



Seniors and Social Media



College applicants need to be aware that admissions officers and scholarship judges are looking at more than just grades and test scores. More and more, students' social media accounts are coming under scrutiny.

According to *US News and World Report* a "Kaplan Test Prep survey of more than 350 college admissions officers in the U.S. revealed that 35 percent of officers polled reported having looked at applicants' social media accounts to learn more about them." The article went on to state that although many times the investigation of social media accounts could help a student if he or she posted involvement in philanthropic activities or other community service endeavors, "officers that did check social media and saw negative posts – including the brandishing of weapons and 'questionable language' – sometimes rescinded offers or became hesitant in accepting students." Therefore, it is very important for students to review their social media usage and make every effort to ensure that their profiles portray them in a positive way.

Tips for Cleaning Up Your Accounts:

1. Check your privacy settings.
2. Use filters to limit who can see things on your accounts.
3. Review your photos and determine if there are any that could reflect poorly on you as a candidate.
4. What have you "liked," "retweeted," and shared? Remember that those actions can say something about you too.
5. Scrutinize your handles and usernames and ensure that they are appropriate.

When in doubt, think of whether you'd want an admissions officer, potential employer, or scholarship judge to see a particular thing. Anything that raises a red flag or seems questionable should be dealt with.



Grad Bash is coming! On Friday, April 13th, BDCHS seniors will get to spend the night at Universal Studios in Orlando. We will leave BDCHS at 1PM and return around 4AM on Saturday morning. Because we have to pre-order tickets and finalize transportation, tickets are on sale NOW through December 22nd.

Because it is Universal Studios policy that all students arrive and depart together via school or charter bus, we have limited spots available. The first 100 seniors to pay their \$135 and return their signed permission form will be guaranteed a spot. Once we hit 101, we will start a waiting list and determine if we can accommodate additional seniors, but there is no guarantee we will be able to do so. Therefore, getting your payment and form in as soon as possible if you're sure you want to go is highly recommended.

The form is posted to the senior Edsby page, and it outlines all of the rules and policies related to the trip. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Rinard at arinard@bdchs.org or come see her in room 215 before or after school or during homeroom.

Last Lap



How to make the most out of your last year of high school...



Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

A chill is in the air (at least as I write this) and November is upon us. As I look at the Grad Clock in my room, there are now less than 200 days until graduation!

We've been discussing important "college ready" activities in class, and I want to make sure the information is coming home because there can be BIG implications to your student's college and career choices AND to your wallet! Please make sure you have discussed Bright Futures with your student. I posted a PowerPoint presentation on my Edsby page that you can use to review important information.

Bright Futures provides scholarship dollars to EVERY Florida student who meets certain standards in: (1)SAT/ACT test scores, (2)weighted GPA, (3)required course completion and (4)community service hours. ALL students who qualify and attend a college or university (private or public) in the state of Florida receive these funds (it's not competitive). Some students will receive 100% tuition reimbursement if they attend a PUBLIC state university in Florida (the funds can also be used at a private college, although the scholarship likely won't cover 100%). Over four years, that will amount to over \$25,000!!!!

I'm finding as I conference with students that many are falling short of the requirements in either (1)community service hours and/or (2)SAT/ACT scores. Both of these are still in the student's control. Please discuss with your student their Bright Futures eligibility and whether you can assist them in meeting the requirements through either (1)fulfilling required community service hours and/or (2)prepping for SAT/ACT re-takes.

As I tell the students, don't "leave the money on the table!" Please reach out to me at bsalazar@bdchs.org if you have questions!!

-Bonnie Salazar, PhD, CHES

<u>Florida Academic Scholars</u>	<u>Florida Medallion Scholars</u>
<i>Pays \$103 per semester hour at a 4 yr FL college/\$63 per semester hour at a 2 yr FL college</i>	<i>Pays \$77 per semester hour at a 4 yr FL college/\$48 per semester hour at a 2 yr FL college</i>
1. 3.5 weighted academic GPA	1. 3.0 weighted academic GPA
2. <u>1290 SAT</u> (Reading & Math ONLY, no writing) <u>or 29 ACT</u>	2. <u>1170 SAT</u> (Reading & Math ONLY, no writing) <u>or 26 ACT</u>
3. 100 community service hours	3. 75 community service hours
Bright Futures requirements and funding are subject to change by Florida Legislature.	

There is a LOT of great information about community service on the BDCHS Student Services Weebly. Go to the link below and click the "Service" tab to get information about the process for logging your hours, get the necessary forms, and find places to volunteer. **DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR TO WORK ON YOUR HOURS FOR BRIGHT FUTURES!**

<http://bdchsstudentservices.weebly.com/>

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

In the “Know Before You Go” section of the Gazette, you will find helpful tips to prepare you to get ready for life after high school.

Be a Leader!

Being a leader gives you the power to change people’s lives in a positive and meaningful way. A leader isn’t just someone who organizes or plans but rather someone who inspires and motivates and empowers. Leaders bring out the best in others and help groups move toward shared goals.

