12th Grade Parent Meeting

Sponsored By The Counseling Department
Montgomery Blair High School
September 2014
Agenda

Welcome & Introductions
Information from the Administration
Senior Class Information
Counseling Department Information
College Application Process
Transcript Request Process
College/Career Center Information
Financial Aid & Scholarship Information
Counseling Department
Information

Resource Counselor
Jane Godwin

Counselors
Charlain Bailey
Susanne Bray
Alphonso Burwell
Roland Hollins
Daryl Howard
Evelyn Martinez
Emily Putney
Kirk Simms
Jennifer S. Taylor
LaSchell Wilson
Vilma Nadal (SBEC)
Information From the Administration

12th Grade Administrator

Dr. Darlene Harris
Information From The Senior Class Sponsor

Diane Norris
Roxanne Fus
Parent Volunteers Needed For

- September 22 – 24, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
  Senior Unity Day distributing of T shirts

- October 15, 6:45-9:00 am
  College Readiness Day, Senior Breakfast

- December TBD, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
  Distribution of Senior Wear

- June 1, 5:00-7:00 pm
  Cap and Gown Distribution

SIGN UP SHEETS IN BACK OF AUDITORIUM
PTSA College Admissions Panel
Monday, September 22, at 7:00 pm

College Admissions representatives from Montgomery College, UMCP, UMBC, Trinity, and Johns Hopkins will attend the PTSA College Admissions Panel Night.

Parents will hear admissions counselors' perspectives on the relative importance of standardized test scores and GPAs; how AP coursework and scores factors into college admissions; what makes for a winning essay; how extracurricular activities factor into college admissions; and how financial aid factors that may or may not factor into admissions.
Counseling Department Information

College/Career Information Center
Ms. Phalia West
301-649-2819

Registrar’s Office
Ms. Marguerite Berardi
301-649-2822

Secretaries
Ms. Dee Shub
Ms. Fran Conway
301-649-2810
Counseling Department
Information

Office Hours
7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Counseling Office Phone
301-649-2810

Email Addresses
Go to www.mbhs.edu

Twitter: @MBHSCounseling
Counseling Department Information

Graduation Requirements

- 22 credits in required courses
- High School Assessments
- Student Service Learning Hours
The State of Maryland requires students to successfully complete High School Assessments (H.S.A.) in Algebra, Biology, & English 10. Students must pass each test OR get a combined total of 1208 for all tests.

For more information about the H.S.A. visit www.mcpshsa.org.
Counseling Department Information

Graduation Requirements

Student Service Learning Hours

- Students must earn a minimum of 75 SSL Hours.
- Those who earn 260+ hours will receive a purple tassel to wear at graduation.

- For more information please see contact Ms. Lauren Gonzalez at 301-649-2842 or at Lauren_A_Gonzalez@mcpsmd.org
College Application Process

Types of Admission Options

Non-Restrictive Application Plans
- Regular Decision
- Rolling Admission
- Early Action
- Priority Deadline (UMCP-Nov 1)

Restrictive Application Process
- Early Decision
- Restrictive Early Action Plan
College Application Process

What's Happened So Far:

- Trailblazer College/Career Planning Information Given Spring of Junior Year
- 11th grade parent meeting
- Counselor Visits To 12th Grade English Classes
- College Visits & Tours
- College Representatives In The Career Center
- College Fairs
- Students should have taken (or are in the process of taking) college entrance exams (SAT, ACT, and in some cases the SAT Subject test(s)).
College Application Process

Students received a Trailblazer College/Career Planning Information packet in the Spring of junior year. The following items are required BEFORE requesting official transcripts:

- Student Self-Evaluation Survey (online)
- Four Year Summary of Activities/Resume (online or provide copy of one you have)
- Parent Questionnaire (online)
- Authorization to Release Records Form
- Blue Teacher Checklists
College Application Process

What To Do....

- Complete Application (Online or Common App is Preferred)
- Request Teacher Recommendations (ask teachers in person & indicate in Naviance)
- Request Transcript/Counselor Letter (Use official transcript request form from the Registrar’s office)
- Complete Essays (if needed)
- Send SAT or ACT scores to colleges (from College Board or ACT directly)
- Prepare for interview (if needed)
Transcript Request Process

- Complete all Trailblazer documents
- Create a Common App account & link it to your Naviance account
- Add your college(s) to the “List of Schools I am Applying to” in Naviance.
- Complete Request for Official Transcript Request Form
  - For the first transcript request, the student’s counselor must initial the form
  - Submit request **30 days** prior to deadline
  - Refer to the handout for more details
Transcript Request Process

Counselor & Registrar Responsibilities

- Counselor completes Secondary School Report & Recommendation Letter
- Registrar sends official transcript, secondary school report, and school profile.
- MCPS is able to send transcripts & letters of recommendation electronically to many colleges & universities.
College/Career Center Information

Information & Resources In The Career Center

- Information on College Fairs, College Tours, & Visits
- SAT & ACT Registration & Test Prep Materials
- Blair Career Notes (email)
- Information Sessions With College Representatives
- College/Career Inquiry Software (Bridges, etc)
- College/University Brochures & College Guides
- Computers for College and Career Searches
- Employment & Internship Information
- Summer Program Information
Naviance/Family Connections

*Family Connections/Naviance can help students & parents with...*

- Searching for colleges, research careers, & locate scholarships
- Using scattergrams to see how other Blair students fared at specific colleges
- Seeing the list of upcoming college visits in the Career Center
- Getting Career Center Notes with announcements and important information
- Completing a personality inventory
Naviance/Family Connections

How To Get A Family Connections Account

- During Back-To-School Night, stop by the Career Center (Room 121) to sign up for a Naviance/Family Connections account.
- Parents can email Ms. West at Phalia_J_West@mcpsmd.org OR call her at 301-649-2819, to get signed up for family connections.
- Students can stop by the Career Center to get their Family Connections account activated.

Try Out Naviance/Family Connections With A Guest Account

- Go to the www.mbhs.edu
- Click on Counseling
- Click on Naviance/Family Connections
- Click on “I’m a guest” and then type in the password 210965
- Click on COLLEGES and you can view some of the information you will have access to when you get your own Naviance/Family Connections account.
Financial Aid & Scholarships

Sources of Financial Aid
- Federal Financial Aid
- State Financial Aid
- Institutional Financial Aid (from the college)
- Private Sources of Financial Aid

Types of Financial Aid
- Scholarships
- Grants
- Employment
- Loans
Financial Aid & Scholarships

How To Find Out More About Financial Aid

- Scholarship Search on Family Connections
- Career Notes emails from the College/Career Center
- FAFSA (Completed in senior year)
- FAFSA4Caster.com
- CSS Profile
- College and University Scholarships
- State of MD Financial Aid: March 1 deadline
- Family Connections Scholarship List
- Other Sources: religious groups, private organization, work related
Key Websites

- www.collegeboard.com
- www.act.org
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- www.mhec.state.md.us
- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeanswer.com
- www.collegeview.com
- www.collegesavings.org
Upcoming Events

- College Admissions Panel, September 22
- College Readiness Day-Activities For Seniors, Oct 15
- Hispanic College Fair, November
- Financial Aid Night, December
- Historically Black College/Univ Fair, Feb 11

Talk with your student’s counselor or the College/Career Information Coordinator for more information about these events.