



College Counseling Crier

January 2020

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Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

ACT Test Dates and Deadlines*

February 8, 2020
(registration deadline: January 10)

April 4, 2020
(registration deadline: February 28)

June 13, 2020
(registration deadline: May 8)

July 18, 2020
(registration deadline: June 19)

SAT Test Dates and Deadlines*

March 14, 2020
(registration deadline: February 14)

May 2, 2020
(registration deadline: April 3)

June 6, 2020
(registration deadline: May 8)

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

January Kick-Off for Juniors!

Our College Counseling Kickoff for junior parents begins at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14**. 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 or as an entire grade-level on six dates throughout the year during designated study halls or after-school sessions (listed below). For those students who do not have a study hall in the second trimester, we will have a scheduled meeting after school in the same week as the other sessions.

These sessions are MANDATORY for all juniors – we ask families to note these dates to avoid scheduling conflicts. Our first session is this Thursday, January 9. 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:

	A Block	B Block	C Block	D Block	E Block	F Block	G Block
Session 1	All juniors will meet on Thursday, January 9 during Flex Time in the Boarman Discovery Center Studio Theatre						
Session 2	Fri., Jan. 24	Fri., Jan. 24	Weds., Jan. 22	Weds., Jan. 22	Thurs., Jan. 23	Thurs., Jan. 23	Weds., Jan. 22
Session 3	Fri., Feb. 14	Fri., Feb. 14	Tues., Feb. 11	Tues., Feb. 11	Thurs., Feb. 13	Thurs., Feb. 13	Tues., Feb. 11
Session 4	Fri., Mar. 13	Fri., Mar. 13	Tues., Mar. 10	Tues., Mar. 10	Thurs., Mar. 12	Thurs., Mar. 12	Tues., Mar. 10
Session 5	All juniors will meet on Wednesday, April 8 during Flex Time in the Boarman Discovery Center Studio Theatre						
Session 6	Fri., Apr. 17	Fri., Apr. 17	Tues., Apr. 14	Tues., Apr. 14	Thurs., Apr. 16	Thurs., Apr. 16	Tues., Apr. 14

Students will be notified of their counselor assignment and College 101 schedule via email before our first College 101 meeting. We are looking forward to working closely with the Class of 2021 as they begin their college process!

Save the Dates

Rescheduled PreACT for Sophomores

Tuesday, January 21
Beginning at 9:15 a.m.

Athletic Center

Those testing with accommodations should report to the Studio Theatre in the Boarman Discovery Center

Rescheduled PreACT for Sophomores

On **Tuesday, January 21st**, all sophomores will take the PreACT. After first block, sophomores will report to their respective testing locations to begin the exam at 9:15 a.m. Standard time testing will be held in the New Gym in the Athletic Center and will last until approximately 11:45 a.m. Those students testing with accommodations will go to the Studio Theatre in the Boarman Discovery Center unless otherwise noted. Please consult with [Ms. Anzelone](#) about specific testing location and timing.

The PreACT simulates the ACT testing experience by providing students early exposure to ACT test-quality questions, and predictive score ranges on the familiar 1-36 scale. This helps students get comfortable with the standardized testing experience and understand how they are doing in core subjects. Bullis covers the \$12 cost for each student; thus, there is no need to submit payment.

All students should come prepared with the following items as College Counseling will *not* be providing them:

- Two (2) sharpened #2 pencils
- An eraser
- A calculator with fresh batteries



We believe this is a valuable opportunity to experience a regular standardized test developed by the American College Testing Corporation.

Quantity and Quality When Crafting the Class



Lindsay Cates writes in her recent *U.S. News & World Report* article, “[How Colleges Choose Which Students to Admit](#)” that “Choosing a freshman class is actually a very subjective task: besides good grades and test scores, the admissions office is generally seeking personal characteristics and abilities that will produce a well-rounded student body with diverse talents that fit with the school’s mission.”

With a combination of grades and sometimes standardized test scores, colleges are also looking at the qualitative factors of applicants when looking to fill a class. Between time spent after school engaging in personally-meaningful activities, self-expression in the college essay, and highlighting fit in supplemental questions, colleges are paying attention to all parts of the application.

Springing into Summer

College and universities around the country offer summer programs for high school students. These programs are an excellent way for students to get a feel for college life by taking classes and meeting other students around the country who share their interests.

To find these opportunities, please see the [Summer Opportunities](#) section of the College Counseling webpage. As in the past, we've provided focal groups for a more specific search. In addition to those 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.

Positive Outcomes Continue!

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,208** applications! Many of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action, and Rolling admission have received their decisions; **221** 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.