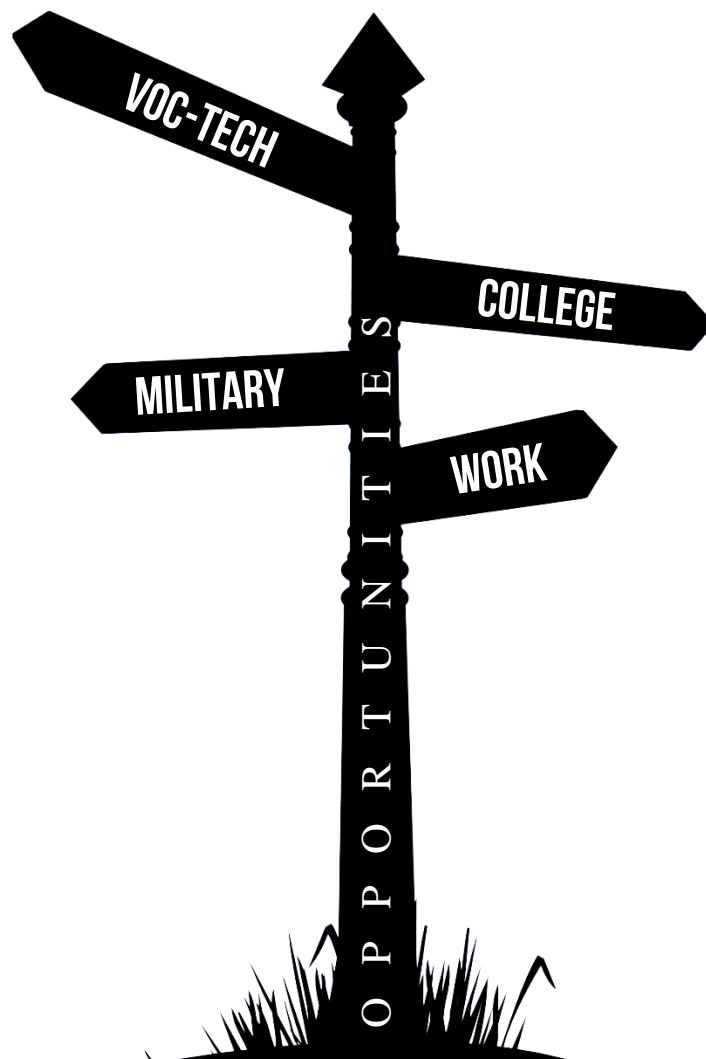


ON TO THE FUTURE



2013-2014
BUHL HIGH SCHOOL



INTRODUCTION



This handbook contains SOME of the information you need to plan what to do after you graduate. It serves as a starting point and overview. Throughout the book you will find information regarding: Career Info (pages 2-3), Other Educational Options (pages 4-5), Senior Year Checklist (pages 6-7), College Information (pages 8-13), and Resources (pages 14-15).

SUGGESTIONS:

1. READ & LISTEN TO THE DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS @ BHS

This is the only way we have to update & revise the information in this booklet.

2. VISIT THE BHS COUNSELING WEBSITE: [HTTP://BUHLHSCOUNSELING.WEBLY.COM](http://BUHLHSCOUNSELING.WEBLY.COM)

The website is updated often and has loads of information.

3. DO NOT PROCRASTINATE.

Putting it off will only limit your options and guarantee that you will work under more pressure later. Few people make their best decisions when they are in a state of panic.

WHAT SHOULD I DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

TO GET THE RIGHT ANSWERS, YOU MUST FIRST
ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS.

It's not:

“What should I do?” and/or “What do I want to do?”

It's:

“What do I need to do now to get to where I want to be later?”

*Military? Community College? University? Apprenticeship? On-the-job training?
Private technical school? Internship?*

IT DEPENDS ON **YOU**, YOUR ABILITIES & YOUR GOALS.
ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT ALL.

ALL ABOUT CAREERS



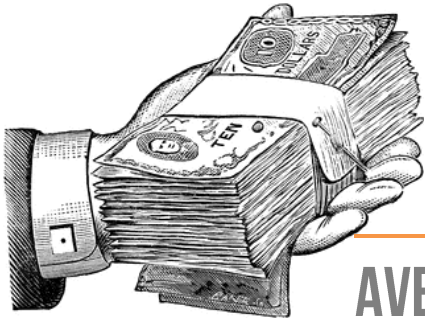
WHATEVER YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE... YOU WILL END UP WITH A CAREER. YOU WILL SPEND A LOT OF YOUR LIFE AT WORK. IT IS IMPORTANT TO LOVE WHAT YOU DO, BECAUSE IF YOU ARE UNHAPPY IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LIFE AS A WHOLE.

