PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR
SENIOR YEAR

WALLED LAKE NORTHERN
HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF
2020
PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR SENIOR YEAR
Walled Lake Northern High School Code 230-689

The Walled Lake Northern Senior Year Planning Guide is designed to give you some basic information as you prepare for the college application process. For answers to individual questions, or for more extensive information, please make an appointment to meet with your counselor.

When you turn 18:
All 18-year-old citizens should register to vote.
All male citizens are required to register for the draft.

Important Information: All students will be required to request their transcripts electronically through “Parchment.com” (including applications through Common App). Please read the following information and instructions carefully to ensure your college application process runs as smoothly as possible!

WLN COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

- A Career Development Facilitator will be available in the Career Center to assist you with future planning and basic application information. For more extensive assistance, please make an appointment with your Counselor. The Career Center also contains a wealth of information on scholarships, college searches, financial aid, career exploration etc. and will be host to numerous visits from college admissions representatives throughout the year.

- All college applications require a high school transcript, and you must request this through Parchment. Instructions for registering on Parchment and requesting transcripts are on the next page. Please note that there may be a fee to have transcripts sent to some universities. If you do not wish to pay the fee, please let your Counselor know, and he/she will ensure that your transcript is sent by mail.

- Some universities (including University of Michigan) request that you complete the Common Application, an online application that you complete once, but can be accessed by many universities. To create an account, go to https://www.commonapp.org/ Once you have invited your Counselor to be a recommender, he/she will receive the electronic version of the Counselor portion of the Common Application, also called the Secondary School Report. Teachers whom you have identified as your recommenders by submitting their name and e-mail addresses will also be able to electronically submit their evaluation form and letter of recommendation through the Common Application. New essay prompts for the 2019-2020 application season are available! Go to https://www.commonapp.org/whats-appening/application-updates/2019-2020-common-app-essay-prompts

- During the busy application season, we require at least five school days for processing your transcript requests through Parchment! Please keep in mind that some universities have strict deadlines, and we must be allowed adequate time to process your requests. Transcript requests (original, mid-year, and final) should made directly to Common App, not the individual schools to which you are applying to through Common App. All other requests should be sent directly to the specific college.

- If you are requesting a letter of recommendation from a teacher, please allow at least three weeks for completion. Please complete the Brag Sheet (a copy can be found in this document). Don't forget to thank your teacher for his/her time in completing the letter of recommendation. A thank you note is a great way to do this!
Important! We will begin processing Parchment transcript requests during registration in August. If you will be visiting colleges and need a transcript during the summer months, please request one from your Counselor or the Counseling Office prior to the end of the school year.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE USE OF PARCHMENT

Every student requesting transcripts must register with [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) and submit an electronic request.

Benefits of using Parchment for transcript submission:
1. Transcripts can be requested by students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
2. You can track the status of your own transcript! Students will receive e-mails documenting each transcript request, and then follow-up e-mails with the status of each request. Additional e-mails will be sent confirming the arrival of your transcript to each college.
3. For most in-state colleges, the transcripts will be sent without a charge. There are over 30,000 destinations that currently receive electronic transcripts, and more will be added.
4. The timing for colleges receiving transcripts will be greatly reduced.
5. Once registered, students or alumni may request transcripts from home or a location other than school. As an alumnus, a fee may be charged to process Parchment requests. Please check with the Counseling Office if you are requesting transcripts post-graduation.

Steps to register with Parchment (if you DO NOT have your registration code):
1. Go to [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com).
2. Click on “Sign Up Create Account” in the upper right corner.
3. Follow instructions to complete registration process.
4. Use an e-mail address and password that you will remember, and check often.
5. The Profile section is optional. Fill this out ONLY if you would like to access some of the supplemental features in Parchment. It is not necessary to fill out this information.
6. Once you are registered, return to [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) and log in to request transcripts.
7. Please see page 4 for instructions on sending a transcript request.

