

## Information for Seniors – Class of 2010

### Senior Pictures:

- **Michael's Photography** in Smyrna (615-355-9595) is the photographer for senior pictures that are to be published in the yearbook.
- Senior pictures for the yearbook must be made by **Sept. 14, 2009**
- Seniors may use any photographer for their senior pictures, but Michael's has the contract for yearbook pictures and seniors must schedule an appointment with Michael's if they want their picture in the yearbook
- Senior ads (baby pictures, etc.) must be purchased by Friday, Sept. 19, 2009
- For additional yearbook information (purchasing, payment, etc.) go to [www.rhsyearbook.com](http://www.rhsyearbook.com)

### Graduation Information:

- The final date for graduation has not been set, but Riverdale will graduate at 2:00 on Saturday afternoon of the "graduation weekend" in May 2010.
- The senior meeting to order graduation announcements, cap and gown, etc., will take place in early October. A deposit for the order is due when the order is placed.

### Senior Week and Prom:

- Senior Week will be April 19-23, 2010
- Prom is scheduled for April 23

### College Admissions:

- Deadlines for university admission vary, depending on the post-secondary school you wish to attend. All universities require an application fee (cost varies by school)
- Go to the website of a university that interests you, and follow the links for "admission." The links below are for community colleges and universities in the state of Tennessee that are favorites of former RHS seniors:
  - MTSU - [http://www.mtsu.edu/prospective\\_st.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/prospective_st.shtml)
  - UT Knoxville - <http://www.utk.edu/futurestudents/>
  - Austin Peay State University- <http://www.apsu.edu/Admissions/>
  - Vanderbilt University - <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/prospective.html>
  - University of Memphis - <http://www.memphis.edu/future.htm>
  - Motlow State Community College - <http://www.mscc.edu/admissions/>

## Testing:

- Most of the 2010 senior class took the ACT during school last spring. That test was given to you free of charge by the state of Tennessee. Any subsequent ACT re-testing you wish to do is at your expense.
- Many students take the ACT multiple times to improve their scores as they acquire more knowledge their senior year. However, the choice to do so lies with the student/parent, not the school. For information about ACT test dates, go to <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html>. Be sure to click on the 2009-2010 dates tab.

**Financial Aid:** All financial aid begins by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility for financial assistance. You may apply online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. **Financial aid for college and university attendance falls into 3 categories:**

- **Scholarships**
- **Loans**
- **Grants**
  
- **Scholarships:**
  - May be awarded for academics, athletics, leadership, etc. from both private and public sources
  - **The Tennessee HOPE Scholarship (the lottery scholarship)** requires:
    - Entering freshmen must have a minimum of a 21 ACT (980 SAT), exclusive of the essay and optional subject area battery tests OR
    - Overall weighted minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA)
    - Go to [http://tn.gov/CollegePays/mon\\_college/hope\\_scholar.htm](http://tn.gov/CollegePays/mon_college/hope_scholar.htm) for more information
    - Any high school graduate residing in the state of Tennessee who meets the requirements above is eligible for the HOPE scholarship.
  - **Check the Riverdale Counseling Office web page** ([http://www.rhs.rcs.k12.tn.us/teachers/shofnerb/guidance\\_webpage\\_07/index.htm](http://www.rhs.rcs.k12.tn.us/teachers/shofnerb/guidance_webpage_07/index.htm)) or see your guidance counselor for other scholarships available. ***These scholarships are updated throughout the year, so check back frequently for new postings!***
  
- **Loans:**
  - Student loans are available for post-secondary education through a variety of sources.
  - All federal student loans are based on the completion of the FAFSA and ability of students and parents to pay.

- Federal student loans must be repaid upon graduation, but are usually at a significantly lower interest rate.
- **Grants:**
  - Grants are awarded based on student need, based on the completion of the FAFSA report and ability of parents/students to pay.
  - Grants often do not have to be repaid.