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHAT KIND OF WORK WOULD MAKE YOU THE HAPPIEST? WELL, THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN RESEARCHED, AND...

- THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE DOING WHAT THEY DO BEST ARE THE HAPPIEST
- THOSE PEOPLE WHOSE WORK LEADS TOWARD THEIR GOALS ARE THE HAPPIEST.
- THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE USING THE SKILLS THEY MOST LIKE USING ARE HAPPIEST.

"I am seeking, I am striving, I am in it with all my heart."

- Vincent Van Gogh



EDUCATION PAYS

AVERAGE INCOME BY EDUCATION LEVEL

Average yearly income by educational attainment	
PROFESSIONAL DEGREE	\$120,978
DOCTORAL DEGREE	\$95,565
MASTER'S DEGREE	\$70,186
BACHELOR'S DEGREE	\$57,181
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE	\$39,746
SOME COLLEGE	\$33,009
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	\$29,448
HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT	\$21,484

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 data

ARE YOU GOING TO CONTINUE ON?

CAREER RESOURCES

WEBSITES

www.myfuture.com

Figure out what's next. Explore careers, colleges, military, and much more.

<http://jobsmart.org/tools/career/spec-car.htm>

Career guides divided by subject area

www.collegeboard.com

Find official college planning and preparation tools to help you succeed.

www.embark.com

Business schools, career & technical schools.

www.jobstar.org

Resumes, career guides, salary info, hidden jobs; national & international

www.militarycareers.com

Name says it all.

www.virtualjobshadow.com/default.asp

Video clips, jobs outlooks, earnings ed./training requirements for different careers.

<http://www.khake.com/page97.html>

Vocational/technical career information.

<http://www.onetonline.org/>

Your tool for career exploration and job analysis!

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Occupational Outlook Handbook. The Nation's premier source for career information!

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/data/acs/infographics/index.html>

Pathway's After a Bachelor's Degree/earnings



VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL

INFORMATION

State Employment Service—to receive help finding a new job, contact the Idaho Department of Labor Office at (208) 332-3570, visit their website <http://labor.idaho.gov>, or visit a local office for more info.

- ☀ **Private Employment Service**—these are usually listed in the yellow pages; these charge a fee, usually based on the hourly wage or salary of the job you get. Make sure you research these fees ahead of time.
- ☀ **Apprenticeship Training**—often overlooked as an option. Apprenticeships consist of a combination of work & school. The work is often times directly related to your studies or your long-term interest. Many go to school in the same field as part of your work day or in the evening. If you are interested in an Apprenticeship you should contact the state employment service listed above or contact a company in the field you are interested in for more information.

EXAMPLES OF FIELDS IN WHICH APPRENTICESHIPS ARE AVAILABLE:

ELECTRONICS	CONSTRUCTION	MANUFACTURING
MECHANICS	IRON WORK	AUTO MACHINIST
MACHINING	BAKING/COOKING	BOILERMAKER
NURSING	PAINTING	DIESEL MECHANIC
SANDBLASTING	PLUMBING	PHYSICAL THERAPY
AUTO BODY WORK	BRICKLAYING	DENTAL TECH
ELECTRICAL	BOOKBINDING	SHEET METAL

- ☀ **Military Services**—Visit the **BHS Counseling Department** for more information or talk to a recruiter. <http://www.todaysmilitary.com/>

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

INSTEAD OF A 4 YEAR DEGREE

*Community Colleges/ Technical School
Private Art
Business*

OPTION #1—COMMUNITY COLLEGE/TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Community Colleges, also referred to as a junior college, or technical college, provide students with education and training in a variety of fields; providing students with the opportunity to acquire certificates, diplomas, and associate's degrees. Many students choose to start at a community college and then transfer to a four year university/college. The cost of tuition is generally lower.

LENGTH—Primarily two years.

OPTION #2—PRIVATE ART

Is an educational institution with a primary focus on the visual arts, especially graphic design, illustration, painting, photography, design, and sculpture.

LENGTH—Varies

OPTION #3—BUSINESS

Is an educational institution that can refer to a two-year school that grants an Associate's degree in various business subjects. Some areas of study include secretarial work, accounting, bookkeeping, and management. Another option is a bachelor's degree in business and then a master's degree in business and/or an MBA (Masters in Business Administration).

LENGTH—Varies

Four year post-secondary educations are not for everyone. In fact, students can often best prepare for some of today's high growth career fields by attending a community college or private technical school. Students who prefer to study courses that relate directly to their career goals and/or students who enjoy a more hands-on approach to education might want to consider a community college or tech school as a post-secondary option.

