2018
GOVERNOR’S SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Informational Meeting

Student Candidate Application Packet and Selection Process Info available at the GSP Website www.gsp.ky.gov

This document and Manual info available at gomanualgo.weebly.com

- ONLY APPLY IF YOU WILL ATTEND. ABSENCES NOT ALLOWED.
- LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
- “Helpful Hints” packet is available on the GSP website:
  - Under the “Applicants” link.
  - Click on “Applications and Forms”
  - Helpful Hints: Best Practices & Important Information Packet Follow this template when looking for an example of a completed application.
  - NEW! VLOGS: Videos offering instruction about each portion of the application.
  - Check weebly site for recommender forms and Manual deadlines.

- All pages must be ONE-SIDED. (Parts are scored separately at the state level.)
- All applications MUST BE TYPED. Any application that is handwritten will not be accepted. Every section of the application must be typed, including Teacher Recommendations, Community Recommendations and *Guidance Counselor Statements.
- The writing portion of the application:
  - Must be typed and double spaced. Type the prompt you have chosen at the top of the page and then type response double spaced.
  - If the document is not double spaced 2 points will be deducted.
  - Do NOT use the online format.
  - Type the response in a word document, print it out and attach it to the rest of the application. Be sure to use spell and grammar check.

- Test scores / GPA / difficulty of course load located in the Academic Achievement Section.

Scoring rubrics have been included in the helpful hints packet. (All applicants must have either an ACT, SAT or PSAT score in order to apply. If you are absent for the PSAT in October then you must have an ACT or use the gr.10 PSAT score. If you take the October ACT and wish to use the score, you must bring an official student score report to the Guidance Office and give it to Mrs. Medley as soon as you receive it/download it from the ACT website.)
Timeline Information

- 09/29, 10/02, 10/03, 10/04, 10/05 Announcements made, emailed, tweeted, sent in PTSA newsletter about GSP informational sessions.
- 10/04 GSP Info Session @ 7:15 AM
- 10/05 GSP Info Session @ 7:15 AM and 2:15 PM
- 10/13/17 Last day to ask a teacher to write a nomination on your behalf
- 10/13/17 Suggested deadline for asking a community leader to write a rec on your behalf
- 11/13/17 Teacher nomination forms due to Mrs. Medley in the Guidance Office. Teachers will email the completed form directly to Mrs. Medley amy.medley@jefferson.kyschools.us
- 11/13/17 Community Recommendation forms due to Mrs. Medley in the Guidance Office. The community recommender should email the completed form directly to amy.medley@jefferson.kyschools.us (Completed forms will not be accepted from the student. Please give recommender attached letter with instructions.)
- 11/13/17 Completed student applications due to Mrs. Medley in the Guidance Office.
  - Student must upload a completed application to google docs (link located on the gomanualgo.weebly.com site)
  - Student must also turn in a hard copy / one sided / typed completed.

Best kept secrets for a great application……

- EXPLAIN EVERYTHING IN DETAIL.
- You may duplicate information in the 3 sections of the Student Profile portion. (i.e. an activity may be identified as extracurricular activity, service, and honor/award)
  For example, if the student is Captain of the Basketball Team, the information will be listed as an Extracurricular Activity for participation and also as a Honor/Award for being named the Captain.
- Be accurate with time commitment, i.e. If you play a sport and travel to away games be sure to mention the significant time commitment required.
  - If you have received an award for the same activity multiple times they should be listed together. Please watch the VLOG for more info.
  - Do not use acronyms. Write out each word. Scorers may not be familiar with the organization/acronym.
  - Activities section: Only those activities during high school, however, if you have been playing the piano (for ex.) since the 3rd grade then you may list it as “3rd grade-present” or “all my life” or “9 years.” However, do not list activities that took place ONLY before high school and were completed before high school began.
  - Extra-curricular activities – anything outside of the classroom – even if only for a ½ year, i.e. a club during 9th grade. Summer, church, school functions/clubs/teams.
  - Service – jobs and anything else a student does for someone else, for ex., helping an elderly neighbor grocery shop or with their yard work.
  - When completing the activities section be sure to include two things:
    - 1. A detailed description of what you did
    - 2. An impact statement – what you gained from the experience
      (Use Bloom’s taxonomy of verbs to help describe your role.)
- Be sure teachers and community recommenders use the 2018 online version of the questionnaire.
TWO Recommendations Required:
1 TEACHER recommendation and 1 COMMUNITY recommendation

TEACHER Recommenders:
- Choose one high school teacher from one of the following areas: English, Science, Math, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Humanities
- On the day the student makes the request of the teacher the student shall provide the teacher with a GSP TRF form detailing their interest and feelings about their input and success pertaining to the course the teacher taught. This will give the teacher detailed information that may/may not be included in the final teacher recommendation. Mrs. Medley will email an electronic link to the form that the teacher will complete and email back to Mrs. Medley.

COMMUNITY Recommenders:
- Community recommenders are in roles pertaining to student activities outside the classroom. These individuals recommend students using Community Recommender Forms (CRFs). The Community recommender may not be a member of the applicant's immediate family, a GSP employee or a member of a GSP scoring committee. Community recommenders must complete a separate CRF for each student. Community recommenders submit the typed, completed forms to the student in a sealed envelope with a signature across the seal. The student will submit the envelope with the completed student application on the due date. Only one CRF from a Community Leader should be included with each application.
- On the day the student makes the request of the community leader the student shall provide the CR with a GSP CRF form detailing their interest and feelings about their input, experiences and success pertaining to the time spent with the CR. This will give the CR detailed information that may/may not be included in the final CR nomination.

*Guidance Counselor Statements:
This statement should only be completed if there is additional information that may be significant and relevant and has not otherwise been noted or introduced in the application. The Guidance Counselor Statement is *not required. The counselor should indicate if the student has overcome adversity, while maintaining academic excellence. The GCS does not add nor does it subtract points from a student’s overall score.

*Students who have experienced adversity and would like a GCS written on their behalf must also submit to Mrs. Medley answers to the following questions:
Describe in detail any circumstances that have affected your academic work (i.e. after school job, home responsibilities, hardships, illness(es), learning difference(s) or any other experience you feel is significant.
- What is your philosophy about education?
- Why are you an excellent candidate for the GSP Program?
- What do you plan to bring to the GSP experience?
- What major contributions have you made to your school and community?
- What are your favorite courses and why?
- What stimulates your intellectual experience?
- Give a quote that describes your view on life.
- Describe one example of how you provide or have provided leadership.
- What qualities do you like best about yourself? List 4 or 5 adjectives that describe you.