

Hi Parents! The end of the first quarter is upon us and the school year is in full swing!

**First quarter report cards** will be mailed home and you should receive them on Nov.12 or 13. All subsequent interims and report cards will be given to your students to be brought home.

**Student Assistance Period** - Madison will continue with our 35 minute Student Assistance Period each day from 8:54-9:29 a.m. The purpose of this is to give the students time for extra help, to do research, make-up missed tests or assignments, etc. Although it is not required for the students to be with their teachers unless they are failing, teachers and parents can require the students to attend at anytime. Teachers are also available every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school for additional help. All students are encouraged to stay after school with their teachers if they need further support with academics. In addition, tutoring is available through various honor societies and can be arranged through the subject teacher.

**Sexual harassment prevention** lessons will be given to the entire school on Dec.5. The students about healthy relationships, promoting a healthy environment at school, and how to recognize various forms of sexual harassment.

**Practice SAT** – This is a practice of the full-length SAT. The PTSA is hosting this along with a private company, on Saturday, November 17 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Cost is \$10. For more information and to register, go to the PTSA's website: [www.jmhsptsa.org](http://www.jmhsptsa.org)

**PSAT scores** will be given back to your students in mid December. This is not to be confused with the Practice SAT, which is sponsored by the PTSA and given by the Princeton Review.

**Blackboard.com** - There is a wealth of academic and guidance related information on Blackboard.com. You can access through your student's blackboard account at <http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp> .

**Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery** - ASVAB will be given at Madison on Thursday, December 6, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. There are two purposes for the ASVAB test. 1) The ASVAB assesses a student's ability to learn new skills and is a predictor of success in training and education programs. It includes an interest inventory and other activities and resources designed to help students explore the world or work and gain confidence in making career decisions. 2) This test is a requirement for military enlistment. For details visit [www.asvabprogram.com](http://www.asvabprogram.com). You need to sign-up for this test in the College/Career Center by November 28, 2007.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER -**

**November 5 & 6**    **TEACHER WORKDAYS / NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

**November 12**        **FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARDS** – Report cards will be mailed home on November 12. To contact a teacher with a question or concern, please go to our website, [www.fcps.edu/MadisonHS](http://www.fcps.edu/MadisonHS), and click on staff.

**November 21**        **EARLY DISMISSAL** - Students will be dismissed at 12:10 p.m.

**November 22 & 23**    **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY** – No School

### **Guidance News for Seniors**

**College Visits to JMHS** - College representatives from a variety of schools come to visit students at JMHS. Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to meet with these representatives. A college pass signed by your teacher is required to attend these information sessions and should be picked up in the Career Center at least one day in advance of the scheduled visit. To view the list of colleges, visit the JMHS web site [www.fcps.edu/MadisonHS](http://www.fcps.edu/MadisonHS) and click on [College Visits Schedule](#). This list may also be viewed through your student's Blackboard account at <http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>.

**Scholarships** – Local scholarships will be posted as they are received on Blackboard .

**Counselor Recommendations** - Seniors and parents need to complete the Self-Evaluation Packet for their counselor if they want a counselor recommendation. The packet can be found on Blackboard.

**Transcript Requests** – If you need a transcript for the November 15th college application deadline, please have a transcript request form completed by Monday, November 5, and turned in to Mrs. Geary, the transcript secretary. The deadline for Dec. 1 college applications is Nov. 15 Transcript request forms can be found on Blackboard.

**SAT / SAT II** - Late registration for the December 2nd SAT/SAT II is November 9th. [www.collegeboard.com/reg](http://www.collegeboard.com/reg).

**Senior Dues** - Senior dues need to be in by **Friday, December 21, 2007**. The \$100 fee provides for the graduation ceremony, programs for baccalaureate and graduation, cap and gown, diploma cover, senior field trips, an end-of-year senior picnic, senior class tee shirt and additional expenses associated with the senior year. Please make your check payable to JMHS Class of 2008 and turn it into the Career Center. If you are on free or reduced lunch you need to provide your FCPS letter of award to receive a reduced fee, see your Guidance Counselor.

**College Financial Aid Meeting – November 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in Warhawk Hall**

Katherine Cooper, Assistant Director for Financial Planning & Assistance, from Randolph-Macon Woman's College will present information to help parents understand the different kinds of aid available. This meeting will provide a variety of information to help with the financial aid process.

**Federal Student Aid** - The site to complete the free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is as follows: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

***Other events***

The **Freshman class dinner** (Class of 2011) will be held on Tuesday, Nov.13 from 6:00 to 7:30 in Madison's cafeteria, to be catered by That's Amore. Everyone in the family is invited. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 11. Tickets will be on sale in the cafeteria on Nov.8 during all lunches. You can also pay at the door ONLY if you have previously contacted [Kellyforbesmakuch@gmail.com](mailto:Kellyforbesmakuch@gmail.com) to make reservations.

***Drug-Alcohol Forum Part IV – Community Call to Action!  
Tues. Nov. 13 7:00-8:30pm Warhawk Hall***

The Vienna-Madison Community Coalition (VMCC), JMHS PTSA, and Countywide Initiative to Reduce Underage Drinking invite high school and middle school parents to view a 15 minute film dramatically capturing today's youth drinking culture, how the environment is different from 20 years ago, and what some communities are doing about it.

Audience discussion with some local experts will focus specifically on what we are doing and what more we can do in the Madison - Vienna community to address underage drinking, drug use, internet safety, and safe teen driving. Be a part of the discussion and help us work to make a difference for the benefit of our young people!

***Vienna-Madison Community Coalition Seeks...***

The Vienna-Madison Community Coalition (VMCC), our school based community-wide partnership that promotes a drug, alcohol and violence-free environment for children and youth, is seeking a new leader for this year. The coordinator position carries a stipend of \$2200 and helps coordinate the important work of the coalition in our school pyramid. Please contact Sara Freund, past coordinator, at 703 281-6282 or [sarafreund@verizon.net](mailto:sarafreund@verizon.net).

Happy Thanksgiving!