Important Note:
During the registration process, you will be prompted to have your parent/guardian electronically sign an Authorization Form. All students under the age of 18 must have a parent sign electronically (we do not use a Registration Code). This is to ensure that your parent/guardian gives their permission to allow universities that you have selected to view your transcript.

Students in the class of 2020 must be registered with Parchment prior to registration in August.
HOW TO REQUEST YOUR TRANSCRIPT THROUGH PARCHMENT

1. Go to www.parchment.com

2. Click on “Sign-In” in the upper right hand corner and sign in to your account.

3. On the left hand side, click on “Order Your Transcript.”

4. If you want to send your transcript to a college, click on “Academic Institution.”

5. Search for the college you want to send your transcript to.

6. After you have found the correct college, click on “Select.”

7. There should be NO FEE to send your transcript. If Parchment is charging a fee, log-out and see the Counseling office secretary. WLN will send an official paper copy of your transcript free of charge.

8. Click on “Save & Continue” at the bottom right hand corner.

9. Click on “Continue.”

9. Click on “Save and Continue” after you give your consent.

10. Click on “I’m done.”

11. Click on “Profile” in the upper right hand corner and click on “Sign Out.”
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

☐ Register with Parchment (www.parchment.com). It is important that you have a professional e-mail address, as you do not want to encourage a negative first impression.

☐ Go to the College/University’s website for directions as to how to apply for admission.

☐ Follow links to application and read all application information carefully.

☐ Most university applications (and Common Application) will have their essay prompts posted by early summer. Start early! Don’t wait for crunch time in the fall.

☐ Complete and submit applications online.

☐ Request transcripts to be sent to each university (or to Common App) to which you have applied through www.parchment.com

☐ If you need a letter of recommendation, fill out a “Brag Sheet” and give to each of your recommenders. Allow at least three weeks for your teacher/counselor to complete your letter of recommendation. Please note that not all colleges require a letter of recommendation. If they do not specifically ask for one, it is best that you do not ask a teacher/counselor to write one as they be overwhelmed with requests. If you are unsure about this, please talk to your counselor.

☐ If filling out a hard copy (paper) application, attach any written essays, resumes, letters of recommendation etc. (if required) to the application to ensure a single mailing of all required items. Remember to include your application fee. Please be aware of deadlines as applications through the USPS take longer to receive and process.

☐ Submit ACT and/or SAT scores directly to the university if required (www.act.org or www.collegeboard.com). More schools are asking for test scores to be sent directly from ACT or Collegeboard, and will not accept the scores as they appear on your transcript. Please check the requirements for each university!

☐ Check the status of your online applications and transcript requests periodically to ensure that all materials have been received by the university. It is very important that you monitor your application status with each university. This is the only way you will know if your application is complete and ready for review. Universities may advise you, normally through your online account, if something is missing from your application materials.

☐ If you are applying to colleges with the Common Application, your counselor and teacher recommenders will receive notice via email to complete their portion. We strongly suggest that you view this link to familiarize yourself with the process before you begin: http://www.commonapp.org/how-apply

☐ Complete the FAFSA online (www.fafsa.ed.gov) and submit as early as October 1, 2019. The deadline for consideration for Michigan State Aid is March 1, 2020.
BEGINNING THE COLLEGE SEARCH PROCESS

Location – region/state
☐ How close to home do you want to stay?
☐ Is this school easy to get to (airports, train, buses)?
☐ How well do you adapt to new situations and weather?
☐ Would you be lonely if you moved far away from family and friends?
☐ Is there an area of the country where you always wanted to go to school?

Setting – urban, suburban, rural
☐ Are you looking for the excitement of a big city?
☐ Would you like to live on a picturesque campus with easy access to the activities of a big city?
☐ Would you prefer a school on a wooded campus with many opportunities for outdoor activities?

Size
☐ Have you always thought you would attend a big football school?
☐ Do you like the idea of a small school where it is easy to get to know everyone including the professors?
☐ Do you learn better in a small class environment or a larger classroom?
☐ Will a small school offer you the variety of courses and majors you need?
☐ Are you looking for a college about the size of your high school?

