

Senior Scoop

Well, Seniors and parents, you have finally reached your final year at Galena High School. After twelve years of school, you only have about eight months left. But, the next eight months may be the busiest you'll ever have. You'll be busy taking classes (some of them a head start for college), taking the ACT, applying for scholarships and financial aid, applying to colleges, going on the Senior trip, etc. You'll be making many decisions this year that will affect the rest of your life.

Just a reminder, you're not in this alone – teachers, parents, Mr. Krouse, etc. - are willing to help you to have a successful Senior year. Make sure you use all of your available resources so you can enjoy yourself along the way!!!

Senior Trip Options

The Senior trip is scheduled for April 28 & 29, 2017. Seniors will be voting on their trip destination soon. Each trip will cost approximately \$300-\$350. The following trip packages have been developed for consideration and approved by the USD #499 school board:

Branson - breakfast at Hemingway's in Bass Pro Shop in Springfield, Silver Dollar City, Whitewater, Shepherd of the Hills evening performance, wax museum

Dallas – 6th Floor JFK Museum, DFW World Aquarium, Hard Rock Café, Holocaust Museum, Six Flags, **Rangers vs. California Angels game**, or Medieval times Dinner Theater

Kansas City – College Basketball Experience, National World War I Museum, shopping at Legends, dinner theater or other activity, and Worlds of Fun – **Royals vs. Minnesota Twins game**

St. Louis – St. Louis Zoo, Hard Rock Café, the Arch, Union Station shopping, or **Cardinals vs. Cincinnati Reds game** or Family Fun Center, and Six Flags

San Antonio – Alamo, Sea World-San Antonio, Riverwalk dinner cruise, Ultimate Mirror Maze, lunch at Hard Rock Café

Chicago – Shedd's Aquarium, shopping at Navy Pier, and Six Flags Great America, other activities
TBA – **NO GAMES IN TOWN.**

Students planning to go on the Senior trip will be voting on the trip options on Wednesday, October 6 and Friday, October 7. As soon as the destination is chosen, Mrs. Simmons will begin making arrangements for the trip.

Just a reminder – students are not required to go on the Senior trip.

Senior Account Balances

Students that worked the concession stand during their freshman and sophomore years, as well as juniors that helped decorate for the prom, earned money toward payment for their senior trip. An account balance is enclosed with this newsletter. Just because a student has a zero balance in their account does not mean they cannot go on the senior trip. The trip itself can be paid outright and/or the student can work at Brewno's Coffee Shop to help cover the cost of the trip.

The amount each student still owes for the trip will be divided up into three payments with the 1st payment being due on Nov. 20. The second trip payment should be due around January 22, and the final payment will be due prior to the trip after all final arrangements have been made. Most students that work at Brewno's Coffee Shop should have the opportunity to pay for their trip in full, without having to make any payments, provided they show up to work when they are scheduled.

The trip may be paid in full at anytime. If an overpayment is made, that money will be given to the student as spending money on the trip. All checks should be made out to Galena High School.

If your son/daughter does not plan on going on the trip, he/she will need to contact Mrs. Simmons about giving the money earned to another student that is going on the trip.

Upcoming Senior Events

Oct. 21 – Fall Senior Night for seniors participating in Fall Activities

Oct. 26 – Josten's Cap & Gown Meeting Date

Nov. 2 – Josten's Cap & Gown Ordering Date

Senior Meeting - Oct. 12 @ 6

Mr. Krouse will be having a meeting with all Senior parents on Wednesday, October 12th at 6:00 PM in the PAC. He will be discussing college & career information that will be beneficial to all seniors throughout the year. Please plan to attend.

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Important Changes to FAFSA

Seniors that are planning to attend college during the 2017-18 school year, may begin filling out their FAFSA as early as October 1, 2016. This is a change from past years when the first date you could fill out the FAFSA was January 1. Since students can fill out the information earlier, they are going to be able to use earlier income information. When filling out the FAFSA for the 2017-18 school year, you will use your tax income information that was submitted to the IRS in 2015.

If you would like more information about this change, go to the following website:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/2017-18-fafsa-updates-students-parents.pdf>



Start gathering this information for your FAFSA

- Social Security Number
- Driver's License
- Parent's Income Tax Return for 2015
- Bank Statements
- Investment Records
- U.S. Department of Education PIN
Number for student & parent

Get your FAFSA pin at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. Both students and parents must have a FAFSA pin before the FAFSA can be submitted online.

Senior Year Check List

September

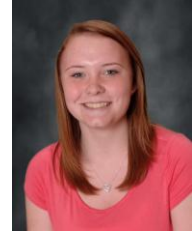
- Meet with college admissions reps scheduled at GHS
- Visit colleges you are interested in attending – see Mr. Krouse about scheduling these appointments
- Begin application process – some colleges have early application deadlines
- See Mr. Krouse about sending a GHS transcript to the colleges where you apply

Senior Scoop Info

The Senior Scoop will tentatively be published every 4-6 weeks. If you listed an email address during enrollment, we will be sending this newsletter to your email address beginning with the next newsletter. You will not receive a hard copy unless you request one by emailing Mrs. Simmons at lsimmons@galena499.org.

Congratulations to our Senior Officers

President: Marisella Soriano
Vice President: Ashlyn Henderson
Secretary: Madyson Clifford
Utility Officer: Nikki Lindsey



Upcoming ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Date
Oct. 22	Sept. 16
Dec. 10	Nov. 4
Feb. 11	Jan. 13
Apr. 8	Mar. 3
June 10	May 5
Cost:	\$42.50 for ACT only \$58.50 for ACT plus Writing

Helpful Websites

www.usd499.org – there are several links on the High School Seniors page that will connect you to the ACT, FAFSA, U.S. Department of Education, etc. Scholarships and applications will also be listed as they become available.

Scholarships Deadlines

Scholarships are listed on the USD #499 website. Go to “High School” – “Seniors Scholarships” to find additional information. Most of the local scholarships will be posted in Spring, 2017.

A good source for parents and students to match scholarships and learn more about financial aid is www.fastweb.com.