



College Counseling Crier

February 2020

Volume 3, Issue 7

Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

ACT Test Dates and Deadlines*

February 8, 2020
(registration deadline has passed)

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

Circling Back to College 101

The junior class had their first group session followed by a small-group session held during their study halls for College 101. These sessions, which are **MANDATORY** for all juniors, share crucial information which allow students to gain an understanding of the college search process and begin exploration without the pressure of imminent deadlines.

In our first small group study hall sessions, students were introduced to our College Counseling timeline; taken through a brief overview of Naviance including how to research a college and how to interpret scattergrams; and had an introductory explanation of commonly-used admissions jargon. The juniors are working diligently on their questionnaires, which are **due on March 6** (found on Haiku). Upon completion, they can schedule their one-on-one meeting with their individual counselor.

As a reminder, students will receive emails from the counselor leading their College 101 sessions. The dates, times, and locations are also posted outside of the College Counseling office. For those students who do not have a study hall this trimester, our make-up session is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on the Wednesday of the week the study hall sessions are held (February 12, March 11, and April 15).

We look forward to continuing our work with the Class of 2021 as they begin their course selection and college process.

The future dates for the College 101 sessions are:

	A Block	B Block	C Block	D Block	E Block	F Block	G Block
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

Save the Dates

Sophomore Spring Expo for Sophomores and their Families

Monday, March 9
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Boarman Discovery Center

Washington Area Independent Schools (WAIS) Fair for Juniors and their Families

Wednesday, April 22
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Georgetown Preparatory School
10900 Rockville Pike
North Bethesda, MD 20852

Mock Admission Program for Juniors and their Families

Thursday, April 23
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Blair Family Center for the Arts

Pointers from a Pro for Juniors and Seniors

Juniors have just begun the college journey. Questions from friends and family about “where are you looking?” and “what are you looking for?” start to arise. Tulane University’s Director of Admission, Jeff Schiffman’s recent blog post, “[Junior Tips Part I: Start Here](#),” helps juniors ask themselves some big-picture questions. His best piece of advice: “There are roughly 2,600 universities and colleges around the US. None of them are bad schools, some of them might just be bad fits for you.” Our College Counseling office aims to find the best-fit institution for each student.



Earlier this month, in the same blog, Schiffman also writes a post directed at seniors. In “[How to Stay Admitted](#),” he shares six common mistakes seniors make, which may put their admission in jeopardy. As we’ve stressed to the seniors, it’s

important to maintain their grades, continue coming to school each day, and making good choices socially and on social media. Jeff reinforces the fact that “colleges are *never* looking for reasons to rescind your admission.”

What Really Matters? Busting Common Myths

It seems like one of the only constants in college admission is that the landscape is always changing. Myths and rumors are flying around about ways in which students can strategically improve their chances of admission. A *U.S. News & World Report* article from earlier this year, “[6 Common College Admissions Myths](#)” by contributor, Stacy Colino discusses the gap between perception and reality.

Sophomore Spring Expo

We invite the sophomore class and their families to join us in the Studio Theatre of the Boarman Discovery Center on **Monday, March 9**, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. The College Counselors, Assistant Head of Upper School for Academics, Signature Program Directors, Learning Support team, and Applerouth test prep company representatives will host various sessions and will be available for questions throughout the evening. We hope you will be able to join us.

As a reminder, this is a **no homework night for the students who attend**. Careful attendance will be taken.

Summer Programs Pouring In

Each week, we continue to update our [Summer Opportunities](#) section of the College Counseling webpage. College and universities around the country offer summer programs for high school students as a way for students to get a feel for college life by taking classes and meeting other students around the country who share their interests. 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.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Positive Outcomes Continue!

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,270** applications! Most of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action, and Rolling admission have received their decisions; **340** acceptances have been offered. Just this past weekend, University of Maryland and University of Virginia released their decisions.

*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.

