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 **Taylor Mercado**

 College Adviser

Zebulon B. Vance High School

7600 IBM Drive

Charlotte, NC 28262

SUBJECT: FAFSA and Financial Aid for College for Your Student

Dear Vance Family,

 I hope this letter finds you well and geared up for another wonderful semester here at Vance. As you know, I am Taylor Mercado and I am currently serving as the College Adviser for your students. I am writing to you today to encourage you to help your student file their 2014 FAFSA. FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is vital to your student’s success in paying for college. At this point we are working hard to tie up any loose ends for their applications, but we are now moving into financial aid season for our seniors.

 FAFSA is an application that is sponsored by the government that pulls information from your 2013 taxes to help determine how much aid your student will receive for their college education. This application will be what determines if your student is eligible for Pell Grants, federally subsidized loans, and other forms of aid. **Please note that EVERY family should file FAFSA, regardless of whether or not they believe they will receive aid. All applications should be submitted by MARCH 1, 2014 to ensure that you beat the priority deadline for filing this important information.**

Additional information about FAFSA and the process, as well as the location where you will be filing your FAFSA can be found at:

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Please note that I have also provided dates and locations for FAFSA Day 2014 that allows families to go to various locations on a Saturday morning for expert advice and help in filing FAFSA. This will be on February 22nd, 2014. On the back of this sheet you will find a listing of the locations in Mecklenburg County. For more information about this event, please visit:

[www.cfnc.org/event/fafsa/fafsa\_nc\_map.jsp](http://www.cfnc.org/event/fafsa/fafsa_nc_map.jsp)

 If you have any other questions about FAFSA or Financial Aid, please feel free to contact me at the school’s number (980) 343-5284 or via e-mail at taylor1.mercado@cms.k12.nc.us.

Thanks so much,

Taylor Mercado