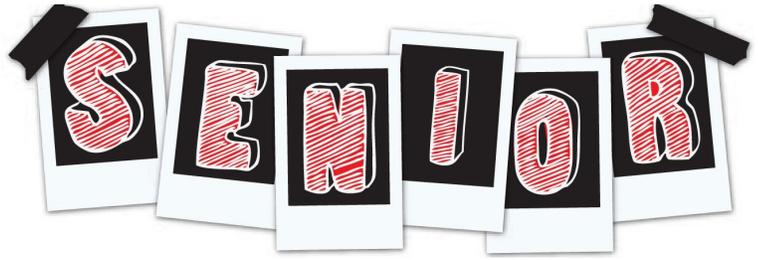
Looking for opportunities during your senior year to grow as a leader will help you:

1. Build confidence
2. Develop personal and civic responsibility
3. Learn to network
4. Hone problem-solving skills
5. Beef up your resume

You can find opportunities

- in the classroom—find ways to assist your teachers, mentor classmates, and step up your engagement as a learner
- on the playing field or stage—show up early and stay late; help your coach/director; work with less experienced players or performers
- on the job or in your community service role—take on more duties; show more of an interest; ask lots of questions; mentor others

In all things, show an enthusiasm & positivity that will impact and inspire others.



Mark Your Calendars:

Monday, November 6 **Early Release at 1:40PM**

Friday, November 10 **No School**

Friday, November 17 **Teach-In**

November 20-24 **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Monday, December 4 **Early Release at 1:40PM**

December 18–22 **Mid-Term Exams**

Specific schedule to be announced

December 23–January 8 **Winter Break**

Cap and Gown Orders!

**Please don't forget to order
caps and gowns!**

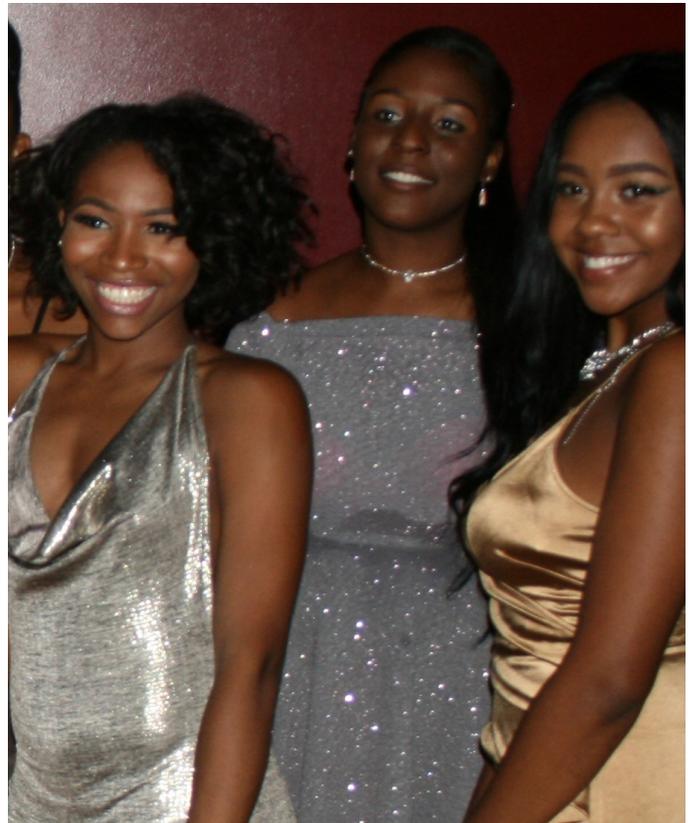
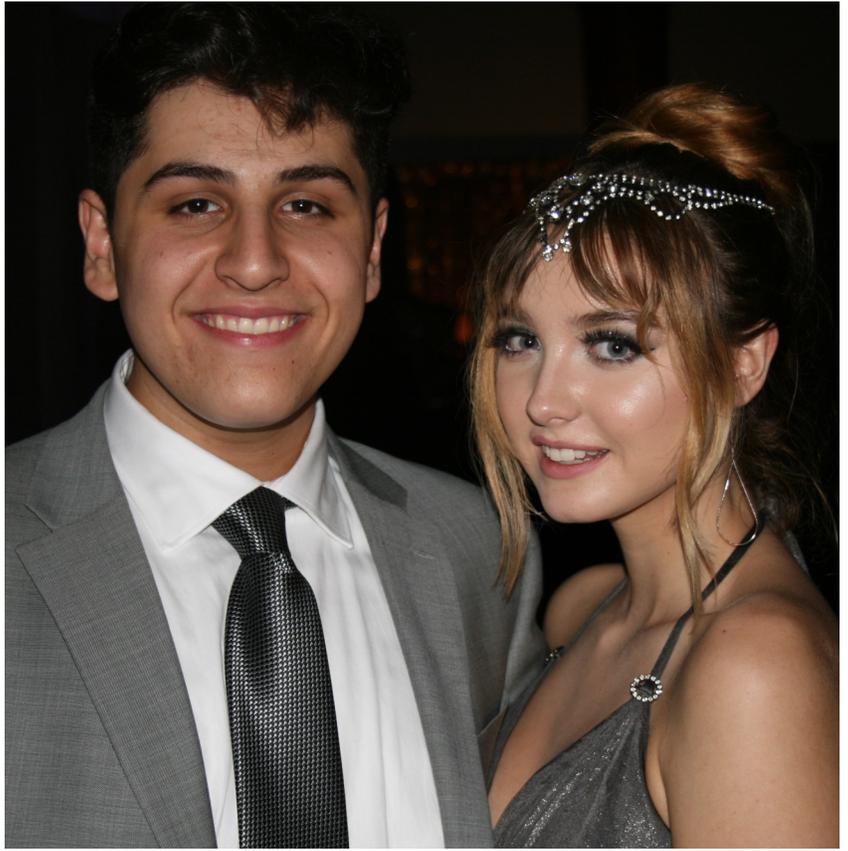
Go to:

