



College Counseling Crier

January 2019

Volume 2, Issue 6

Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

ACT Test Dates and Deadlines*

February 9, 2019
(registration deadline:
January 11)

April 13, 2019
(registration deadline:
March 8)

June 8, 2019
(registration deadline:
May 3)

July 13, 2019
(registration deadline:
June 14)

SAT Test Dates and Deadlines*

March 9, 2019
(registration deadline:
February 8)

May 4, 2019
(registration deadline:
April 5)

June 1, 2019
(registration deadline:
May 3)

**If you will be taking these tests with accommodations, please contact Mrs. Anzelone*

January Kick-Off

Our College Counseling Kickoff for junior parents begins at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15**. College Counseling will host junior parents in the Howard Auditorium of Blair Family Center for the Arts and will explain the Bullis School College Counseling Office's philosophy, procedures and practices. We will demonstrate Naviance and explain the topics being covered in College 101—a required course for juniors.

Juniors will meet with their college counselor on six dates throughout the year during designated enrichment blocks (listed below). **These sessions are MANDATORY for all juniors – we ask families to note these dates in an effort to avoid scheduling conflicts.** The purpose of College 101 is to help our students gain an understanding of the college search process and begin college exploration without the pressure of imminent deadlines. Topics will include: self-reflection and discovery; researching colleges; Naviance usage, etiquette with colleges and counselors; social media; and application terminology and procedures.

The dates for the College 101 sessions are:

<u>Session 1</u>	Tuesday, January 15 or Thursday, January 17
<u>Session 2</u>	Tuesday, January 22 or Thursday, January 24
<u>Session 3</u>	Tuesday, February 5 or Tuesday, February 12
<u>Session 4</u>	Tuesday, March 19 or Thursday, March 21
<u>Session 5</u>	Thursday, April 4 for all students
<u>Session 6</u>	Tuesday, April 23 or Thursday, April 25

Students will be notified of their counselor assignment and College 101 schedule via email prior to our first College 101 meeting. We are looking forward to working closely with the Class of 2020 as they begin their college process!

Junior Parent Kickoff Program

Tuesday, January 15
7:00 p.m.

Howard Auditorium
Blair Family Center for the
Arts

Keeping Calm Over the Holidays

The winter break is a great time for students and families to recharge and regroup for our return in January. During this time, our seniors will likely receive admission-related decisions from their Early Decision, Early Action, and Rolling application schools if they haven't already. *The Wall Street Journal's* Sue Shellenbarger's article, "[Survive College-Application Season With the Family in One Piece](#)" provides insight on how to deal with a potentially tense situation at home while empowering students to take ownership of their college application process. We especially want to highlight Shellenbarger's list, "When Your Teens Apply to College," as these points can be helpful for all families.

Putting the Process in Perspective

**I GET TO
-VS-
I HAVE TO**

Classes begin at 8:00 a.m., after school activities run from 3:30 – 5:30, and *then* students get to start their homework and spending time with family. The schedule of Bullis students, and most students in our area is jam-packed. Adding on the time spent applying to college, preparing for and sitting for standardized tests, and writing essays can feel overwhelming and laborious. Georgia Tech's Director of Admission, Rick Clark, recently released another fantastic article, "[You Get To Do This!](#)" encouraging people to shake up their use of language. Instead of saying "I *have* to get this application done," or "I *have* to write this essay," why don't we say things like, "I *get* to complete this application," or "I *get* the chance to go to college." This approach goes beyond just the college application process and is applicable in all aspects of our lives, especially as the senior year comes to a close.

Don't Let Deferrals or Denials Get You Down!

As the landscape for higher education continues to change, the application processes at selective colleges and universities become increasingly competitive. With that, families and counselors have a more difficult time

predicting admission decisions, often encouraging students to cast a wider net of applications and prepare for deferrals or denials.



Forbes

Brennan Barnard, Director of College Counseling and Outreach at The Derryfield School in New Hampshire shares in his *Forbes* article, "[How To Deal With A Deferral Or Denial Of Admission to College: Change Priorities](#)," how students can redirect their thinking after receiving what may be unexpected or unwanted news.

Review of December Drop-In Dates

Our December Drop-In Dates for parents of freshman, sophomores, and juniors have come and gone. Families were able to come in and make introductions, ask questions, and learn how we work directly with students and colleges. We enjoyed our conversations with you and look forward to many more enriching opportunities to engage with students and parents alike.

Springing into Summer Continues

We have continued to make updates to our Summer Opportunities section of the College Counseling webpage. As we mentioned in our last edition of the *College Counseling Crier*, many colleges and universities around the country and the world offer summer programs for high school students. These programs are a great way for students to get a feel for college life by taking classes and meeting other students who share their interests.

In addition to those currently listed, we will continue to add programs as we hear about them. If students need help throughout the summer program application process, we in College Counseling are happy to provide guidance and assistance.

As a reminder, during **Enrichment on Thursday, January 10**, Ms. Darling is hosting an information session and workshop about STEM Summer Internships in the Boarman Discovery Center Presentation (on the 2nd floor). This will be an opportunity for students to talk through internships and get help on applications and resume building. Reminders will be sent closer to the date.

Positive Outcomes Continue

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,057 applications!** Many of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action and Rolling Admission have already received some decisions; **189 acceptances** have been offered.

As a reminder to our seniors please let us know of all admission decisions and scholarship awards.

We want to celebrate with you and provide good advice and counsel.

