



CAREER CENTER CONNECTION

NEWS FROM THE SIMLEY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER CENTER SEPTEMBER, 2019

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Another summer has quickly come and gone and here we are, back to school again! Whether your student is a freshman, just getting acquainted with Simley or a senior, anxiously making their post-secondary plans, we have plenty of work to be done and I can't wait to get started! As the College and Career Counselor at Simley High School, I work with all students grades 9-12. All students will need to leave Simley with some type of plan for life after high school and regardless of their path, I am here to help support them in their exploration and planning.

This newsletter will help us stay connected and keep communication moving through the year. If you are signed-up for daily announcements from Simley, it will be delivered to your inbox at the beginning of every month. Otherwise, you can always find the current and archived issues on the *College and Career* web page, which is off of the Simley website. It will provide you with reminders, important dates, upcoming events, and things to consider in post-secondary planning.

We continue to improve and refine our counseling and post-secondary planning programs at Simley and have so much to share with students and families! I genuinely look forward to working with your student and family in the 2019-2020 school year! Please never hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns regarding post-secondary planning!

Respectfully,

Megan Kimble

Licensed School Counselor

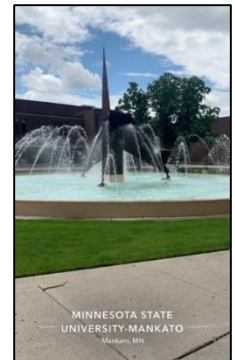
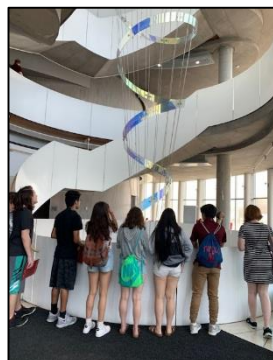
Simley High School College and Career Counselor

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THIRD YEAR OF SUMMER ROAD TRIP WAS A SUCCESS!

As part of the Tri-District College and Career Readiness initiative Simley, Sibley, and South St. Paul students participated in a Summer Road Trip in June. Well over 100 students and parents participated and we visited eight colleges in total. Visiting colleges and getting on campus is one of the very best things a student can do as a part of planning for their post-secondary education so it was exciting to see so many students take advantage of this important opportunity! Check out some pictures from our successful year three of the College Summer Road Trip!



SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS AT SIMLEY

RAMP-UP TO READINESS IS COMING!

Ramp-Up to Readiness is a research-based college and career readiness program created at the University of Minnesota. It covers 5 areas of readiness for success after high school: academic readiness, admissions readiness, career readiness, financial readiness, and personal/social readiness.

We are introducing the program this year as a soft rollout, implementing it in the freshmen and junior English courses. Each class will be presented with a Ramp-Up lesson at least once a month during this school year. All students will create a personal portfolio over the course of their four years at Simley, based on the work they do during Ramp-Up, and housed in their Schoology account.

By the end of this week, all freshmen and junior English classes will have come into the Student Center and completed their first Ramp-Up to Readiness lesson with me!

Freshmen will have received a lesson on the Student Center- what it is and why to use this space, resources that can be found here, and logistics of getting here. They will have also gotten an introduction to me, the College and Career Counselor, my role at Simley, and the role of their traditional alphabet assigned school counselor and the areas in which each of us can be of support to them. Ninth grade students then got an introduction to the Ramp-Up to Readiness program, gained an understanding of the definition of “college” and why it is so critically important in our current economy. We wrapped-up with a lively game of Kahoot to recap our learning and added in some general college knowledge vocabulary!

Juniors received a similar introduction to the Ramp-Up to Readiness program. Additionally, they received a post-secondary planning timeline that covers all of the things students should be doing during junior year to help them plan for life after high school. See page 4 for a link to that timeline. Juniors were given a calendar of college representative visits that will be taking place in September and October. As a part of Ramp-Up to Readiness, all juniors are required to attend at least one college rep. visit.



COLLEGE IS DEFINED AS ANY TYPE OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING AFTER HIGH SCHOOL THAT LEADS TO A CREDENTIAL SUCH AS A DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE, OR DEGREE. THIS INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: APPRENTICESHIP, MILITARY, TECHNICAL COLLEGE, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AND 4-YEAR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY.

SENIOR MEETINGS AND CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS



Senior year is so busy, so we want to be sure that students feel completely supported in what can be a demanding and stressful time. Both student's alphabet-assigned school counselor and I, as the College and Career Counselor, make a very conscious effort particularly in fall of senior year to make sure seniors have everything they need to be successful in their final year of high school.

