#### Dear 8th Grade Parents:

Each year, as families of graduating 8th graders prepare for the future, we receive requests for information about local high school options. The options for high school are much more varied than in they were even a few years ago. There private tuition based schools, some parochial and some not. There are public school programs that include your local public high school, magnet programs, School Choice options, online learning, and charter schools. All are viable options. You will choose a high school for your student for a number of different reasons: geographic location, cost, focus/specialty of the school, etc. In order to make an informed decision about where your son or daughter should go to high school, we recommend selecting several schools and making appointments to tour/preview the facilities and programs as many of you did so long about at CTCS. Many schools (especially private) start their admissions process for 9th grade earlier than you might think (October-January), so it's important that you begin to think about and research schools soon. Some schools may ask for teacher and/or administrator recommendations as part of their admission process. We are glad to be of assistance in that process. If your high school of choice requires a recommendation, please submit that request to the appropriate teacher or administrator at least a week in advance of when you need the recommendation completed.

After you select a high school for your child, the next step would be creation of a 4 year plan that involves academics, extracurricular activities, and college preparation based on the offerings of the school. Because our students attend a variety of high schools (both geographically and philosophically), we are not able to identify that specific plan ourselves. However, your selected high school should be able to walk you through the process, and we provide any assistance and information necessary based on the requirements of the high school you select. After creating a 4 year plan, you will be able to select classes according to the timeline of your selected high school.

Below is a list of resources and local high schools that are available to you as you look ahead to 9th grade. Please note, this list is not comprehensive, nor does City Tree endorse any specific school. This list is merely to help you get started in your search. If you have any questions or need additional information, I would be happy to help as much as possible with this process. Feel free to contact me! (619)232-3794 ext. 2044 or becky.henzel@citytree.org. Also, we have a significant network of alumni parents who are often willing to help current CTCS families choose the right high school. If you have questions about specific private school and/or public high school programs, please contact me, and I will try to put you in touch with alumni parents who have researched the programs that interest you!

Becky Henzel Middle School Director

Check out the list of resources on the next page.

# Private Christian High Schools:

The Rock Academy

http://www.therockacademy.org/

Christian High School http://www.christianunified.com

Santa Fe Christian School www.sfcs.net

Maranatha Christian School http://maranathachristianschools.org/

Horizon Prep School http://www.horizonprep.org/

# Catholic High Schools:

Diocese of San Diego list of school websites: <a href="http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/school">http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/school</a> sites.htm

### Public High Schools:

To find the school in your area, consult this website. There are several programs for public high school transfers.

San Diego Unified School District: <a href="http://www.sandi.net/page/902">http://www.sandi.net/page/902</a>

Sweetwater Union High School District: (south bay) <a href="http://www.sweetwaterschools.org/students-parents/enrolling/">http://www.sweetwaterschools.org/students-parents/enrolling/</a>

Grossmont Union High School District:

http://www.guhsd.net/Schools/School-Enrollment-Information/

Poway Unified School District (north county inland): http://www.powayusd.com/Enrollment/

# Important Questions to Ask...

- Do you have a preview day/night for parents?
- Do you have a preview/shadow day for students?
- When is the new student enrollment available?
- When is new student enrollment application deadline?
- What academic records do you require for enrollment?
- Do you require teacher recommendations and when are they due?
- What is your process for helping my family create a 4-year plan? What information do I need from my child's current school to make that happen?
- Do you have information available to parents graduation rates and college attendance for graduated alumni?
- Ask for information any specific academic subjects/programs, athletics, or extra-curricular activities in which your child is interested.