

## FEBRUARY

2016



# Oconto Falls High School Student Services Bulletin

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m.– 3:45 p.m.

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### CALENDAR

Feb. 1	WPS Scholarships due-On line
	WI Education Assoc. Council Scholarship
	Ford Truck Scholarship
	WI Professional Police Association Scholarship
	Simon Youth Foundation
Feb. 8	Herff Jones & Principal's Award Scholarship
Feb. 13	Labor History Essay Contest-Postmarked
Feb. 14	Vietnam Veterans of America Scholarship
	Wolf River Harmony Scholarship
Feb. 15	Jean Nicolet Chapter NSDAR Scholarship
	Ellington Mutual Insurance Scholarship
	UW Madison Delta Theta Sigma Scholarship
Feb. 26	Oconto Electric Cooperative Scholarship
Feb. 29	Buick Achievers Scholarship

**Juniors: If you plan to attend a 4-year college, you should be taking the ACT test in April or June, if you haven't already taken it.**

**Test Date**

April 9, 2016

June 11, 2016

**Registration Deadline**

March 4, 2016

May 6, 2016

If interested in a technical college, see Student Services Office to

### COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS

2016 Regional Placement Testing-Must register online beginning Feb. 1, 2016. Go to [www.testing.wisc.edu](http://www.testing.wisc.edu). You will see what sites are open and get immediate confirmation that can be printed. No confirmation letters will be mailed to you. If you need to change or cancel your registration date, changing a date can be difficult as popular sites fill quickly; you cannot change to a site once the registration deadline for that date has passed.

### Seniors

If a senior has been accepted to a UW System college, remember acceptance is provisional and may be rescinded if student fails to complete coursework indicated on their application and maintain class rank. **Second Semester counts!!**

### Freshmen

Your high school rank in your class has been calculated now after the end of your first semester of high school. Go online and check it out!

### Helicopter Parents Reconsidered

Supplied by CollegeBoard

Given all the negative attention they receive in the media, you might expect to find swarms of "helicopter parents" at every high school and college campus across the country. These overly involved parents earned that nickname because they hover over their children, swooping in to fight their battles and make their decisions for them.

But such parents may in fact be rare. What's more, a recent study found that a high level of parental involvement correlates with a positive college experience.

### The Benefits of Parental Involvement

There is mounting evidence that parents should take more rather than less interest in their children's education. In a review of research studies, the Harvard Family Research Project found that teens whose parents play an active role do better in school and are more likely to enroll in college. Unfortunately, families tend to become less involved as their children progress through middle and high school.

Your teenager might even welcome your participation. The College Board and the Art & Science Group found that almost 30 percent of college-bound seniors surveyed wished their parents did more to help them look for and apply to colleges. Only 6 percent wanted their parents to do less. How many parents went to extremes? Not as many as you might think. More than 30 percent of students surveyed said their parents were very involved in the college admissions process. But parents almost always stopped short of doing the work on their own. For example, only 1 percent of students reported that their parents wrote their application essays for them.

What about those students whose parents do get overly involved and continue to hover after they start college? According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, they are more engaged in their studies, taking part in more educational activities, and are more satisfied with their college experience. It's important to note that the survey defined helicopter parents as those who often meet with campus officials to solve their child's problems.

The study also found that the children of helicopter parents earned lower grades. But the report doesn't blame parental intervention. Rather, it theorizes that parents take action because their children struggle in school.

### A Healthy Balance

So is there such a thing as too much parental involvement after all? Yes. While participation in a child's education is encouraged, parents should respect the needs of maturing teens. As children grow, they need to practice making their own decisions-with guidance from their parents. The Harvard report advises that teens need to face challenges that will build skills and self-esteem. They should take advantage of opportunities to shape their identity and speak their mind.

As you strive to maintain a healthy balance, try thinking of yourself as a coach. You're there to provide structure, give advice, and serve as a role model, but it's your child who needs to step up to the plate. Instead of keeping track of college application deadlines yourself, for example, work as a team to set up a calendar or weekly planner and let your child take charge of meeting those deadlines. You can also help by sharing your own strategies for staying organized.

To take a quiz or receive more information go to [www.collegeboard.com/parents/plan/getting-ready](http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/plan/getting-ready)