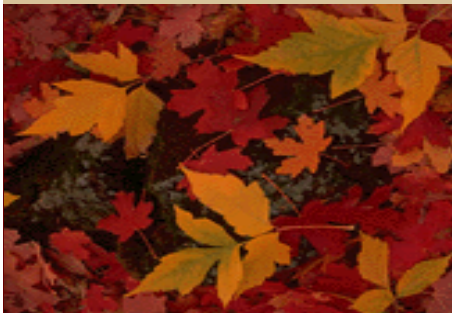


## Counseling Office

October, 2017



**Ms. Anne Lazarony**  
School Counselor Grades 6 - 9  
alazarony@berlincentral.org

**Mrs. Rachel Harrison**  
School Counselor Grades 10 - 12  
rharrison@berlincentral.org

**Mrs. Patrice Nash**  
Counseling Office Secretary  
pnash@berlincentral.org

Counseling Center Webpage  
www.berlincentral.org  
(518) 658-1500 extension: 1070

The following college representatives will be visiting the Counseling Center:

October — Mount St. Mary College

October — SUNY Plattsburgh

October — Sage Colleges

October — Maria College

November — Castleton College

November — Mildred Elley

November — HVCC Instant Admit Day

If you are interested in speaking with a representative, please sign up in the Counseling Office. This is open to all 11th and 12th grade students.

www.berlincentral.org

# Greetings!

In case you are new to the district or new to the building, Mrs. Nash is the Counseling Center Secretary, while Ms. Lazarony is the School Counselor for Grades 6-9 and Mrs. Harrison for Grades 10-12. The beginning of a school year is an excellent opportunity to initiate contact with your child's school counselor and in doing so you will ensure a positive school experience for your child.

School counselors make a measurable impact in every student's life, assisting with academic, career and personal/social development. Professional school counselors are trained in both educating and counseling, allowing them to function as a facilitator between parents, teachers, and the student in matters concerning the student's goals, abilities, and any areas needing improvement. School counselors provide services not only to students in need, but to all students.

**Please also check Schoology for important announcements, dates and reminders!**

## High School

Senior meetings are well underway and will be complete by the second week in October. This is a time when Mrs. Harrison meets with all 12th grade students to review their credits and diploma status one final time and review student's plans for after graduation. Please refer to our counseling center webpage which contains helpful links for testing, scholarship info, financial aid, and college applications. At this point in the year students should be focusing on finishing their college applications by Thanksgiving Break (November 22nd). If you need letters of recommendations, allow for a two week turn around from the person you are requesting the letter of recommendation from.

*Financial Aid Information Night* will be held for 12th graders and their parents on Wednesday, October 11th at 6:30. Come hear about the financial aid process, completing the FAFSA, and have your questions answered by Ronni Jones, Financial Aid Representative from HVCC.

*PSAT Exam*—The Preliminary SAT's/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test were given to all interested students, grades 10 and 11 on October 11th. Scores will be released online in December and reviewed in small groups with Mrs. Harrison prior to the December holiday break.

*HVCC Instant Admission Day*—An admissions counselor will be here on November 2nd. All interested Seniors may sign up to meet with the counselor. Instructions to apply on-line may be found in the Counseling Office and should be completed **no later than** October 27th.

*FAFSA Night*—November 30th, 6:30—8:00pm (arrive no later than 7:15). You will need your 2016 tax information and social security numbers for both student and parent.

## Middle School

Lunch Bunch with 6<sup>th</sup> graders has begun. Over the course of the school year all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be invited to the Counseling Office to have lunch with Ms. Lazarony. They can bring 2 friends if they choose to do so. This is a chance to meet each 6<sup>th</sup> grader and for the students to meet their School Counselor. It is not a counseling session of any sort. We eat lunch and play games, i.e. Hangman, Connect 4, Jenga, etc. Of course, this is optional and students are not required to join in, however, it's fun and they won't want to miss out! Please check with your child's teachers to find out where you can access grades and homework assignments. As always, if there are questions or concerns please call our office.

## Important Dates

October 11	Financial Aid Night for 12th grade parents and students—6:30 pm
October 11	PSAT Exam for 10th & 11th grade students
November 2	Instant Admission Day for HVCC—An admissions counselor from HVCC will be here for students interested in attending HVCC in the fall. On-line application due Oct. 27th
November 2	Registration deadline for December 2nd SAT Exam
November 6	AP Contract and first payment due to the Counseling Office.
November 3rd	ACT Exam (registration deadline Nov. 3rd for Dec. 9th exam)
November 22	Goal date for all seniors to have college applications completed
November 30	FAFSA Night @ 6:30pm
December 11	2nd payment due for AP Exam

## Interim/Report Card Information 2017-2018

	End of Grading Term	Grades Due	Mail Out
Interim 1	Oct. 6	Oct. 10	Oct. 12
Report Card 1	Nov. 9	Nov. 14	Nov. 16
Interim 2	Dec. 15	Dec. 19	Dec. 21
Report Card 2	Jan. 26	Jan. 30	Feb. 1
Interim 3	March 9	March 13	March 15
Report Card 3	April 13	April 17	April 19
Interim 4	May 18	May 22	May 24
Report Card 4	June 22	June 22	June 28

Parent Teacher Conferences:      November 17      February 9      April 20

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**It is never too early to start thinking about your future.**

### Helpful Resources

#### College Testing

College Planning & SAT Testing Information [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

ACT Testing Information [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

#### Finding the Right College

College Planning & SAT Testing Information [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

Resources to help students and parents with the college process: [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

College campus information, news and events: [www.saycampuslife.com](http://www.saycampuslife.com)

Planning guides and tips: [www.offtocollege.com](http://www.offtocollege.com)

#### The College Application Process

Universal Application: [www.universalcollegeapp.com](http://www.universalcollegeapp.com)

Common Application: [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

SUNY Application: [www.suny.edu/appliesuny](http://www.suny.edu/appliesuny)

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

NYS Higher Education Services Corporation: [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov)

#### Help with Career Choices

College Aptitude Test [www.careertest.us](http://www.careertest.us)

4 Free Career Aptitude Test [www.collegedegrees.com](http://www.collegedegrees.com)

#### Paying for College

College financing, scholarships, grants, loans and college aid: [www.saystudent.com](http://www.saystudent.com)

Applying for student aid: [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

Financial aid, money management information: [www.mappingyourfuture.org](http://www.mappingyourfuture.org)

Estimate of eligibility for student aid: [www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)

Scholarship search: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

U.S. Dept. of Education website to consolidate Federal Loans [www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov](http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov)

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