WHAT CAN I BE DOING NOW ABOUT COLLEGE?

CHECKLIST:

SENIOR YEAR

FALL



- VISIT THE COUNSELING OFFICE**
Learn about college requirements, financial aid, and scholarships.
- CONTINUE TAKING CHALLENGING CLASSES**
Colleges want students that have challenged themselves academically.
- TAKE THE SAT and ACT EXAMS**
Take these exams early in the year. Take them multiple times to improve your score. These are usually required for admission.
- NARROW DOWN YOUR CHOICES**
Make a list of the colleges you would like to attend and rank them #1 (top choice) to #5 (last choice). Between 3 & 5 is recommended. APPLY TO THESE SCHOOLS!
- ATTEND COLLEGE FAIRS, OPEN HOUSES and PREVIEWS**
Some of the best tips/information regarding scholarships and admissions can be found at these events. (*Contact the counseling*)
- VISIT COLLEGE CAMPUSES**
Always visit the schools you are interested in before you make a final decision. Each school is different, so it's important to make sure it's the right fit.
- APPLY FOR ADMISSION**
Start early (usually November) if you are interested in early admission and bigger scholarship opportunities.
- APPLY for SCHOLARSHIPS**
Scholarships=Free \$\$ for school. Take advantage of the opportunities.
- CHECK YOUR EMAIL OFTEN!**
New scholarships and college info is sent to your inbox. Make sure you are checking it!
- VISIT www.collegeboard.com and www.financialaid.org**
These websites have great information for both parents and students.
- SEMESTER 2 – TAKE CHALLENGING CLASSES**
Admission and scholarship committees admire students who challenged themselves throughout their senior year.

SENIOR YEAR WINTER



- CONSIDER RETESTING, IF DISAPPOINTED IN SAT OR ACT SCORE**
Often times, your score will increase the second time around, with preparation.
- FILE YOUR FAFSA (ASAP)**
Filing your FAFSA as soon as possible (Jan. 1st) will increase your odds of getting more aid.
- ASK PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO ATTEND FINANCIAL AID NIGHT**
Attending financial aid night will help you learn the ins and outs of financial aid. You'll also learn how to get more \$\$.
- CHECK APPLICATION and SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES**
It's important to write down all deadlines, so that you don't forget and can get everything in on time.
- VISIT COLLEGE CAMPUSES**
Visit as many colleges as you can. If you can't visit a college in person visit <http://www.campustours.com/>
- ATTEND COLLEGE FAIRS**

SENIOR YEAR SPRING



- COMPARE FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTERS**
Decide what school is giving you the best deal.
- ASK ANY LAST MINUTE QUESTIONS BEFORE COMMITTING**
Make sure you've found out all you need to know.
- SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE! CONGRATULATIONS!!!**
Once you have accepted, make sure to finalize your living arrangements. Most schools require incoming freshman to live on campus.
- GRADUATE and CELEBRATE SAFELY**
Make smart decisions. An acceptance can easily be revoked if you do not act responsibly.

AFTER GRADUATION SUMMER



- SAVE MONEY \$\$\$**
Consider getting a summer job to help you with miscellaneous college expenses.
- CONTACT YOUR ROOMMATE**
Learn about your roommate and coordinate what to bring with them.
- ENJOY LIFE**
Be safe and make good choices.



HOW TO SELECT YOUR SCHOOL?

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU?

USE THE CHECKLIST BELOW TO BEGIN FOCUSING IN ON JUST WHAT KIND OF SCHOOL YOU ARE LOOKING FOR:

TYPE OF INSTITUTION

- Public 2-year Independent 2-year
 Public 4-year Independent 4-year
 Private Trade, Technical, or Business

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

HOW FAR AWAY DO YOU WANT TO BE FROM HOME?

- 20 miles 50 miles 100 miles
 200 miles 300 miles 400 miles
 500 miles 600 miles 1000 miles
 2000 miles 3000 miles

SIZE BY ENROLLMENT

- Small (<2,000) Medium (2,000-15,000) Large (>15,000)

HOW IMPORTANT IS COST?