The counseling department kicks off the year by meeting with seniors for individual, one on one meetings with each of the students they work with in their assigned alphabet. During this meeting, counselors go over graduation requirements and review student credits, ordering the graduation cap and gown, check-in on what their plan is for after high school and review how to order a transcript, provide students with important dates in the coming year, among other items. I go into all senior English courses and go over all things related to post-secondary planning for the year. Students are provided with a senior year post-secondary planning timeline, anatomy of a college application that covers the different pieces of an application required to be completed for admission, and helpful planning resources. [Here is a link to the information](#) seniors were provided with during their classroom visits.

Additionally, seniors were given a calendar of upcoming college representative visits and a list of MN colleges and universities that waive their application fees in October as a part of *Minnesota Goes to College*, a month long college and career planning initiative.

ASVAB on Tuesday, September 24, 2019



- When:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 @ 8:30 AM
Where: Simley Library/IMC
Cost: FREE
Registration: Sign-up with Ms. Kimble in the Student Center

What is it?

While the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Test) is a requirement for those planning on joining any branch of the military, the exam and specifically the career exploration program isn't just for students interested in the military. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program helps students to discover their strengths and interests then map out post-secondary plans with comprehensive information for over 1,000 occupations.

There are 2 parts to the ASVAB Career Exploration Program. Part 1: Aptitude Test on Tuesday, September 24th @ 8:30 a.m. Part 2: Score interpretation, interest self-assessment, and career exploration tools to take place in early October (TBD).

Please note that no scores or student names are released to the military. Students are able to opt-in to have their scores sent to whichever branch of the military that they choose.

Who should take it?

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is open to any Simley Student in grade 10-12 who want to learn more about their career options or for those that are interested in joining the military.

PSAT on Wednesday, October 30, 2019



- When:** Wednesday, October 30, 2019 @ 8:30 AM
****please note that this is a date change from what was previously advertised. We will be offering the exam on the alternate national test date, 10/30/19.*
- Where:** Simley Cafeteria
- Cost:** \$20.00
- Registration:** Registration for the PSAT will take place online through a secure site called Total Registration. Students will register and pay the \$20.00 exam fee all online. After you register for the exam online you will need to stop by the Counseling Office to pick-up the Official Student Guide. The link to register for the exam will be available by 10/1, along with additional information.

What is it?

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) measures critical reading, math problem-solving, and writing skills developed over many years, both in and out of school. You won't have to recall facts from literature, history, or science, or complete math formulas, as this test measures your reasoning and critical thinking skills.

Who should take it?

Any student grade 9-11 is able to take the exam. The PSAT is normed for juniors and recommended for rising juniors. The test is optional and if you or your student is not sure if the test is right for them please feel free to reach out to either me or one of the other counselors and we can help figure it out.

WHAT SHOULD MY STUDENT BE DOING RIGHT NOW?

FRESHMEN

- ✓ Get to know Simley, the teachers, administration, and your counselor. There are so many resources and staff to help with anything and everything they need!
- ✓ Get off to a good start academically- stay organized on stay on top of classwork. Everything counts now and goes on your student's official high school transcript.
- ✓ Get involved! Join a group, sport or activity that they're interested in. Encourage them to step out of their comfort zone, keep an open mind, and try something new!

SOPHOMORES

- ✓ Get off to a good start in classes- stay organized, stay on top of classwork, and stay on track with credits. Colleges will evaluate your student based on their high school transcript so this is an essential!



- ✓ Start (or continue) learning about their interests and what career path might be a good fit for them.
- ✓ Consider participating in the ASVAB Career Exploration Program offered on September 24th at Simley. See page three for more information!
- ✓ Students should start thinking about their post-secondary options, if they haven't already. What might be the best fit in relation to their career goals- military, 2-year college, 4-year college or university, an apprenticeship? This is also a great time to talk about finances with your student and how they are

going to pay for college.

- ✓ If your student didn't participate in any athletics, student groups or clubs, this year is a great year to get involved in something that interests them. If they are already involved, encourage them to stick with it!

