Dear Parents/Guardians of High School Students:

The high school years are very exciting and equally challenging times as many students prepare applications and seek funding for their post secondary education. Southfield Public Schools would like to support you and your son/daughter in this process by offering a College Readiness Series.

Beginning Saturday, October 8, 2011, Southfield Public Schools will host a series of Saturday seminars for high school students and their parents. The sessions will provide information on effective tips, techniques and strategies for obtaining college acceptance and securing funding for college.

The College Readiness Series will focus on the following topics:

- Advanced Placement Courses: The Advantages of Taking College Level Courses in High School
- Careers, Inc.
- College Applications and Admissions
- Essay Writing: Review and Critique
- Funding Strategies for College Costs
- Introduction to Career Cruising
- NCAA Eligibility
- Career Pathways
- Choosing the Right Major and College
- College Interviews
- Financial Aid & Scholarships
- High School: Off to the Right Start
- Introduction to the College Applications/Essay
- Writing Winning Essays

The sessions will be held on the following dates at University High School Academy:

Saturdays – October 8th, 15th, 29th and November 5th, 2011 from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

There will be a Parent/Student Informational Meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2011; this meeting will be held at Southfield High School in the Auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

In an effort to provide adequate sessions and seating to accommodate students and parents, online registration is highly recommended. Please reserve a seat for you and your child by completing and submitting the online registration form. An information sheet providing the directions for online registration, dates, times and topics for workshops is enclosed. Registrations may also be submitted via fax to University High School Academy, 248-746-4374.

For additional information, please contact Ms. Robin Brown at 248-746-4330, or Ms. Marcia Williams, Dean of University High School Academy at 248-746-4370, or your child’s high school counseling department.

Sincerely yours,

Robin Brown, Supervisor of Career & Technical Education
Marcia Williams, Dean of University High School Academy
College Readiness Series Overview - Parent/Student Meeting
September 28, 2011
Southfield High School Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

October 8, 2011 Session Offerings and Descriptions

**Careers Inc.:** This interactive multimedia workshop helps students define their areas of interest, personal strengths and innate personalities with careers that may be of interest to them through the use of hand-held devices. Careers Inc. arms students with tools and resources to make better college and career decisions. **Target Audience:** Grades 11-12

**Career Pathways:** This seminar is designed to help students assess their areas of interest and personal strengths. This information will be useful when considering colleges, majors and careers that may be of interest to them. **Target Audience:** Grade 10

**Choosing the Right College and Major:** During this session, participants will engage in a discussion about selecting the right college/university, exploring career options, and enhancing one’s personal experiences through internships, part-time jobs, community involvement, co-ops and more. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**College Applications and Admissions:** Attendees will learn college admission strengths, how to avoid common applications mistakes, and will gain an understanding of the academic expectations and application requirements for college. Completing the common application will also be discussed. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**High School: Off to the Right Start:** Students will be exposed to useful information about expectations colleges have for student performance (and course expectations) during the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade years. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-10

October 15, 2011 Session Offerings and Descriptions

**The College Admission Interview: Putting Your Best Self Forward:** Students will learn helpful tips for articulating their strengths, creativity and character during the admission interview. During the session, participants will have an opportunity to utilize their newly acquired skills by participating in mock college interviews. **Target Audience:** Grades 11-12

**How to Search for Scholarships:** Participants will gain knowledge of scholarship websites and learn how to successfully complete scholarship applications. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**Introduction to the College Application/Essay:** Attendees will complete the Common Application and draft the required personal statement/essay. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-10

**Strategies for College Success:** Students will learn study skills, different forms of note-taking, time management techniques and test-taking tips. Also, students will learn about the expectations of college professors. **Target Audience:** Grades 11-12

**Writing Winning Essays 101:** During this session, participants will learn tips and strategies that will help them develop the written portion of the college application, with a focus on the essay. In addition, students will receive information about how to request a letter of recommendation and how to create a recommendation resume. **Target Audience:** Grades 11-12

October 22, 2011 Session Offerings and Descriptions

**Essay Writing: Review & Critique:** This seminar is the second part of Writing Winning Essays 101. Students are expected to bring their college entrance essays with them. Essays will be reviewed for grammar and aptness by college admissions experts. **Target Audience:** Grades 11-12

**Financial Aid, Loans & Scholarships:** Attendees will learn how to navigate through the financial aid process. Financial aid experts will discuss ways to apply for aid, what type of aid is available, and how to complete financial aid and scholarship applications successfully. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**NCAA Eligibility 101:** Participants will receive information about NCAA Eligibility and Clearinghouse requirements. This seminar is a must for student athletes who aspire to take part in collegiate sports. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