Type of School
☐ Would you prefer a liberal arts college or a major university?
☐ Would you be interested in a more specialized school such as an art school or a technological university?
☐ Have you considered a single sex school?
☐ Would you be interested in a historically black college or a religiously affiliated school?

Majors
☐ Are you looking for a school with a particular major?
☐ Do you need a school that offers pre-professional programs such as pre-medicine, pre-law, pre-veterinarian?
☐ Would you like the option to self-design a major?

Academic Reputation
☐ Are you looking for a school that has a reputation for being academically challenging?
☐ Do you think you will need a school that offers strong academic support?
☐ Is the college known for the strength of the department that you are interested in?
☐ Is the admission process highly competitive, competitive or non-competitive?
☐ Are you realistic in your chances of getting in?

Cost
☐ Have you and your family discussed how much you can afford to spend on college?
☐ Are you thinking of going to a community college the first two years to save money?
☐ Will you be living at home?
☐ Would you be willing to take a job on campus to help pay for expenses?
☐ Should you explore colleges that because of your strong academic or athletic record would offer you a scholarship?

Housing
☐ Do you want a college where housing is guaranteed all four years?
☐ Do you want a college where freshmen are required to live on campus?
☐ Are you interested in a specialized dorm (i.e. single sex, substance free, honors)?
☐ Are there apartment facilities located conveniently to the college?
Athletics
- Do you intend to play a sport in college? Have you created a NCAA Clearinghouse student account?
- Are you competitive for Division I sports?
- If playing for a Division I team meant sitting on the bench all season, would you rather play at a Division II or Division III school where you could play every game?
- Are you looking for an intramural or club team where you could play a sport just for fun?

Campus Facilities
- Are you looking for a school where most students live on campus or will you be commuting?
- As a freshman, will you want to have a car on campus?
- How important is the quality of the food?
- Will you require something special such as vegetarian or kosher meals?

Special Programs
- Do you need a school with services or programs for the learning disabled?
- Are you interested in ROTC?
- Have you thought you would like to study abroad?
- Do you plan to continue your ESL studies in college?
- Are you looking for an honors program?

Campus Life
- Do you plan to join a fraternity or sorority?
- Do you participate in activities in high school that you would like to continue in college?
- Does the school offer opportunities for community service?

Once you have weighed these options, you should begin to gather information and research colleges using the sources listed below:

- College search programs on the Internet such as www.michigancollegeguide.com
- Research each school’s website and take virtual tours.
- Speak with counselors, teachers, alumni, and friends.
- Meet with admission or college representatives as they visit our school and area.
- Keep a notebook of positive and negative impressions.
- Arrange for an official on-campus visit to your top choices before making final decisions.

From this research you should have at least 5 to 15 colleges that match your interests and needs. Most students apply to at least three colleges. As you narrow your choices, your selections should fall into three categories:

- **Dream Schools**: Schools that are a reach for you either academically or financially.
- **Probable Schools**: Schools that will meet your needs and will most likely accept you.
- **Safety Schools**: Schools that will make you happy and will be sure to accept you.
THE CAMPUS VISIT

It is important to visit the schools you are considering applying to in order to get a feel for the campus before you make a commitment, especially if you are considering applying early decision. The number of school visits that you make depends on your time and finances, but you should check out a large and a small school, or go to one urban and one small-town campus.

Knowing the importance of these visits, seniors are given two excused absences from school if proper procedures are taken, and the attendance office is notified ahead of time.

Before you visit a college campus, consider some of the pointers listed below to get the most out of your campus visits.

- **Do some preparation.** Before your visit, decide what you want to learn about the school and put together a list of questions. Use the same list for every school so that you can make comparisons.

- **Visit while classes are in session.** Sit in on classes, look around. Does this look like the kind of place where you will be comfortable and fit in? Read the campus newspaper and bulletin boards for announcements, concerts and activities. Stay overnight in a residence hall, if possible.

- **Schedule your visit at least two weeks in advance.** Call the admissions office to arrange your visit and inquire about campus tours.