- I'm not sure Somewhat Very Important

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Study Abroad Independent Study
 Summer Sessions Honors Program
 Minority & low-income student programs



THINGS TO CONSIDER

MILITARY TRAINING

___ Air Force ROTC ___ Army ROTC ___ Navy /Marine ROTC

___ Army Flight Training ___ Coast Guard Student Reserve

COURSES IN SPECIAL FIELDS OF INTEREST

___ Women’s Studies ___ African American Studies

___ Chicano/Mexican American Studies ___ Native American Studies

___ Asian American Studies ___ Other

OTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

___ Student Government ___ Drama/Theater ___ Music

___ Intramural Sports ___ Intercollegiate sports ___ Political Org.

___ Fraternities/Sororities ___ Radio/Television

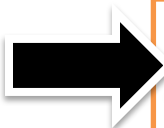
___ Newspaper ___ Minority Student Unions

___ Religious Organization ___ Political Organizations

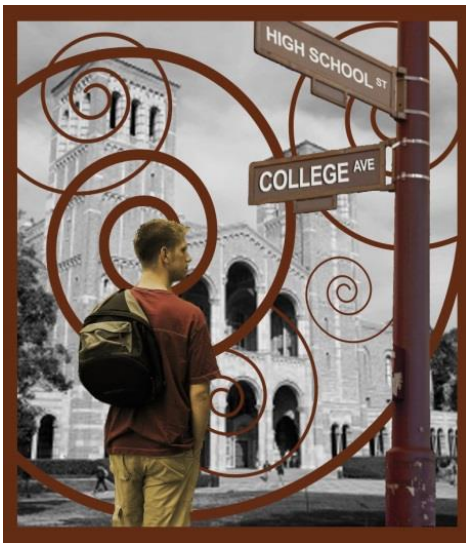
___ Average Age of Students ___ Diversity

___ Newspaper ___ Minority Student Unions

___ Religious Organization



NEXT STEP: SIT DOWN AT A WEBSITE LIKE [HTTPS://BIGFUTURE.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG/](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/),
PUT THIS DATA IN AND SEE WHAT SCHOOLS MATCH YOUR PREFERENCES.



COLLEGE FAIRS

College fairs may not have peanuts, popcorn, and pony rides, but they can be very informative and even fun. College fairs give you the chance to talk to admissions officers and get the scoop on everything from what courses are offered to life on campus. Fairs can also help you rule out colleges, as well as introduce you to new ones.

2013-2014 UPCOMING IDAHO COLLEGE FAIRS

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	FAIR NAME AND/OR REPRESENTATIVE
10/23/2013	5:00-8:00 PM	IDAHO FALLS HIGH SCHOOL	SOUTHEAST IDAHO COLLEGE FAIR
10/29/2013	5:00-8:00 PM	TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL	MAGIC VALLEY COLLEGE FAIR
10/29/2013	9:30-2:00 PM	WEISER HIGH SCHOOL	IDAHO-OREGON BORDER FAIR
10/30/2013	9-2:30 PM 6-8:00 PM	EXPO IDAHO	FALL BOISE NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR
11/4/2013	8:30-12:30 PM	CSI-TWIN FALLS	INDUSTRY CAREERS THROUGH TECH. PROGRAMS
3/8/2014	TBA	BOISE STATE	SPRING BOISE COLLEGE FAIR
4/01/2014	TBA	BUHL H.S.	JUNIORS-HIGHER ED DAY



COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

An Overview: Test dates and registration deadlines can be found through websites listed below, at the BHS counseling office, and through our BHS counseling website.

PSAT/NMSQT GO TO [COLLEGEBOARD.COM](https://collegeboard.com) FOR MORE INFO

It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT[®] and lets you know as a student what areas you need to study/practice before you take the SAT[®]. Also, if you take the PSAT your junior year and score high enough you may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

THE PSAT/NMSQT MEASURES:

- ✱ Critical reading skills
- ✱ Math problem-solving skills
- ✱ Writing skills

THE SAT[®] GO TO [COLLEGEBOARD.COM](https://collegeboard.com) FOR MORE INFO

The SAT is a globally recognized college admission test that lets you show colleges what you know and how well you can apply that knowledge. If you plan on attending a 4 year university/college you will need to take this exam or the ACT. Plan to take the SAT your junior and/or senior year. It is recommended to take this test more than one time to increase your score. Subject Tests are also available.

THE SAT MEASURES:

- ✱ **CRITICAL READING SKILLS**
 - This includes reading passages and sentence completions.
- ✱ **MATH PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS**
 - This includes a short essay and multiple-choice questions on identifying errors and improving grammar and usage.
- ✱ **WRITING SKILLS**
 - This includes questions on arithmetic operations, algebra, geometry, statistics and probability.

THE ACT GO TO [WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG](https://www.actstudent.org) FOR MORE INFO

The ACT test assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. If you are strong in the Sciences you may consider taking the ACT vs. the SAT.

THE ACT MEASURES:

- ✱ English
- ✱ Math
- ✱ Science
- ✱ Reading
- ✱ Writing (OPTIONAL)



COLLEGE ADMISSION

WHO GETS IN?