October 29, 2011 Session Offerings and Descriptions

**Advanced Placement Courses: The Advantage of Taking College Level Courses in High School:** This seminar will inform participants about the different types of Advanced Placement courses offered during high school and the advantages of enrolling in Advanced Placement courses while in high school. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**College Admissions Interviewing Techniques:** Students will receive tips for articulating their strengths, creativity and character during college admission interviews. During this session, students will have an opportunity to practice their newly acquired knowledge by participating in mock college interviews. **Target Audience:** Grades 9-12

**Introduction to Career Cruising:** Parents and students will explore Career Cruising, the Internet-based career exploration and planning tool. This tool aims to help students to investigate career and college options and develop a career plan. Attendees will be reviewed on the key features of the program: Interest and skill assessment, career profiles, multimedia interviews, college and financial aid information, electronic education development plan (EDP) tool, and resume builder.
College Readiness Series Registration Form

Directions: Please log onto the district website www.southfield.k12.mi.us, complete and submit the registration form including your email address. Confirmations of registration and reminders will be sent via email only. In the event you have to cancel your attendance to any session, please email your cancellation to collegereadiness@southfield.k12.mi.us at least 48 hours prior to the session.

Student’s Name ________________________ Email ______________________________

Parent’s Name ________________________ Email ______________________________

Address___________________________ City/State/Zip Code _________________________

Best Contact Phone Number ___________________________ ___________________________

Student’s School _____SLHS _____SHS ________SRAC ______ UHSA  Student’s Grade ______

Attending: _____student _____1 parent _____2 parents  Total Attending: __________

Please place an X next to the time slot (per topic) that you are interested in attending

Saturday Sessions - 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – University High School Academy

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<tr>
<th>October 8</th>
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<td><strong>Choosing the Right Major and College</strong> (Grades 9-12)</td>
<td><strong>College Interviews</strong> (Grades 11-12)</td>
<td><strong>Essay Writing: Review &amp; Critique</strong> (Grades 11-12)</td>
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<td><strong>Financial Aid, Loans &amp; Scholarships</strong> (Grades 9-12)</td>
<td><strong>Advanced Placement Courses: The Advantage of Taking College Level Courses in High School</strong> (Grades 9-11)</td>
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<td><strong>Strategies for College Success</strong> (Grades 11-12)</td>
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College Readiness Fall 2011

These workshops are available to all high school students and their parents.

Complete your contact information, including email address, and select the sessions you would like to attend. Registration for all sessions will close on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at 5 pm. Any cancellations or questions may be emailed to collegereadiness@southfield.k12.mi.us.

Please arrive 20 minutes early to sign-in for your session(s).

Contact Information

Prefix

First*

Middle

Last*

Suffix

Address

Address 1*

Address 2

Address 3

City*

State*

Region

Zip Code* (ex. 06108 or 06108-0809)

Country

Best Contact Phone Number - Add

Email*

Please provide an email address. Reminders and any changes will be sent via email.
Student School*
Please indicate the student’s school.
☐ SHS  ☐ S-LHS  ☐ SRAC  Add  UHSA (i.e - University High School Academy)

Attending*
Please check who will attend.
☐ Student  ☐ 1 Parent  ☐ 2 Parents

Total Attending*
Please Select…

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PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHMENTS FOR THE UPDATED - DESCRIPTIONS & SESSIONS

The sessions should be created like the ones below. Thank you!

Saturday Sessions: 8:30am - 1:00pm
University High School Academy

Please arrive 20 minutes early to sign-in for your session(s).

October 9

Choosing the Right Major & College
Select one time slot for this topic.
☐ 8:45am - 10:00am  ☐ 10:15am - 11:30am  ☐ 11:45am - 1:00pm

College Applications & Admissions
Select one time slot for this topic.
☐ 8:45am - 10:00am  ☐ 10:15am - 11:30am  ☐ 11:45am - 1:00pm

October 16

College Interviews
Select one time slot for this topic.
☐ 8:45am - 10:00am  ☐ 10:15am - 11:30am  ☐ 11:45am - 1:00pm

Writing Winning Essays 101
Select one time slot for this topic.
☐ 8:45am - 10:00am  ☐ 10:15am - 11:30am  ☐ 11:45am - 1:00pm

October 30
Essay Writing: Review & Critique
Select one time slot for this topic.

- 8:45am - 10:00am
- 10:15am - 11:30am
- 11:45am - 1:00pm

Strategies for College Success
Select one time slot for this topic.

- 8:45am - 10:00am
- 10:15am - 11:30am
- 11:45am - 1:00pm

November 6

Financial Aid & Scholarships
Select one time slot for this topic.

- 8:45am - 10:00am
- 10:15am - 11:30am
- 11:45am - 1:00pm

Funding Strategies for College Costs
Select one time slot for this topic.

- 8:45am - 10:00am
- 10:15am - 11:30am
- 11:45am - 1:00pm