- **Schedule interviews with faculty and admissions staff.** Meet with professors who teach in your area of interest. You should also try to meet with admissions representatives to verify admission requirements and discuss costs and financial aid.

- **Take the campus tour.** If the school offers an escorted tour, take advantage of it. You will get access to more of the campus. Watch how students spend their time and interact with each other and with you.

- **Ask lots of questions.** This is your chance to discover things you will learn no other way. Ask students what they like best and least about the school, what they would change, and what the campus is like on weekends.

- **Trust your instincts and take notes.** Brochures and videos can be misleading. See the campus through your own eyes. Pay attention to your first impressions. Is this where you want to live and go to school for four years? Make notes to jog your memory when decision time comes.
WHAT COLLEGES LOOK FOR

College admissions officers will use some, if not all, of the information listed below in their admissions process. However, individual colleges differ in how they evaluate this information. For example, one college may place a great deal of emphasis on test scores, while another college may not. Colleges look to admit well-rounded students who will be academically successful at their institution. Remember that colleges have other priorities that impact student admission such as the diversity of their student body, the geographical mix, legacy standing, athletics and talent, as well as summer experiences and internships.

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<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>Grades in All Subjects – Cumulative GPA</td>
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<td>2)</td>
<td>Grades in College Prep Courses – Academic GPA</td>
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<td>3)</td>
<td>Admission Test Scores</td>
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<td>4)</td>
<td>Difficulty of Courses</td>
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<td>5)</td>
<td>Class Rank (WLCSD DOES NOT RANK STUDENTS)</td>
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<td>6)</td>
<td>Academic Trend</td>
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<td>7)</td>
<td>Essay/Writing Sample</td>
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<td>8)</td>
<td>Teacher Recommendations</td>
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<td>9)</td>
<td>Counselor Recommendations</td>
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<td>10)</td>
<td>Interview (if applicable)</td>
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<td>11)</td>
<td>Work/Extracurricular Activities</td>
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<td>12)</td>
<td>Community Service</td>
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No single factor will determine acceptance or rejection. Some colleges may look only at grades and test scores. Most, however, are interested in more than just the academic record. They want to know about accomplishments, interests and future goals.
Definitions of Admission Options in Higher Education

**NON-RESTRICTIVE APPLICATION PLANS**

- **Regular Decision**
  Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

- **Rolling Admission**
  Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admissions decisions throughout the admission cycle.

- **Early Action (EA)**
  Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular date.

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

**RESTRICTIVE APPLICATION PLANS**

- **Early Decision (ED)**
  Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

- **Restrictive Early Action (REA)**
  Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

*Sourced from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)*
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Some schools and scholarship programs may ask for a letter of recommendation from your counselor and possibly one or two letters from teachers. The Common Application may require both teacher and counselor recommendations. If you want to add additional recommendations, be sure that each letter adds something new to your admissions file. The best recommendations come from people who have recently worked closely with you.

- Teachers can mail a letter to the university, or give it to you directly. It would be wise for the teacher to save an electronic copy of your letter in the event you need it for future applications. Teachers whom you have asked to be recommenders for the Common Application will receive email notification and will submit their recommendation electronically. **It is your responsibility to check the status of your Common Application to ensure all recommendations have been submitted!**

- Choose your recommenders wisely. Do not assume all letters will be complimentary. Students should make a formal request (an e-mail is not a formal request). **Schedule an appointment to discuss the recommendation fully.** Ask the teacher or counselor if he or she is able and willing to write a glowing letter on your behalf. Teachers will be honest. If there is any hesitation, find someone else.

- Give the letter writer a copy of your prepared resume or “Brag Sheet” (following pages) highlighting or describing how you have spent your high school years including your background, extracurricular activities, sports, jobs, and other responsibilities. The more information you provide, the more detailed the letter of recommendation can be. Go ahead, brag a bit – you deserve it!