JUNIORS

- ✓ [An in-depth timeline is included at this link.](#) This was given to all juniors during the Ramp-Up to Readiness introductory lesson. A few highlights are as follows:
 - Consider participating in the ASVAB Career Exploration Program offered on September 24th at Simley. See page two for more information!
 - Your student should sign-up for the PSAT (Test day is Oct. 16th), if interested. For more information and to talk about if the test is right for your student, contact your student's counselor or Ms. Kimble.
 - Start planning your calendar (and studying!) for college entrance exams.
 - Continue evaluating post-secondary options and thinking about what path will be the best fit for them.
 - All juniors are required to attend at least one college representative visit at Simley as a part of the Ramp-Up to Readiness program. These are highly beneficial to the college search.
 - Go on college visits- MEA (October 18 & 19) is a great time to go on visits and colleges often have special visit days during this time just for high school students. Visiting a variety of colleges and actually getting on campus is one of the most important and helpful things a student can do to figure out if a college is going to be a good fit for them, so making these visits is highly encouraged!



SENIORS

- ✓ Seniors have a busy year ahead of them! The most in-depth timeline can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. This information, along with the anatomy of the college application, free application opportunities, and a schedule of college representative visits was also given to seniors in their English class presentations.
- ✓ Students who have application or planning questions are encouraged to meet with Ms. Kimble sooner than later!

TRENDING CAREERS

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the following are the occupations that will have the highest percent change of employment between 2016-2026; making them the fastest growing occupations. You'll notice that the list includes a range of salaries and typical entry level education requirements. The overarching theme of this list is that there will continue to be large growth in the areas of health care and the STEM fields.

OCCUPATION	GROWTH RATE (2016-2026)	2018 MEDIAN PAY	TYPICAL ENTRY LEVEL EDUCATION
Solar Photovoltaic Installers	105%	\$42,680/year	On-the-job training or technical degree
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	96%	\$54,370/year	On-the-job training or technical degree
Home Health Aides/Personal Care Aide	47%	\$24,200/year	Technical degree
Physician Assistant	37%	\$108,610/year	Master's degree
Nurse Practitioner	36%	\$107,030/year	Master's degree
Statistician	34%	\$87,780/year	Master's degree
Physical Therapy Assistant	31%	\$58,040/year	Associate's degree
Software Developers	31%	\$103,620/year	Bachelor's degree
Mathematicians	30%	\$101,900/year	Master's degree
Bicycle Repairers	29%	\$28,960/year	On-the-job training
Medical Assistants	29%	\$33,610/year	Certificate or Diploma
Genetic Counselors	29%	\$80,370/year	Master's degree
Occupational Therapy Assistants	29%	\$60,220/year	Associate's degree
Information Security Analysts	28%	\$98,350/year	Bachelor's degree
Physical Therapists	28%	\$87,930/year	Doctoral/professional degree
Operations Research Analysts	27%	\$83,930/year	Bachelor's degree

www.bls.gov/oooh/2019

3 OF THE MOST INTERESTING, UNIQUE, AND WEIRD GROWING JOBS

Check out these three unique careers that could be your calling! Found on The Balance Careers website

(<https://www.thebalancecareers.com>) from an article by Alison Doyle, 2019.

✓ Ayurveda Healer

- ✓ Traditional Indian medicine that aims for a balance of one's body system. The practice is thousands of years old and incorporates many plant-based and natural remedies. There are now a wide range of schools in the United States that offer schooling and certification for this practice.

✓ Bike Courier

- ✓ Bike messengers, or couriers, are vital in cities where traffic poses a transportation barrier in getting things delivered. Errand running is quite popular in many industries, such as the food and fashion sectors. The Bureau of Labor Statistics actually predicts an 11% growth in this occupation over the next decade.

✓ Color Expert

- ✓ A color expert combines color psychology, current style trends, color design theories, and demographics to incorporate color into a project. Color experts are used in areas of business, marketing, interior design, graphic design, and a variety of other areas. The International Association of Color Consultants (IACC) offers training and membership to color experts.



COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Focused. Land Grant. Research University.

www.ndsu.edu



North Dakota State University is a 4-year, medium-sized, public university located in Fargo, North Dakota. They pride themselves on being a land-grant, research university that offers hands-on experiences and a strong sense of community to their students.

Student demographics:

13,796 students	18:1 student-to-faculty
13% students of color	20% socioeconomic diversity
86% retention rate	57% graduation rate

Tuition (2018-2019): MN Resident \$8,912 (tuition) + \$1,457 (student fees) + \$8,565 (room + board) = \$18,934/year

Financial Aid and Scholarships: Guaranteed academic scholarships start at 25 ACT + 3.5 GPA and are available for all 4 years. Additional scholarship opportunities are available and require a separate application with a deadline of February 1. 54% of students receive federal loans and all students are encouraged to file the FAFSA to be eligible for grants, loans, and work study.

