

Seniors- Please make every effort to do these two things this week:

1. Go online at www.fafsa.gov and request an FSA-ID. This takes about 10 min. (One parent needs an FSA-ID.)
2. If you are TN Promise, apply to the school where you will use it. The Southwest application takes 15 minutes at the most. If you are unable to pay the \$10 online, you still will submit the application and you may pay later. You also do not need to send a transcript now. SWTCC wants a final transcript (May 2016).

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

- **MON., DEC. 7TH**-7pm- Band Holiday Concert (Concert, Symphonic and small ensembles). Faith Baptist on Kirby Whitten, Bartlett. Cost \$3
- **MON., DEC. 7-6:30-8:00**-Bolton Theatre- Freshman choir, gospel and show choir will present holiday music. Cost \$5 adults, students \$3
- **TUES., DEC. 8TH**-Juniors may pick up class rings in café' and seniors may order grad. supplies. If you have questions, email Doug at balfourh@bellsouth.net
- **TUES., DEC. 8TH 6:30-8:00pm**- East Hill Baptist Church, Bartlett-Men's choir, Women's choir and Concert Choir will perform Holiday music. (Opera concert next Monday night). Cost \$5 adults, students \$3
- **THURS., DEC. 10TH**- "Murder Mystery' Theatre Scholarship Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction 6:30-8:00pm in the Bolton Cafeteria. Catered by Olive Garden. Tickets \$10.
- **FRI., DEC. 11TH**- 10:30-11:30AM in the library- 30 Plus Club Ugly Sweater Contest, Holiday Brunch and College Panel. Wear your most "unique" holiday sweater! Invitations will go out by Dec. 9th.
- **SAT., DEC. 12TH NATIONAL ACT AT BOLTON HS**- Students must bring ACT Admission Ticket **AND** Photo ID (or ID Letter), calculator (They must bring their own) and a snack. No printing is allowed on-site the morning of the test and no calculators are provided. You must plan ahead and be at Bolton by 7:30am. Testing will be over at approx.. 11:40 and with writing approx.. 12:30.

Semester Exam Schedule

- Wed., Dec. 16th- Periods 2 and 4
- Thurs., Dec. 17th-Periods 1 and 3
- Fri., Dec. 18th- Periods 5,6 and 7 (students will dismiss at 11:15)

- Upcoming 2016 ACT is February 6th at Bolton HS
Regular regist. deadline is January 8th. See Ms. Sisk in M212 if you qualify for fee waiver.

The following two pages are notes from the Financial Aid Night for Seniors and Their Parents.

Financial Aid: FAFSA Notes- Dec. 2015

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

1. The student and one parent must apply for a FSA ID number prior to completing the FAFSA at <https://studentaid.ed.gov> . You may apply for an FSA ID numbers NOW ☺
2. Parents- If you already have a PIN, you can link your information to your new FSA ID by entering your PIN while registering for your FSA ID. (This will save you time when registering for your FSA ID.) If you've forgotten your PIN, don't worry; you can either enter the answer to your PIN "challenge question" during the FSA ID registration process to link your PIN, or you can just create your FSA ID from scratch.
3. The FAFSA will be available on line at www.fafsa.gov on January 1, 2016. Do NOT go to fafsa.com, .org, .net (ALL ARE SCAMS!) **The priority deadline is to have it submitted as soon after Jan. 1 as possible. Federal and state money (but not HOPE lottery) ran out Feb. 1st last year.** The FAFSA is the ONLY application for the HOPE Lottery scholarship and the TN Promise scholarship.
4. If you have ANY questions when completing the FAFSA, please e-mail Allison Linna (allinna@memphis.edu), Financial Aid Outreach Coordinator at the Univ. of Memphis. She conducted the financial aid workshop at Bolton HS and encouraged parents to e-mail her with FAFSA questions.
5. The MAJORITY of people complete their FAFSA **before completing or filing their income taxes.** After your tax return is done, you will log back into your FAFSA and make corrections on your previous tax estimates.
6. You may also complete your FAFSA based on last paychecks and end-of-the-year statements for 2015.
7. You must estimate income amounts. Do not enter zeroes where a dollar amount should be entered. It will give a false estimate for student aid.
8. Contact the college's financial aid office if any decreases in income have occurred or will occur in the next school year such as unemployment, divorce and catastrophic illness. A financial aid officer has the ability to manually make changes to financial aid awards based on documentation.
9. Make sure ALL social security numbers are correct. Make sure ALL names entered on form match the name on the social security card. **This is the most common mistake on the FAFSA form.**
10. Student Info-Mark never attended college, even if you have taken dual enrollment classes.
11. Parent Information- Only put the financial information for the parent(s) in the home where the student resides most of the school year, which is usually the parent who provides the most financial support.

12. If a parent has remarried and the student lives in the home with a parent and a stepparent, you must include the stepparent's financial information too.
13. You may list up to 10 colleges-Always put the most expensive college first and always put one TN College. If you have several expensive colleges, then prioritize them in the order in which you want to attend.

Get an estimate now of your federal student aid with the FAFSA 4caster!

Go to www.fafsa.gov and use link at bottom right for the FAFSA 4caster.

You may get a head start **FAFSA4caster** will help you understand your options for paying for college. Provide some basic information and **we'll estimate your eligibility for federal student aid**. Your estimate will be shown in the "College Cost Worksheet" where **you can also provide estimated amounts of other student aid and savings** that can go towards your college education.

You may also get a paper copy of the FAFSA under "Filing Options" at www.fafsa.gov . It is useful to use this paper copy as a worksheet for you to get your information together so you will be able to easily complete the online FAFSA on Jan. 1st 2016!

Information Needed to Complete the FAFSA

1. **Your FSA ID** (student and one parent must have one). Go to www.fafsa.gov NOW to create the FSA ID. See lock link at top of page.
2. **Your social security number** (student and parent)-If you don't know it, it can be found on your social security card. You must make sure that you use the correct number on your FAFSA. If you are not a US citizen, you'll need your Alien Registration number.
3. **Student's Driver's License number** (if you have one)
4. **Parent's tax records** (and student's if working) for 2015-You may use your 2014 tax information to use as an estimate and then you may go back and make corrections after you have your 2015 tax information. PLEASE do not wait to get your 2015 tax information; just use an estimate.
5. **Records of untaxed income**-This includes many variables which may or may not apply to you such as child support, interest income, veteran's non-educational benefits.
6. **Records of assets**- This includes savings and checking account balances, as well as investments such as stocks, bonds and real estate.
7. **List of the schools that student is interested in attending**-The schools that you list on your FAFSA will automatically receive your FAFSA results electronically. They will use your FAFSA information to determine the types and amounts of financial aid that you may receive. You may list up to 10 schools on the FAFSA and you may add more later.