- Provide ample time for the letter to be written. **Give at least three weeks advance notice. You may want to ask teachers before the end of the school year.** When school begins in the fall, teachers have less time to devote to letter writing.

- It is your responsibility to make sure the evaluation is sent on time. Check on the progress with the letter writer. If the due date is approaching, friendly written reminders are helpful. If the letter has been mailed to the college, make sure it has been received.

- If there is a specific form required, make sure you provide all instructions and the form to the teacher with your personal information. Be sure to hand the form directly to the person writing the recommendation. Do not leave the form on his/her desk, mailbox or under the door. If there is no special form, you should provide information as to the purpose of the recommendation (scholarship or admissions to a specific school?).

- Make sure you ask the appropriate teachers. If the application asks for teachers from 10th or 11th grade academics, don’t ask your 9th grade elective teacher.

- Promptly follow up with a personal “Thank You” note.

- When you receive notification of acceptance, let the teacher know and thank him/her again.

The “Brag Sheet” (also available in the Career Center and Counseling Office) will help to guide you in organizing your personal information for the teachers who have agreed to write a letter or fill out an evaluation for you.
Walled Lake Northern High School
Student "Brag" Sheet

The information you provide here will enable your counselor to provide colleges with a comprehensive letter. Please answer each question as honestly as you can and with as much detail as possible. Use specific examples to support your claims. The more details you include, the better the counselor statement I can write for you. If there is not sufficient space for your answer, please attach an additional sheet. Please print neatly and make a copy of these pages for yourself or another recommender. Your letter of recommendation will mirror the effort and work you put into these questions.

Name:

__________________________________________

Address:

__________________________________________

Home Phone: __________________________ Cell Phone: __________________________

Grade started at WLN: ______________ Counselor: __________________________

Schools attended prior to Walled Lake Northern High School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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Will you (and/or your siblings) be the first in your immediate family to go to college? ______ If no, what colleges did your parents attend?

________________________

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Siblings first name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>College Attended (Attending)</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
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1. Describe an academic experience that has been a highlight in your WLN years (a teacher, class, paper, project or book).
2. How have you spent your last two summers? Include any jobs you have held.

3. Please write or attach a list of School and Community Activities, Athletics. Work Experience, Recognition, Honors and Awards while in High School. Please include the number of years involved and if there was a leadership role.

4. Using the information provided in answer number 3, what are the items you are proudest of, or feel most strongly about? Why?

5. Are there any outside circumstances that have interfered with your academic performance? Is there anything on your transcript you feel warrants clarification?
6. At this time, what personal, educational, or vocational goals do you have in mind? What areas of study might you like to pursue in college? Do you have any clear idea about what you hope to do after graduation from college? Where do you see yourself in ten years? (Have fun with this one!)

7. Do you have a learning disability that has warranted special accommodations? If so, do I have your permission to discuss it in the school letter as a way of providing context for your academic performance?

8. Who at WLN knows you best? (You can include names of peers, teachers, and coaches)

9. Provide 6 ADJECTIVES that you, your family, or your friends would use to describe you.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.
HODGE-PODGE Obviously there are no "right" or "wrong" answers to the following questions. We just thought your replies might help us to know you a little better. Favorite book: Favorite keepsake: Favorite song: Favorite time of the day: Favorite activity: Favorite academic subject: Favorite movie: Favorite website: Favorite word: Favorite quotation:

Additional copies of this form can be found in the Career Room and Counseling Office.
ACT and SAT
2019-2020 Test Dates

W. L. Northern High School Code for all testing programs: 230-689

Most admissions decisions will be delayed until the college receives your ACT or SAT results and have the opportunity to review your scores. If you have taken the test, but have not indicated that your scores be sent to the specific colleges, contact the testing organization and let them know where you want your scores sent. There is usually a fee involved for each set of scores processed by the testing agency. Although your test scores are sent to universities as part of your transcript, some will ask for scores to be sent directly from ACT or the College Board (SAT). College websites will most likely inform you as to how they would like your scores reported.

