

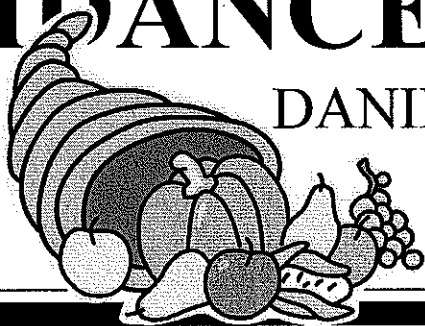
GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER

DANIEL HAND HIGH SCHOOL

FALL 2008

Guidance Office 245-6360

www.danielhand.org



Mark Your Calendars

College Planning Seminar for Senior Parents/Students

Thursday, October 2nd
at 7:00 PM - DHHS
Dining/Assembly Hall

PSAT Registration

Sophomores and Juniors
Registration in
Guidance Office
Fee: \$24
September 22nd to
October 3rd

PSAT

Saturday
October 18th (only)
7:30 AM - SHARP



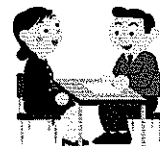
Financial Aid Night

November 13th
7:00 PM DHHS
Dining/Assembly Hall

College Seminar for Junior Class

January 15th
7:00 PM
Dining/Assembly Hall

MEET YOUR COUNSELORS



Jean Baker is the Director of Guidance and is in her twentieth year as a school counselor. Ms. Baker holds a B.S. degree from the University of Miami in business education, an advanced certification degree from Catholic University, an M.S. degree from Western Connecticut State University in School Counseling, and a Sixth-Year degree in Education leadership from Southern Connecticut State University. She also taught high school for eleven years in Baltimore County, Maryland. Ms. Baker has served as past president of the Connecticut Association of College and Educational Supervision. Ms. Baker and her husband are the proud owners of a vintage Allied Seawind sailboat and sail both the Chesapeake and the Sound.

Phyllis Annunziata has been a school counselor in Madison for twenty-five years, and began her counseling career at DHHS as a college and career counselor. Phyllis holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from Connecticut College in New London and a master's degree in secondary school counseling from Southern Connecticut State University. As a Madison counselor, Phyllis has served on numerous committees and teams at a variety of grade levels related to developmental guidance, academic programming, school policies and procedures, school climate, and student support. Phyllis has been in the field of education for thirty-six years.

Mary Curran is in her ninth year as a counselor and came to us from Old Saybrook High School where she had been a special education teacher for thirteen years. Ms. Curran holds a B.S. from Northeastern University and M.S. in both special Education and School Counseling from Southern Connecticut State University. Ms. Curran is well known and respected for her work in animal rights programs, especially Wind Over

Wings in Westbrook.

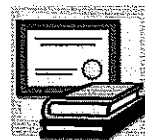
Christine Coyle is in her seventh year as counselor in Madison. Prior to working at Hand, Ms. Coyle was a counselor at East Haven High School and Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford. Ms. Coyle earned a B.S. degree in Human Development and Family Relations at the University of Connecticut and a M.S. in School Counseling from Southern Connecticut State University. Ms. Coyle is an avid sailor and Huskies fan!

Patricia Judson is in her eleventh year at Daniel Hand. Mrs. Judson received a B.A. in Psychology from Central Connecticut State University and an M.S. in School Counseling from Southern Connecticut State University. Prior to working at Hand, she was employed for ten years in the insurance industry. Mrs. Judson also worked as a career counselor the Middletown Adult Education Program. She has served on several executive and strategic planning boards in her hometown of Durham. The past fall, Mrs. Judson celebrated her 17th year as a volunteer at the Durham Fair.

Cynthia Skarsten is in her fifth year at Daniel Hand. She came to us with six years of experience as a school counselor from Amity High School in Woodbridge, Connecticut and Franklin High School in New Hampshire. In addition, she has extensive experience working in both hospital and school settings as a mental health therapist. Ms. Skarsten is a licensed professional counselor and holds a B.S. degree in Human Development, Counseling, and Family Studies from the University of Rhode Island. She earned her M.S. degree in Clinical and School Counseling from the University of Bridgeport. Ms. Skarsten and her family like to spend their free time either at the shore or on their boat.



COLLEGE ADVISING



**Financing a College Education
Presented by David Welsh
November 13th
Daniel Hand High School
The Dining and Assembly Hall
7:00 to 8:30 PM**

David Welsh is the Director of Financial Aid and Veterans' Advisor at Tunxis Community College. He is the past president of the Connecticut Association of Professional Financial Aid Administrators and has served on the advisory boards of the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation and the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority.

He has presented to numerous parent, student, and professional groups on financial aid topics and has served for ten years as a resident faculty member at the College Board's annual institute on Financial Aid Administration.

Mr. Welsh comes highly recommended from both the secondary and post-secondary institutions of Connecticut and beyond.

A do not miss event!

**COMMUNITY AND PARENT
VOLUNTEERS WANTED
FOR DHHS CAREER CENTER**

The DHHS Counseling Career Center is in need of volunteers from the Madison community to assist us in many career related activities:

- Assist juniors and seniors in resume writing
- Develop a resource list of possible job shadow sites and/or internships
- Share your career experiences with individual or small groups of interested students
- Assist students with stimulating career exploration activities provided by the school counseling staff

**Please contact Jean Baker,
Director of Guidance and Counseling
245-6360**

College Representative Visits

Last year over 125 college representatives scheduled appointments to meet with students and school counselors in the College and Career Planning Center. These visits are a wonderful opportunity for our juniors and seniors to meet either in a group or on an individual basis with the college rep. The students gain first-hand information regarding the college and the programs offered. They are made aware of visitation opportunities through tours, information sessions, and open house days. College visitation schedules are posted in the guidance office and the front hallways. They also appear in the daily bulletin and are an integral part of our new guidance webpage. New feature this year – a schedule of college visits is now available on Naviance (<http://connection.naviance.com/dhhs>); students may sign up on line! WOW!

