



August 28, 2019

Dear juniors and their parents:

Welcome to the beginning of junior year. If you have not already begun to do so, now is the time to begin thinking about what you would like to do after high school. I am here to provide you with resources to make this process as easy for you as possible. In December, I will give each junior a questionnaire designed to help you assess your interests and think about what you would like to do after high school. You will turn in these questionnaires at the beginning of second semester, and I will meet with each junior to discuss options and resources.

In the meantime, here are some of the resources that are accessible to you now. A calendar of upcoming college-related events follows this letter.

- College catalogs and books – College viewbooks and other materials are available in the Upper Commons (alphabetical order by college). We also have a small library of college and career resources (e. g. *What Color is your Parachute? For Teens*) here at the school, including some SAT study materials. If you would like to borrow a book, please let me know.
- Admissions visits – Visits from college admissions representatives will be held during high school lunch throughout the year (mostly in the fall). I would encourage you to come to these meetings. They are not just a great way to learn about individual schools; they are also a great way to learn about the different types of schools and the college application process in general. If there is a school you would like us to receive a visit from, please let me know, and I will try to see if we can get a representative to come.
- If you do not already have a Multnomah County Public Library card, now is the time to get one. The public library system has many good college and career resources. You can use your library card to access online resources as well as print resources.
- Please plan to come to the Navigating the Road to College meeting to be held at Trinity Academy on September 19th (more details are on the calendar below). There will be a presentation on the college application process followed by a Q & A session, and I will have hard copies available of several useful resources (these will also be made available electronically after the meeting).

Please let me know if you have questions related to any of the above or anything else college-related. I look forward to working with you during this process.

Sincerely,
Francie Longshore
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CALENDAR:

SEPTEMBER 6TH – Priority registration deadline for the October 5th SAT test. Register at collegeboard.org.

SEPTEMBER 16TH – The Portland Performing and Visual Arts College Fair will be held at the Portland Art Museum (Mark Building) from 6:30-8:30pm. For more information or to register, please go here: <http://www.nacacfairs.org/attend/pva>.

SEPTEMBER 19TH – Navigating the Road to College; Trinity Academy, Lower Commons, 6:30pm. There will be a short presentation on Trinity's educational philosophy and how it fits into the college admissions process and a nuts-and-bolts overview of the process itself. There will also be plenty of time for questions, and I will provide hand outs of a number of useful resources (the hand outs will also be available online). There will be refreshments, so please don't let suppertime hunger keep you from coming.

SEPTEMBER 23RD – There will be a Christian (mainly Protestant) college fair held at Westside Christian High School, 8200 SW Pfaffle St., Tigard, OR 97223 from 6:00-8:00pm. Representatives will be present from a number of Christian colleges, universities, bible colleges, and seminaries. Please check <http://www.naccap.org> closer to the date to verify information and see the list of colleges.

SEPTEMBER 28TH – Greater Portland Metro Financial Aid Presentation at University of Portland; Buckley Center Auditorium; 10:00am. From UP: "a comprehensive financial aid presentation for high school seniors and their families preparing them for the 2019-20 aid year. Juniors and younger are welcome to attend, but the presentation will be geared towards seniors."

OCTOBER 5TH – SAT, SAT Math II, and SAT Literature administered.

OCTOBER 16TH – Sophomores and Juniors will take the PSAT. More details will be forthcoming.

OCTOBER 27TH & 28TH – The Portland National College Fair will be held at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Blvd., Portland, OR 97232, from 1:00pm – 5:00pm on Sunday, October 28th and from 9:00am-12:00pm on Monday, October 29th. This is a great opportunity to meet one-on-one with financial aid counselors and representatives from many different schools. Your student can register at www.gotomyncf.com/Registration. We will take juniors as a group from Trinity on Monday, October 28th.

NOVEMBER 8TH – Priority deadline for the December 7th SAT and SAT subject tests. This date is one of the two dates this academic year that the SAT Latin test will be offered.

DECEMBER 7TH – SAT, SAT Math II, SAT Latin, and SAT Literature administered.

FEBRUARY – There will be a Gap Year Fair in Portland for students intending to take a semester or a year off between high school and college, the gap year fair is a great resource. Organizations are represented for those who wish to pursue travel and/or volunteer opportunities immediately after high school. Some opportunities may involve a stipend or free room and board, and some are eligible for college credit. Date and time are still TBA.



SPRING –

Take the SAT and/or ACT, as well as any relevant SAT subject tests. The SAT is held on Saturday, May 2nd (priority registration date is April 3rd) and Saturday, June 6th (priority registration date is May 8th). June 6th is the second and final time that the SAT Latin test is offered during the 2019-2020 academic year. *Note: It is useful to know exactly which schools you wish to apply to by spring, so that you know which tests you will be required or recommended to take.*

Visit as many schools as you can. Spring Break is a great time to do this. If you are unsure what kind of school you wish to attend, it may be advisable to visit a variety of different types (large, small, private, public, etc.).

SUMMER – For those who plan to take or retake the SAT or ACT in the fall, the summer is a great time to study. Continue researching and visiting schools. Be sure to take advantage of the SAT practice questions available to you through Khan Academy. Login with the password you received with your PSAT scores.

SENIOR YEAR

FALL –

At the beginning of the school year, I will host a session for seniors on how to fill out the Common Application, which is used by many schools for admissions purposes. Seniors will create a résumé that highlights both academic and non-academic interests. This document will be useful both for filling out applications and for generating official letters of recommendation.

I will meet with students individually to find out what schools they plan to apply to and what sort of help they will need from me. I will also be available to answer questions and help with the writing of essays and personal statements, as needed.

Retake SAT, ACT, and/or SAT subject tests, if desired.

NOVEMBER 1 – This is the deadline for early decision/early action for most schools. If a student has a school they *know* they want to attend, they can apply for an “early decision.” If accepted, the student will be required to attend the chosen school. Applying for an early decision has three major advantages: 1) The school will know that you are serious about attending, that this is not just another school to you but one you are really excited about. 2) Students who are accepted under early decision generally get preference for financial aid/scholarships. 3) If you are accepted early, you will save time and money by not having to apply to a lot of back up schools; on the other hand, if you are not accepted to your top choice school, you will still have time to put in applications elsewhere. “Early action” is similar to “early decision,” but it does not obligate you to attend the chosen school if you are accepted.

DECEMBER/JANUARY – Students should have completed applications for all schools to which they are applying.