

October 28, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is being sent to all Boyertown Area Senior High (BASH) sophomore students who were either not in school on October 22, 2009 and/or did not participate in the college visitation experience. Fortunately, we have arranged an alternate activity for the students to complete to fulfill the necessary requirement for the career portfolio. In conjunction with their English classes, all sophomores will be writing a reflective essay based on this alternate activity. This essay will become part of their career portfolio.

In order to be prepared to write the essay, students must obtain a College Research Exercise packet from the school counselor's office. Once they receive the packet, they may choose one of two activities:

1. Go to [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) and follow the links to the School Research Activity. Follow the directions in the packet to research the school of your choice. This can be completed in school during a study hall with the necessary library pass or at home.
2. Meet with one of the college representatives that visit Boyertown. Students are made aware of these visits through bulletin board postings, the school newsletter, and morning announcements. By using the packet as a guide and being an active participant in the meeting with the representative, students will have the necessary experience to write a proficient essay. Students must obtain a signature from the college representative on their packet after completion.

The first advisor checkpoint for the career portfolio will be November 16, 2009 during homeroom. If, at that time, the activity and essay are not completed and uploaded into the career portfolio, a deficiency letter will be sent home. The deficiency letter is merely a means of communicating the status of your child relative to the graduation project portfolio requirements to this point. Remember, this is only the first step in a three year cumulative graduation requirement. It is critical that students do not fall behind in their portfolio assignments this early in the process.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (610) 473 - 3686 or by email at [jtowers@boyertownasd.org](mailto:jtowers@boyertownasd.org).

Sincerely,

James J. Towers  
Assistant Principal – Class of 2012