

Dear Class of 2021 and Families,

Thank you for your patience while I worked with seniors to complete their college applications. As the application season begins to wind down, I am excited to turn my attention to the class of 2021! Please note the upcoming events designed to support junior families as you launch your college search and application process.

- **College night** (Thursday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons) will focus on *next steps* including creating/finalizing a plan for standardized testing, building a solid college list, and reviewing what juniors can be doing now to prepare for college applications. Parents and students are encouraged to attend this event.
- **Junior Naviance training** (January and February in Bible classes) will teach juniors how to use Naviance to research college fit, build a college list, research majors and create a resume.
- **Junior family college appointments** (December through March) are designed for personal college advising. No matter where your family is in the college planning process, we will work together to focus your college search to meet your needs. I plan to cover the following general topics, but parents and students are encouraged to come with a list of questions and topics that are meaningful to them.
 1. Goals (personal, college, and career)
 2. Standardized Testing (review plan for each junior)
 3. Developing a Thoughtful College List
 4. The College Application Process (deadlines and strategies for reducing stress)
 5. Demonstrated Interest
 6. Strength of Schedule
 7. College Essays

I am using SignUp.com to schedule our meetings. *Here's how it works in 2 easy steps:*

- 1) Click this link (or cut and paste into your browser) to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/go/RAYWZHf>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the date and time you like. Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you have problems using this tool or finding a date.

- **Workshops** will be offered on the following topics:
 - Understanding Highly Selective College Admissions:* 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons on Thursday, January 16.
 - A Parent's introduction to Naviance Webinar:* Wednesday, February 12th (I will send the invite and link in mid-January.)
 - A Parent's Guide to the College Essay and Overview of What is Expected in a College Application:* Thursday, May 7th 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons
- **College application and essay webinar** (Monday, May 4th 7:00 p.m.) will include tips for getting a jump start on college applications and essays over the summer. (I will send the invite and link in April)
- **College essay** classes will be offered during lunch and after school throughout May to give juniors the tools they need to start their essays.

- **Summer Workshops and Meetings:**

August 17th – Student Common Application Workshop – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The goal is to have it completed before school starts. *I will take RSVPs for the summer application workshop. I will open more dates as needed.*

August 18th – Coalition Application Workshop – 9:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m. The goal is to have it completed before school starts.

August through September College Advising Meetings– I will be emailing a link for families to request appointment times before the end of school. The focus of this meeting is to finalize your college list, review your deadlines, and list action items.

I am learning that students don't read emails, and I know that parents are inundated with emails. So...I have been trying to brainstorm ways to communicate that will be relevant and meaningful. I will use the parent post as my main form of communication to advertise events and college visits. I also plan to offer webinars to share more detailed information. You can join the webinar live or watch at your convenience. I will also create short videos that students and parents can access on a variety of topics related to college. Again, I appreciate your patience as I transition into this new role. I have been thinking about ways to support the juniors, and I am excited to get started.

It is a privilege to join you in prayer as we seek God's blessing and direction for your future.

"Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take." Proverbs 3:6

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