Admissions: Applicants are admitted on an individual, rolling basis. Automatic admission is granted for students who have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher, an ACT of 22 or higher, and completion of 14 core high school courses. The writing component on the ACT is not required. Students who do not meet minimum guidelines will still be considered if there is evidence that demonstrates a high probability of success.

While there is no official deadline, students should apply between August and December. To apply, complete and submit the application for Admission at www.ndsu.edu/apply, submit the \$35 nonrefundable application fee, and self-report coursework, test scores, and GPA (transcript for confirmation will be required after admission).

Academic Programs: NDSU offers over 100 undergraduate academic programs, 86 graduate programs, and 50 pre-professional programs. The most popular majors at North Dakota State University include: Engineering; Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services; Health Professions and Related Programs; Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences; and Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences.

Campus Life: NDSU has over 300 student organizations from club sports, fashion shows, donut appreciation, Greek life, performing arts, academic honor societies and more- there is truly something for everyone. Athletics at NDSU fall into the NCAA Division I and Bisons are very proud of their athletes in each of their 14 sports.

Housing: Students are required to live on campus their first year. There is no housing deadline but applying early will give students a better chance for their first choice of housing. Learning communities are available as well as easy access to the wellness center and three dining centers.

Noteworthy: NDSU ranks in the top 100 research universities in the categories of agricultural sciences, research and development, social sciences, physical sciences, and chemistry.

UPCOMING VISITS TO THE CAREER CENTER

Students, specifically juniors and seniors, are highly encouraged to attend these visits. Students must sign-up and get a pass from Ms. Kimble prior to visit. All visits held in the Career Center unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER, 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
16	17 University of Wisconsin-Madison @ 11:15 AM	18 Iowa State University @ 1:35 PM	19 University of Minnesota-Twin Cities @ 11:15 AM Army Reserves @ lunch	20 North Dakota State University @ 10:20 AM <i>**Registration deadline for October ACT</i>
23 Inver Hills Community College @ 10:20 AM University of WI-Superior @ 1:35 PM	24 University of St. Thomas @ 9:30 AM ASVAB Test @ 8:30 AM	25	26 Concordia College @ 10:20 AM St. Kate's University @ 1:35 PM	27 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) @ 10:20 AM

OCTOBER, 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 30 Bemidji State University @ 1:35 PM	1 U.S. Marine Corps. @ lunch	2 <i>National College Fair @ Convention Center (9 AM -12 PM) & (5 PM – 8PM)</i>	3 <i>National College Fair @ Convention Center (9 AM -12 PM)</i>	4
7	8	9 Luther College @ 9:25 AM St. Mary's University @ 2:30 PM	10	11
14	15 <i>Paying for College: Presentation and FAFSA Completion Workshop 5:30 PM– 7:30 PM</i> North Dakota College of Science @ 11:15 AM	16 PSAT @ 9:00 AM	17 18 <i>NO SCHOOL: MEA Break! A great time to go visit college campuses!</i>	
21 University of Iowa @ 10:20 AM Moorhead State University @ 10:20 AM	22 St. Olaf College @ 10:20 AM Rainy River Community College @ 2:30 PM	23	24 College of St. Scholastica @ 9:25 AM St. Cloud State University @ 11:00 AM	25 College of St. Ben's/St. John's University @ 10:20 AM
28	29 University of MN- Duluth @ 2:30 PM	30	31 Hamline University @ 10:20 AM	NOVEMBER 1 Simley College Fair (Grades 10-12)

***Additional visits have potentially been added since this publication. Please see Ms. Kimble for the most up-to-date calendar.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

- ✓ **Friday, September 20th:** Deadline to register for the October ACT.
- ✓ **Tuesday, September 24th:** ASVAB offered at Simley (*Registration deadline: Friday, September 20th*)
- ✓ **Wednesday, October 2nd and Thursday, October 3rd:** National College Fair at the Mpls. Convention Center.
More information can be found at: www.nacacfacts.org
 - October 2nd (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM) AND (5:00 PM – 8:00 PM)
 - October 3rd (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM)
- ✓ **October** is *MINNESOTA GOES TO COLLEGE* month! More information to come!
- ✓ **Tuesday, October 15th at 5:30 PM:** Paying for College Presentation and FAFSA Completion Workshop will be held in the Spartan Center (during conferences) for senior families!
- ✓ **Saturday, October 26th:** ACT (Registration deadline: September 20th. Go to: www.act.org to register)
- ✓ **Wednesday, October 30th:** PSAT offered at Simley (Deadline to register: 10/25).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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