



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

BIZTEK SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITY

160-05 Highland Avenue • Queens, New York 11432
www.hillcrestweb.com
STEPHEN M. DUCH, PRINCIPAL

Telephone: (718) 658-5407 ext. 2801
Fax: (718) 739-5137
JOSE I. RIOS, DIRECTOR

BIZTEK Summer Project— Entering 12th grade only

What is the Summer Project?

The summer project is required of all BIZTEK students and will be turned in during the last week of September 2011. The project is designed to allow students to reflect on their future careers and aspirations, and to prepare for the college application process. Students will have multiple ways of demonstrating their learning.

What do I have to do? (Select 2 Projects – PROJECT 5 MUST BE DONE)

Project 1: Students research three careers of interest, pay scales associated with those careers. Students also identify the skills necessary for their preferred career, colleges that offer majors in that career choice, and attempt to contact and interview people who are involved in their preferred career fields. Students also research the tuition and other expenses involved in attending their preferred colleges. Another part of this project involves researching scholarship opportunities, and writing about creative ways to finance a college education.

Project 2: Students write a report on their SAT score or PSAT Score. Students analyze whether their scores are good enough to make it to the college of their choice. Students also analyze their transcript –is it good enough? If not, students develop an action plan – concrete steps they can complete –to help them get into the colleges of their choice.

Project 3: Students research where they would like to live, and how much money it would take to live comfortably there. Additionally, students read the book, “**Nickel and Dime: On Not Getting by in America**” (by Barbara Ehrenreich),“ and describe a life where one lives making minimum wage. Students create budgets for their desired living location and also create a current budget for themselves. The point is to have students realize the value of money, and how, by making minimum wage, it is extremely difficult (if not impossible) to make one’s dreams come true. The result of this analysis should provide even more motivation for going to college.

Project 4: Students research the importance of the PSAT and SAT. Research must be done to gather this information, and an evaluation made. The goal is for students to understand the tests, why they are used, and what the advantages are for doing well. Students should indicate how they intend to practice for these tests, what skills they can practice, how they obtain practice, etc.

Project 5: Students develop and gather the materials for their college portfolios. This includes completion of a personal essay, recommendations, resume, and creation of a brag sheet. Students also enroll in “FASTWEB” and start preparing materials for submission for college scholarships. Students complete college applications, collect their SAT scores, develop a mission statement, identify strengths and weaknesses, assess their college readiness and college survival skills, finalize immunization records and physicals, and start filling out a draft FAFSA. All of these materials are arranged in a binder for use when the student returns to school in September. Students will also develop and complete a timeline of events for their senior year.

OUTPUTS: Students have the option of completing these projects in various ways:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Essays or Reports | Collages | Skits, Mini-Production, Videos |
| Webpages | Powerpoint Presentations | Posters |

How will this be graded?

Summer Projects will be graded by BIZTEK teachers. Failure to do the summer project will result in a failing test/project grade in all BIZTEK classes.

What are the benefits of handing in a project?

In addition to the grade, students will have their work publicized during BIZTEK exhibition days. Projects will also be displayed in classrooms and shown on school television displays.