If you plan on taking the test for the first time or are taking it again, let the colleges or universities to which you have applied know when you will be taking the test. On the day of the test, make sure you list the appropriate colleges with the testing agency.

ACT (AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST)
2019-2020 Test Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
<th>Regular Registration Postmark Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration Postmark Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$50.50/plus writing $67.00</td>
<td>Add $30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
<td>August 17 – August 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 2019</td>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
<td>Sept. 21 – October 4, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 9 – 22, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8, 2020</td>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
<td>January 11 – 17, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, 2020</td>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
<td>February 29 – March 13, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 9-22, 2020</td>
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* Please note that WLN is listed as a Commerce location for registration, not Walled Lake.

SAT (SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST)
2019-2020 Test Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST DATE</th>
<th>Regular Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$49.50/plus writing $64.50</td>
<td>Add $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24, 2019</td>
<td>July 26, 2019</td>
<td>August 6, 2019</td>
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<td>October 5, 2019</td>
<td>September 6, 2019</td>
<td>September 17, 2019</td>
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<td>November 2, 2019</td>
<td>October 3, 2019</td>
<td>October 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 19, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14, 2019</td>
<td>February 14, 2020</td>
<td>February 25, 2020 no subject test on this date</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2, 2020</td>
<td>April 3, 2020</td>
<td>April 14, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 19, 2020</td>
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</table>
SAT SUBJECT TESTS

SAT Subject Tests are hour-long, content-based tests that allow you to showcase achievement in specific subject areas where you excel. There are 20 SAT Subject Tests in five general subject areas: English, History, Languages, Mathematics and Science. Most selective colleges require students to take one or more of these tests in addition to the ACT or SAT. Colleges that require the Subject Tests may suggest that you take two or three of the tests. Most students will take Math, Writing, and a Science, History or a Language subject test. For more specific information about test requirements, check with the colleges or universities to which you are applying. For fees and additional testing information, visit https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat-subject-tests/register/test-dates-deadlines

AP OR ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS

Advanced Placement exams are higher-level subject tests. Nearly all colleges and universities award credit for a score of 5, most give credit for a score of 4, and some give credit for a score of 3. Depending on the college/university policy, credits may replace the need to take a subject’s introductory course (i.e. Freshman English Composition) or credits may be applied as elective credits. Either way, they can save time and money.

Cost: TBD
Test Dates: Usually the first two full weeks in May
Length of Test: Approximately 3 hours
Registration: Registration deadline TBD
Location: Walled Lake Schools Board Office and additional test sites as needed.

For more info on AP grading and scores go to: https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home?navid=gh-aps
SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships are awarded to students based on their academic record, leadership ability, talents, racial or ethnic heritage, written essays, declared major, or need for financial assistance. Some sources of scholarship aid are your parents’ employers, labor unions, civic and religious organizations, professional associations, and other private groups. Since many scholarships are awarded by colleges, students should check the financial aid department of schools they are interested in attending for a separate listing of their scholarships. This office also administers various federal aid programs as well as any institutional funds that the school might have set aside for this purpose. Most of these scholarships can be found on each school’s website.

There are many scholarship websites that offer students the ability to search for scholarships that are tailor-made to fit their specific characteristics. Fastweb (www.fastweb.com) is one of the best known and most widely respected of these scholarship sites. Fastweb will e-mail alerts for scholarships matching your individual needs. Other scholarship and college search websites are listed on page 17.

Walled Lake Northern’s Counseling Center receives and publishes information on a variety of scholarships. A list of available scholarships is posted on Walled Lake Northern’s website (click on Counseling, then on Scholarships). Keep your counselor informed of your particular interest area or needs when searching for scholarship possibilities.

The main sources of financial aid other than scholarships are the federal government, the state government, and institutions (colleges and universities). Financial aid funding options can be merit-based, need-based or non-need-based. To be considered for student financial aid, all students and parents must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA is the only approved application used for federal, state, and institutional financial aid. The FAFSA cannot be completed until October 1 of the student’s senior year, and should be filed prior to March 1 to receive priority consideration for Michigan state-awarded aid. By attending the Michigan College Goal Sunday (date to be determined), an expert can assist you in filling out your FAFSA free of charge. Visit the website at: http://www.micollegegoal.org for more information.

