**Tips for Planning Your Future**

1. Now is the time to make informed decisions about your post-graduation plans.
2. If you are thinking about college or two-year schools, this is the time to begin the application process.
3. Fall is a great time to attend Open House at colleges and visit Technical Schools. Check the school’s website to register to attend an Open House or make an appointment to visit. A listing of current Open House activities is posted on the career bulletin board in the main LycoCTC building. Most schools require you to register to attend an Open House. With COVID procedures in place, your visit may need to be virtual. The school’s website will keep you updated as to how to visit or attend an Open House—be it in person or virtual.
4. If you need or want to take the SAT’s or ACT’s, check test dates and be sure to register before late fees apply. See https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org and [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

These dates are also listed on the career bulletin board. With COVID procedures in place, check the SAT and ACT websites for the latest procedures for taking these tests. Also, make sure the post-secondary school you want to attend requires either the SAT or ACT as some schools have lifted the test requirement due to COVID.

1. Check out the FAFSA website – www.fafsa.ed.gov--this is where you will begin the Financial Aid process to apply for scholarships, loans, etc. You may begin the FAFSA process as early as October 1 to establish a student ID and password. Earlier submission maximizes your chances to receive financial aid.
2. Check out [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) – it is a great website for high school students and their parents. It will help you think about and plan for your future. Several FastWeb handouts are attached, and I can give you others—see me!
3. See your home school counselor to check your credits for graduation—be sure you will meet all of your school’s requirements by June 2021 if you are a senior.
4. Keep up with all areas of your academic work—both at LycoCTC and at your home school. **This is** **just as important if you are doing remote and/or online work.** If you need help, let us or your school counselor know. Next May is too late to ask for help when you are having trouble this September. Also, remember at LycoCTC you receive a daily Work Ethic grade. (Now referred to as a **Daily Score** grade.) This is a good indicator of your employability and transfers to the real world.
5. Maintain good attendance—this is another indicator of your Work Ethic—employers and admissions personnel will check your attendance as noted on your high school transcript.
6. See your school counselor or me if you need help in checking out technical schools, colleges, the military, or career and post-graduation planning.
7. I am usually in the LycoCTC office—stop in if you have a question or need help. From time to time, I will stop in your class. Let me know what you need!

**Good Luck!**

**Mrs. Barlett**

**LycoCTC Career Counselor**