



# College Counseling Crier

March 2020

Volume 3, Issue 8

## Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

### ACT Test Dates and Deadlines\*

April 4, 2020  
(registration deadline has  
passed)

June 13, 2020  
(registration deadline:  
May 8)

July 18, 2020  
(registration deadline:  
June 19)

### SAT Test Dates and Deadlines\*

March 14, 2020  
(registration deadline has  
passed)

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

## Sophomore Spring Expo – Just Around the Corner

A reminder for sophomores and families: We invite the sophomore class and their families: **Monday, March 9**, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Boarman Discovery Center is our Sophomore Spring Expo! 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 at the event.

## Course Selection Straight Ahead



In the coming weeks, students will meet with their course selection coaches to begin the process of course registration. We urge *all* students to continue taking **academic major courses** (English, math, science, social studies, and world language) throughout each of the four years here at Bullis, even if they have met Bullis School's graduation requirements.

For current sophomores, we offer a standardized test preparation course in the winter trimester led by Applerouth Tutoring Services. This course costs \$649 and is taught twice a week during a student's study hall block. Bullis partners with Applerouth Tutoring Services to bring students a comprehensive and interactive class on how to tackle standardized tests and increase score-outcomes. In 20 hours of class-time, Applerouth's expert tutor covers not only the content and format of the test but also key strategies for test-taking. This small and comprehensive class includes engaging material and provides the opportunity for students to take 3 previously-released, full-length standardized tests to practice their skills as they go.

**We highly encourage interested students to make the selection during course registration. For more information, please call Applerouth at 202-558-5644.**

## 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

## The “Calculus” of College Admission

“Good” grades + “high” test scores + an abundance of extracurricular activities + “perfect” letters of recommendation ≠ admission to every top-choice college or university.

Instead of focusing on the checklist items of what colleges and universities are seemingly looking for, Patrick O’Connor, Ph.D.’s article “[The Danger of College by Checklist](#),” encourages students to go a bit deeper and take the opportunity to demonstrate that they are “engaged thinkers.”

## Circling Back to College 101

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 – we’ve already had one large group session and two smaller group sessions during study hall and after school. The dates, times, and locations of future sessions 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 of College 101 are listed below:

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

## California College Tours

In February, Mrs. Miller had the opportunity to visit five schools in California. Below, you’ll find a snippet of interesting information for you to review and consider as you look for the best-fit college:



**Pepperdine University:** 3,600 undergraduates. One of the most beautiful college campuses in the country overlooking the ocean from the bluffs in Malibu. Strong Christian background with required convocation credits. Impressive study abroad programs. 20% first-generation students (something very important to them), and unique classes in topics like surfing.



**Chapman University:** 7,000 undergraduates. Charming, beautiful campus in Orange, CA. Only 45 minutes to Los Angeles. Students LOVE it and all seem extremely happy to be there. Known for its Dodge School of Film, which has incredible facilities and real-world film equipment and sets.



**University of San Diego:** 5,900 undergraduates. Campus in the hills above the city of San Diego, beautiful weather and views! Phenomenal engineering program nestled into a liberal arts college; a 4-year degree that does not require you to apply as an engineering major. A lot of service-learning projects and 90% of students study abroad.



**University of Southern California:** 19,000 undergraduates. Lovely campus contained within itself in downtown Los Angeles, Students are incredibly friendly, smart, and down-to-earth. College with the second-largest international population in the US. Need blind for financial aid and meet 100% of demonstrated need for US students.



**University of California, Los Angeles:** 31,000 undergraduates. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, a massive beautiful campus. The hospital and graduate schools are all right on campus so there is opportunity for undergrads to get involved. Consistently an active, vibrant, and diverse campus.

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## How You Spend Your Summer *Is* Important!

For months, we've been advertising our [Summer Opportunities](#) portion of the College Counseling webpage. The listings are a sample of academic programs we've heard of and trust for our students to explore, but these types of experiences aren't the *only* worthy experiences out there. Lee Shulman Bierer's article, "[How you spend your summer vacation is important](#)," emphasizes that "summer is an open canvas" for students to "demonstrate an intellectual curiosity that colleges value." So whether students take advantage of an academic experience, volunteer, get a job, intern, or start something new, the summer is a time for continued learning and enrichment.

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## Positive Outcomes Continue!

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,277** applications! Most of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action, and Rolling admission have received their decisions; **405** 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.***