

***Hey, WHS Seniors!***

***Got dreams?***

***Want an opportunity to get started on them?***

***How about applying for the SENIOR PROJECT?***

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***\*What is the senior project?***

A limited number of qualified WHS seniors work independently outside the classroom this spring on a project of their own choice and design. If selected, instead of attending some or all classes during fourth quarter, you would spend up to 30 hours a week for six weeks working on an internship, volunteering at a non-profit organization, learning a new skill, or researching an area of personal interest. A successful project will incorporate vocational exploration, volunteer service, and/or education as you go outside the academic setting to fulfill a personal goal and/or passion. The purpose is to allow you, as graduating seniors, to become more independent and responsible as you complete your high school career. An added bonus: it just might change the course of your life!

***\*Say, I get selected...what can I expect?***

- A commitment of between 15 and 30 hours a week to be spent on the project, depending on how many courses you intend to drop
- A weekly meeting, usually on Monday, with a faculty advisor at WHS
- A weekly journal reflecting your progress, to be submitted each Friday
- A final reflective paper to be passed in to your English teacher
- A culminating oral, visual, and/or performance component at the end
- A lot of independence and self-directed hard-work...and the pride and personal fulfillment that come with both!

***\*What's the timeline for senior projects?***

- **It starts right now!** Consider what you might want to do and find a person or group who will be able to advise you on an independent project or set you up in an internship. Bring ideas and questions to Mrs. Holland or Mrs. Shellito as you research possibilities. This is a crucial time to network and explore possibilities that Wayland...and the world beyond...have to offer.

- **Mandatory Informational Session:** either **February 2nd and 9th** after school at 2:30 PM in the English Department Office. If you even think you might like to apply, you must attend one of these two sessions. We will be discussing the application process as well as the details of the actual senior project during these meetings. Note that certain courses cannot be dropped— among them AP classes, Environmental Science, Business, Financial Literacy, and all Performing Arts classes. Check with your teachers.
  - **Proposal Workshop:** During the week of **February 13-17** we will hold a voluntary workshop or two to help you craft your ideal proposal. Dates and times to be announced.
  - **Proposal Submission:** Completed applications with all required signatures are due no later than **Wednesday, Feb. 29**, to either Mrs. Holland or Mrs. Shellito.
  - **Selection:** After proposals are reviewed by a selection committee, all applicants will be informed of the final decisions **no later than March 12**.
  - **Selected students will work on their projects for six weeks**, starting the first day of fourth quarter, **April 9**.
  - **Final Presentation Night:** You will share your achievements with family and friends on **Tuesday, May 29, at 7 PM**.
- \*What have past seniors done for their senior projects?*
- Creative Examples: design a fashion line, learn to cook, produce a CD, make a video, build something, create a phone app, learn a new instrument, write and stage a play, etc. Follow your bliss.
  - Internship or Volunteer Examples: Boston-based hospitals or research labs, hotels, television or radio stations, museums, civic action groups, drama or performing arts groups, marketing firms, sports teams, interior design firms, classrooms for teacher aides, accounting and advertising firms, charitable services, child-care facilities, etc.

*\*Who can I talk to for more information?*

Mrs.Shellito([Barbara\\_shellito@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:Barbara_shellito@wayland.k12.ma.us))

Mrs.Holland ([dana\\_holland@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:dana_holland@wayland.k12.ma.us))

in the English Department with any and all questions.

*“I hear and I forget,  
I see and I remember.  
I do and I understand.”  
--Confucius*