www.herffjonestampabay.com

**to create an account and
place your order!**

Homecoming 2017





SAVE THE DATE!

The BDCHS Student Government Association is starting a new tradition! On February 10th the SGA will host a SPRING DANCE in the BDCHS gym. This will be a casual, Sadie Hawkins-style event. More details will be coming soon, so save the date and stay tuned for more info!



we didn't realize we were
making memories,
we just knew we were
HAVING fun.



Senior Year College Admissions Timeline



June - August
September - November
December - January
March - April

- make your short list of prospective college choices (one reach, one match, and one safety)
- Talk as a family about college expenses and budgets
- Take the SAT and/or ACT again if needed to get your scores up—remember that you need at least a 26 ACT or 1170 SAT for Bright Futures
- Create a checklist for your applications and meet all deadlines for submitting them: Where are you applying? Do you need letters of recommendation? Personal statements? Have you requested transcripts and score reports?
- Complete your FAFSA as soon as the site opens (funds are limited!); remember that the site is fafsa.gov and there is no charge for this service
- Look for other financial aid and scholarship opportunities
- Evaluate your options and make a decision



Expected Expenses

A student's senior year can be expensive, so we are providing you with a list of costs you can expect to come up throughout the school year so that you can plan accordingly and be able to participate and enjoy all of the activities and experiences throughout your senior year. Please know that the **ONLY REQUIRED EXPENSE is the cap and gown package**. We do hope that every member of the class of 2018 will be able to take part in dances, Grad Bash, the end of the year Senior Day trip, but each of those things is optional. Also, please know that this is just a rough idea of what to expect.

Event/Item	Event Date	Payment Deadline	Cost	Details/Notes
Class T-Shirt	Delivery in September	August 30th	\$15	Students will vote on design in August
Class Hoodie	Delivery in September	August 30th	\$35	Students will vote on design in August
Cap and Gown	Assembly for ordering will be in Sept.	January 2018	\$75	Families will order directly through Herff Jones, NOT via BDCHS.
Yearbook			\$80	Mrs. Catania will provide information
Homecoming Dance	October 28, 2017	TBD	\$30	
Spring Dance	Feb. 10, 2018	TBD	\$20 (estimate)	This is a new event. SGA is planning a spring Sadie Hawkins neon dance party in the gym
Grad Bash	Friday, April 13 leave 1PM 4/13 and return 4AM 4/14	December 22 (or until spots are filled)	\$135	Includes charter bus transportation and ticket to Grad Bash
Prom	Sat. April 28 7—11PM Event Factory	TBD	\$75	
<u>ESTIMATED</u> Total for All Anticipated Expenses (prices may change based on participation)			\$465	

2017-2018 Calendar

Dates Are Subject To Change!



August 10	First Day of School
September 4	No School
October 13	Quarter 1 Ends
October 16	No School
October 11, 2016	Senior Day—Details TBA
October 23-27	Homecoming Week
October 28	Homecoming Dance
November 10	No School
November 20-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 19-22	Mid-Term Exams
December 22	Quarter Two Ends
Dec. 22—Jan. 8	Winter Break
January 15	No School
February 9	No School
February 19	No School
March 9	End of Quarter 3
March 12-16	Spring Break
March 30	No School
April 13	Grad Bash
April 28	Prom
May 4	Seniors' Last Day / Class Olympics
TBA	Senior Exams
TBA	Senior Celebration

May 18 at 2PM

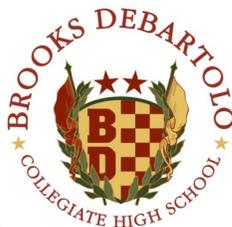
Graduation at Straz Center

**We Want to See
YOU**

Send your pictures of yourself
and your BDCHS friends to
BDCHSseniors@gmail.com
or tag **@BDCHSseniors** on
Twitter throughout the year to
be included in this newsletter
and the senior slide show!

Memories
are special moments
that tell our
Story

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STAY CONNECTED-

Sign up for Remind notifications by texting
@e97g4 to 81010

Follow us on Twitter **@BDCHSseniors**



Contact Mrs. Rinard, Senior Class

Advisor: **arinard@bdchs.org**