There is no one answer to this one. Some schools have very liberal admission policies while others are very selective. Most schools fall somewhere in between. Colleges are looking for reasons to predict that you will be successful. The general patterns they use are listed in order of importance.

1. GRADES IN COLLEGE PREP CLASSES
2. DIFFICULTY OF COURSEWORK
3. SAT OR ACT SCORES
4. GRADES IN ALL SUBJECTS
5. CLASS RANK
6. WORK/EXTRACURRICULAR
7. ESSAY OR WRITING SAMPLE
8. AWARDS
9. COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION
10. TEACHER RECOMMENDATION
11. PERSONAL INTERVIEW
12. ABILITY TO PAY

ESSAY REQUIREMENT

More selective colleges may have you write a personal essay. These essays usually ask about a significant event that may have changed your life and/or a reflection of who you are. The Counseling Office will have guides to help you in this process. Some colleges may have you write an essay if you applied for admission and the basic requirements were not met. They may ask you to write an essay about why you want to attend their school.

INTERVIEW REQUIREMENT

More selective colleges will ask to interview you as part of their admission selection process. If you are required to do this, come to the BHS counseling office and we can help you practice.

TOP REASONS WHY STUDENTS DON'T GET IN:



MISSED DEADLINES

LOW TEST SCORES

INCOMPLETE PAPERWORK

LITTLE INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

LOW GPA

NO CHALLENGING CLASSES WERE TAKEN

UNGRAMMATICAL LANGUAGE

NOTHING STANDS OUT

MISSPELLED WORDS

TOO MUCH HUMOR

WRONG COLLEGE REFERENCED

RESOURCES

KNOW WHERE TO GO

RESOURCES

ON THE INTERNET

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Student aid on the web, the U.S. Department of Education's site for free information on preparing for and funding education beyond high school.

http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/public_col_univ/public_col_univ_jump.asp

Idaho's Higher Education website that provides access to their yearly Higher Education Booklet. This book includes info about all the colleges and universities

www.fastweb.com

College search service-tell the site what you are looking for in a school & get a list of links to home pages of schools that match (2 & 4 yr., private, public, private tech)

www.collegeboard.com

College applications SAT registration career guidance free SAT prep links to all types of school

<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges>

US News best colleges

www.act.org

Review sample questions from ACT online; much more.

<http://www.collegesurfing.com>

Find your school, trade, community college, university

<http://www.collegenet.com>

College search, college applications, financial aid

<http://www.collegequest.com>

Advice on high school courses, secure email for admission offices, universal application system, financial aid, test prep

<http://sat.collegeboard.com/practice>

SAT practice, SAT question of the day

<http://www.careersandcolleges.com>

CareersandColleges.com, an Alloy Education interactive property, is the premier college, scholarship, and career

<http://www.collegeweeklive.com>

Chat live with admission representatives. Hear about what college is like from current students via webcasts, get admission advice from experts.

<http://www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp>

Preparing, selecting, applying, paying, deciding and financing help.

<http://www.aie.org>

AIE has college planning resources, financial aid information, career guidance, and money management tips to help families and students achieve their goals. *(Also can be translated in Spanish)

http://www.disability.gov/education/financial_aid/scholarships

<http://www.aahd.us/page.php>

Scholarships for students with disabilities.

Please note: It is your responsibility to check the privacy policy of each site & to unselect any options that have been automatically pre-selected.

RESOURCES

IN THE BHS COUNSELING OFFICE

COLLEGE CATALOGS

College catalogs provide you with information regarding admission and graduation requirements of a specific college. It's also a great tool to gain information on what each class is all about. Viewing course descriptions gives you an idea of what you may learn.

COLLEGE VIEWBOOKS

Great visuals that tell you what that school campus is all about.

ARMED FORCES INFORMATION

Information on different opportunities in the armed forces (e.g. Navy, Army, Marines, National Guard)

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS (FOR SOME SCHOOLS)

Some schools provide us with paper applications. Stop by the counseling office for more info. The most common way of submitting a college application is via the web.

SAT & ACT REGISTRATION & INFO

The counseling office has study guides and registration material if you plan on taking the SAT and/or ACT. Talk to the counselor for more info.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

If you plan on applying for scholarships and/or college, some may require you to have a letter of recommendation. In order to acquire a letter of recommendation from a counselor or teacher, you will need to submit a request to them **TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE.**

SCHOLARSHIP FILE

Check with the BHS counseling office for information on local scholarships available. Some applications may be located in the office.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about any of the information located in this book, please feel free to contact the counseling office. We would be happy to help you.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do."

-Epictetus