

SAMPLE 11TH/12TH GRADE FAMILY LETTER

Suggested materials to accompany letter: event flyer and College Knowledge handouts, “All About FAFSA” and “All About WASFA”

<<INSERT SCHOOL LOGO>>

<<INSERT SCHOOL ADDRESS>>

<<INSERT Date>>

Senior year is an exciting time in the life of students and parents, but it can also be stressful. We are here to help!

This is the time to consider your student’s education options after high school. They include technical colleges, 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges or universities, as well as trade programs and apprenticeships. At school, we will continue to teach your student about how to apply to colleges, as well as how to complete financial aid forms.

Financial aid can help pay for education after high school. To receive financial aid, students must complete either the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) every year starting in October of senior year, with your help. Some important things to know about financial aid:

- Applying for financial aid is free.
- Paying for college should not stop your student from pursuing a college education
- Completing 1 FAFSA or WASFA can give you access to financial aid for up to 10 schools included in the application.
- Financial aid includes grants, loans, work study and scholarships.
- Parents must provide their income information on the application and can enter this information themselves. They do not need to share income details with their students.
- FAFSA information is shared with the federal Department of Education and WASFA information is shared with the state government.
- No matter your income, it’s important to apply for financial aid because not all financial aid is based on financial need. Some colleges offer scholarships based on grades, test scores, talents and skills and may require the FAFSA or WASFA for scholarship consideration.

We are looking forward to answering all your questions and sharing more information and resources at our upcoming <<INSERT EVENT TITLE>>.

Thank you,

<<INSERT YOUR NAME>>

<<INSERT YOUR TITLE>>

<<INSERT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION>>

This resource was developed by the Puget Sound College and Career Network (PSCCN) and is included in the PSCCN Financial Aid Toolkit. Visit pcccn.org for additional materials. For toolkit suggestions, complete a short survey at bit.ly/PSCCNtoolkit

Revised 08.31.2017