RCC and GPHS team up to make Compass Day happen

GRANTS PASS — Despite a budget freeze and proposed cuts to school days, Grants Pass High School has teamed with Rogue Community College to welcome GPHS seniors to visit the RCC Redwood Campus.

Scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 10, the visit is part of the RCC Compass Days, which are designed to provide high school students with information about educational resources, programs, activities, and financial aid. The event also includes a campus tour, placement testing opportunities, a free lunch, and a question-and-answer format.

Wednesday, April 1, is the deadline to register. Seniors can sign up in the GPHS Career Center or contact a high school counselor. Because Grants Pass School District 7, like most others throughout Oregon, has cut expenditures, students must provide their own transportation to the event, said Katy Wicks, RCC admission recruiter.

“We met with high school representatives and worked together to create a positive solution that will help the students plan for life after graduation,” Wicks said. “This Compass Day is another good example of how RCC is reaching out the community to provide solutions in these rough economic times.”

“April 10 is a conference day, so there’s no impact for students on missing classes,” said Bill Sarver, GPHS guidance counselor. “We appreciated RCC’s flexibility and understanding as we didn’t know if any class days were going to be cut due to the budget situation all of us are currently in.”

In the past, Sarver and other counselors accompanied students to Compass Day on district-provided buses. Due to a freeze on spending, there will be no bus service this year, and students will attend the event on their own.

The economic recession is inspiring more high school students and their families to look to RCC, Sarver said. “It’s a good resource financially and academically.”
“This is a rough time for newly graduating high school seniors to be entering the workforce without training, experiences or post-secondary education,” Wicks noted. “Many are looking for a more economically practical college choice, which is where RCC steps in.”

For more information, contact Wicks at 956-7201.

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