Remember the following points:

- Start early.
- Submit the FAFSA in a timely manner (as soon as October 1, 2019).
- Plan ahead if letters of recommendation or transcripts are required.
- Make sure you meet all eligibility requirements.
- Follow scholarship application directions - provide only what is required.
- Neatness and spelling do count.
- Watch all deadlines.
- Be willing to compete, as many applicants will apply for the same scholarship.
- Be persistent and thorough.
- Go to WLN’s website for updated lists every week.
- Check scholarship and college websites.
- Apply for local (Legacy) scholarships...deadline is early January of Senior year.
- Ensure that the writing/content of your essays reflect the caliber of student you are. Prepare a draft copy beforehand and check thoroughly for errors.
Helpful Websites and resources for Future Planning

Career Development Facilitator located in room D101 contact 248-956-4296

For College and Career Searches:
www.careercruising.com
www.collegeboard.com
www.collegeexpress.com
www.ecampustours.com
www.collegeview.com
www.collegeanswer.com
www.petersons.com
www.princetonreview.com

http://www.macroa.org (for transferring college credits)
https://www.khanacademy.org/

For Scholarships and Financial Aid:
www.fafsa.ed.gov
www.fastweb.com
www.collegescholarships.com
https://studentaid.ed.gov
www.finaid.org
https://www.collegeanswer.com
www.gocollege.com
www.financialaidfinder.com
http://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid
https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/tools-calculators

While every effort is made to review these websites regularly, it may be possible that some are no longer available. These websites should be used for informational or research purposes only and are not endorsed by Walled Lake Northern or Walled Lake Consolidated Schools.
Skilled Trades

"Going PRO," an effort in Michigan to promote jobs in the trades, kicked off with the help of local leaders from the workplace, area businesses, and educators. The campaign is focusing on helping Michigan employers fill about 545,000 jobs through the year 2026. The jobs will be in the fields of construction, manufacturing, healthcare, automotive, information technology, and other high-skilled trades. The Talent and Economic Development Department of Michigan is organizing the campaign.

Going PRO in Michigan: https://www.going-pro.com/?fclid=IwAR0sED69d6JDi3kprcEFymeUUmZ-VIY6mew8YGdls3kprcEFymeUUmZ-VIY6mew0Yz4MQ_HJrgE

MAT²

Are you looking for a well-paying manufacturing or technology career without the worry of tuition? MAT² may be the answer for you! The MAT² (Michigan Advanced Technician Training) program is an innovative, industry-driven approach to education. This isn’t the production line technology of past generations — these are cutting-edge careers in advanced manufacturing using 3-D models, computer simulations, software development and more. This is an apprenticeship program where students alternate between classroom instruction and on-the-job training, gaining the necessary hands-on skills and real-world experiences for them to become a successful and productive member of the skilled workforce.

Benefits to students:
- College tuition paid for by an employer
- On-the-job training with pay
- Earn an associate degree
- An opportunity for employment upon successful completion of the program

MAT²: https://www.mitalent.org/mat2

Explore Careers

Michigan Training Connect: https://www.mitalent.org/mitc

Use MiTC to explore career options, set educational goals, and find the training you need to achieve your goals.

Pathfinder: https://pathfinder.mitalent.org/#/home
- Search for exciting and interesting careers
- Discover what schools offer the programs you are interested in
- See detailed information
- Compare programs and careers

Michigan Works!: http://www.michiganworks.org/job-seekers/
Michigan Works! is a valuable resource for those seeking employment. Visit a Michigan Works! One-Stop Service Center and evaluate your strengths and skills. They can help you create or update your resume, sharpen your interview skills and more.

**Apprenticeships**

[https://www.michigan.gov/wda/0,5303,7-304-73460---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/wda/0,5303,7-304-73460---,00.html)

**NOTES:**