Students who are not scheduled for a class during the assigned period may simply come to the Career Center and meet with the representative. However, if they are going to miss instructional time, students must get permission from their classroom teacher two days in advance.

It is also important to note that every college rep is scheduled to meet individually with one of the counselors. This provides time to learn more about the college and allows the counselor to discuss specific students with the visiting representative.



YEAR BY YEAR

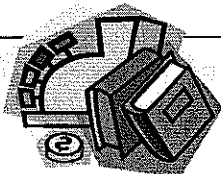


Class of 2012

The freshmen class had a very successful high school orientation program on August 27th. Parents remained in the Dining and Assembly Hall with the administrators, while the freshmen spent time with upperclassmen reviewing schedules, discussing relevant topics, and touring the building. The next scheduled meeting with the freshmen was on September 25th. All freshmen attended a guidance sponsored assembly entitled, *Making High School Count*. They learned the importance of goal setting and making good choices both academically and socially. This event will be followed by small group meetings with the students' designated counselors.

Class of 2011

The focus of sophomore year at the high school is career exploration and academic planning. During the initial meeting, information will be presented on topics such as the PSAT, the importance of working to one's potential, and commitment to school and community through service. In January, all sophomores will be involved in learning more about their aptitudes and interests and in exploring career options. **We do encourage sophomores to take the PSAT on Saturday, October 18th.**



There are a number of excellent college references to assist you in the search and application process. Some of the counselors' favorites are:

Fiske Guide to Getting Into the Right College, by Edward B. Fiske and Bruce G. Hammond

Looking Beyond the Ivy League, by Loren Pope

Class of 2010

There is no doubt that junior year is one filled with information and activities. **On Saturday, October 18th**, all juniors are encouraged to take the PSAT at **Daniel Hand**. During the week of September 15th, Mrs. Britton and Mrs. Baker visited all junior classes and reviewed CAPT scores and upcoming events for Junior Year. During the year, we will be offering two special programs for both students and parents. These dates will be announced. In addition, since we had such a successful college/career fair last spring, we will be planning this event again for spring 2009.

Class of 2009

All seniors have been assigned to groups to review the college application/post secondary school process. Parents are invited to a College/Career Workshop on **Thursday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.** in the Dining/ Assembly Hall. The counselors will be reviewing the college application process, explaining how to use the web-based program "Naviance", and answering questions regarding post-secondary plans. Seniors may attend, especially if they missed their group presentation or want a thorough review.

Great websites:

<http://www.collegeboard.org> A comprehensive college website sponsored by the CollegeBoard

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> Use this online form to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid over the Internet.

<http://www.fastweb.com> The Internet's largest free scholarship search.

<http://www.actstudent.org> The ACT website.

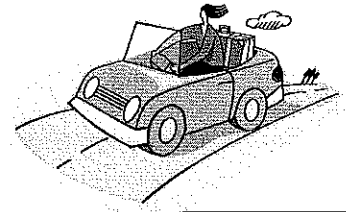
<http://www.youniversitytv.com> Virtual college tours

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Each year the school counselors at Hand participate in numerous conferences and workshops to keep informed about the latest trends and changes in the college selection process. Some of these include The College Board Fall Counselor Workshops, The Connecticut School Loan Foundation's Financial Aid Conference, and Reverse College Day, just to name a few. The counselors are encouraged to visit colleges and participate in organized college tours where they get to network with admission representatives, as well as with other high school counselors from all over the country.

This summer the counselors toured colleges in several states including: California, New York, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., Connecticut, and Maine.

Daniel Hand is a very highly respected high school. Ms. Curran recently registered for the New Hampshire College tour, which will cover 11 colleges and universities. On Friday, October 3rd, counselors will be touring several Connecticut colleges for an update in new majors and special programs. Ms. Baker will be attending the annual Connecticut School Counseling Association Conference in October.



Counselors may be reached at 245-6360 or by leaving a message at 245-6475 and the number below:

Christine Coyle 7819
coylec@madison.k12.ct.us

Phyllis Annunziata 7065
annunziatap@madison.k12.ct.us

Jean Baker
bakerj@madison.k12.ct.us

Mary Curran 7066
curranmary@madison.k12.ct.us

Patricia Judson 7430
judsonp@madison.k12.ct.us

Cynthia Skarsten 7009
skarstenc@madison.k12.ct.us

Counselor Assignments
 2008 -2009

Counselor	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Coyle	Abely - Derry	Abbondandolo-Depierro	Adams-Colozzi	Abbey-Devin
Curran	Desrosiers-Gyenizs	Derkin-Kasprow	Coppola - Harding	Dickey - Holzer
Judson	Hackett-McCann	Kawai - Morin	Harris-McAndrews	Honorof-McLaughlin
Skarsten	McCarthy-Reynolds	Morris-Sparn	McCrea-Sabo	McNerney-Russell
Annunziata	Riccio-Zotto	Squitiero-Zhao	Sangan-Zotto	Russo-Zak