friday, 20 January. Many colleges use these grades to help determine admission decisions. Student's first semester grades will be sent to their respective colleges by Friday, 27 January.

The National Reply Date, colleges' deadline for students to accept or decline an offer of admission, is 1 May. Once students have heard from their colleges and they have made a selection, they need to let the schools know if they are accepting the offer of admission or not. It is important to let the colleges know the student's final decision. This information must be in writing, addressed to the college's admissions office. If your child knows before that time that she is or is not attending a certain college, she should contact the college with her decision in writing as soon as possible.

Each year Mrs. Thomas puts together a **Senior Year Bulletin Board** with a map of the United States indicating the colleges the seniors have applied to and where each senior will be attending. Each senior is to submit a **senior year photo** for the board AND a **view book page or other picture of the college that she will be attending.**

Photos of your child for the **senior slide show are due Wednesday, 1 February.** The slide show runs immediately following graduation and is one of the students' favorite parts of the evening. **Please e-mail 3 photos to RebeccaBurchcchs@gmail.com: one of your child as a baby, one as a middle school student, and one as a high school student.** The high school photo may be her graduation photograph. If you have any group photographs from elementary or middle school, please include those as well. The students enjoy seeing photos of their elementary and middle school years. All slide show photos are to be e-mailed to Mrs. Burch!

The seniors formal pictures for the yearbook are past due! Students must have Mike Hall take their formal/drape picture even if they choose to use another photographer for their "senior pictures." In addition to a formal photo, seniors must submit a baby picture for the yearbook. Those photos are to be e-mailed to dbrotcchs@hotmail.com or given to Mrs. D'Brot at school.

Caps, stoles, and gowns for graduation should have been ordered through Herf-Jones. If you have not placed your order, immediately contact Ms. Fitzgerald or Rod McClanahan (304.776.7143).

All seniors will need **dress clothes for baccalaureate and graduation.** The girls' graduation gowns are white so they are to wear a white or light colored dress underneath their gowns. The girls' dress shoes should be a light color. The boys' graduation gowns are dark green. They will need a dress shirt, tie, slacks, and dress shoes.

Senior exams are scheduled for Tuesday, 22 May and Wednesday, 23 May. Senior exam exemptions are for students who have earned a 93 average with each of the 3rd and 4th quarters given equal weight, the course is a 2 semester course, AND the teacher offers exam exemptions. Additionally seniors must have completed their fine arts requirement by Friday, 16 March and their community service requirement by Friday, 11 May.

Baccalaureate rehearsal is mandatory! This will be held between exams on Tuesday, 22 May from 9:45-11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral.

Graduation rehearsal is also mandatory! It will be held on Wednesday, 23 May from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the CCHS Athletic Facility.

Senior Retreat will be Thursday, 24 May. This is an all-day retreat. Your responsibility for this day is to write a letter to your child to be opened at the end of the retreat. This is a special time for the students as they reflect on their years at Charleston Catholic. Please be thinking about your thoughts and words of wisdom that you will share with your child. More information will follow.

Baccalaureate is Thursday, 24 May at 6:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral.

Students are to report to the library in their dress clothes, gowns, and stoles, no mortar boards at 5:30 p.m. Once everyone arrives we will proceed to the steps of First Presbyterian Church for a photo of the class. There will be a **reception following baccalaureate in the Commons.** This beautiful event, sponsored by the freshman class, will include beverages and delicious hors d'œuvres and is one of the highlights of the graduation experience.

Graduation is Friday, 25 May at 6:30 p.m. at the CCHS Athletic Facility.

Graduates, dressed in their dress clothes, gowns, stoles, and mortar boards, are to meet on the practice side of the gym no later than 5:45 p.m. to line up for the processional.

Project Graduation will be held at the YMCA following graduation at approximately 10:30 p.m. Students will be free to leave at 4:00 a.m. Permissions slips for the evening are to be turned in to Mrs. Lycan at or before graduation. Details will follow.

Enjoy the last semester of your child's senior year!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Simone Thomas
Shirley Lycan