Freshman & Sophomore Parent Meeting
Blair Magnet Program

January 7, 2014
Agenda

- Welcome
- Semester Exams
- Registration for next year
- Standardized Testing
- Summer Activities
- Wallops Island (Grade 10)
**Semester Exams**

- **Review Days – January 9-10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>January 13</th>
<th>January 14</th>
<th>January 15</th>
<th>January 16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td>Report to Scheduled Exam Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:25 – 9:35</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>Period 5/6</td>
<td>Period 8</td>
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<td>9:35 – 9:50</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9:50 – 12:00</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>Period 7</td>
<td>Period 9</td>
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<td>12:00 – 12:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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- **Make-up Exams – January 17**

- **If School is closed**
  - on 1/10, All reviews will be 1/11
  - on 1/11, Review day moved to 1/13, exams begin on 1/14
  - during exams, exams will continue in order on first day back

- **Regular Schedule for Transportation (3pm pickup)**
What Do Counselors Do at Blair?

We provide the following services to students to ensure student success in school:

- Academic counseling
- Class registration and scheduling
- Help for students in crisis
- Study skills help
- College and career advising
- Classroom guidance on a variety of topics
- Parent-teacher conferences
- College recommendations for seniors
- Other individual supports as needed
Students can contact counselors by:
- Doing a drop-in visit during lunch and/or after school
- Completing the green “Request to See the Counselor” form
- Sending an email
- Obtaining a teacher pass during class for emergencies

Students are encouraged to see their counselors about any concerns so that we can build a good working relationship.
Registration for Sophomore Year

- Registration information in January and February.
- Counselors meet with individual students or in small groups.
- The sophomore schedule includes:
  - Honors English 10
  - Honors or AP NSL Government
  - Recommended math course (most Precal C and Analysis 1A)
  - Computer Science
  - Biology
  - Earth Science (Fall)
  - Principles of Engineering A (Spring)
  - Appropriate foreign language course
  - Elective course; typically, one semester of PE, Art, or Study Hall and a semester of health (unless completed in summer school)
Health Credit Options

- In school, during 10th grade
- In the summer before 10th grade
  - Online ($310 in 2013)
    - Registration expected to open in early February
    - Classes fill up quickly
    - Requires two face-to-face meetings during three-week course
  - Traditional Summer School ($300 in 2013)
    - Registration expected to open in April
    - Three week course at regional site
Registration for Junior Year

- The junior schedule includes:
  - AP English Language and Composition / Honors English 11
  - Honors or AP Modern World History
  - Recommended math course
  - Principles of Engineering B (Fall)
  - Senior Research Project A (Spring)
  - Applied Statistics (recommended)
  - Magnet Elective Courses (4.5 credits in junior/senior year)
  - Other elective courses including AP courses
  - One light elective
- Watch workload
- Plan out junior/senior year
 Registrations: Things to Remember

- Careful selection of courses is important
- Check pre-requisites for courses desired
- Flexibility
- Due to staffing, deadline for changes in schedules for next year (both for first and second semesters) will be in May
- Make careful choices in course requests during the registration period. Until the deadline, students can request changes in their course requests.
Both the SAT and ACT are accepted by colleges

- SAT has sections in Critical Reading, Math, and Writing. Tests reasoning and verbal abilities.
- ACT has sections in English, Math, Reading, and Science. Also offers a Writing section. Measures what a student has learned in school.

Most of our students take the SAT to start

Test scores are just one aspect of the college admissions process.

SAT and ACT

- Test information distributed through counseling/career center
- January or March of junior year is good time for SAT/ACT
College Testing - SAT

- SAT Subject Tests
  - Offered in English, History, Math, Science, and Languages.
  - Many selective colleges require 2 subject tests but no more than 3 required
  - Math Level 2 Subject Test
    - After completing Magnet Functions or PreCalculus C
  - Students typically take one or two other subject tests in junior year, usually in May or June
  - Typically, a subject test in math and one of the sciences (Physics for engineering students), and at most one other subject area is sufficient.
    - A subject test in the student’s native language is not necessary.
Standardized Testing - AP

- **10th Grade Exams**
  - AP NSL – 93%
  - AP Computer Science (After ADS A/B) – 99%

- **11th Grade**
  - AP Calculus (After Magnet Analysis) – 76%
  - AP Statistics (After Applied Statistics) – 82%
  - AP Modern World History – 91%
  - AP English Language and Composition – 94%
  - Science (52% Bio, Chem, or Phys), For. Language (17%)

- **12th Grade**
  - Science, World Language, History, English options

*Percent shown is percent of current seniors who took AP exam in grade 10/11*
Extracurricular Activities

- Activities should enhance student experience in school by:
  - Allowing them to explore new interests
  - Providing a way to meet new friends with similar interests
  - Allowing them to shine in a different setting

- Activities should not:
  - Take away from school performance
  - Take away from adequate sleep!
Thoughts on College

- Challenging classes
- Extra curricular activities
  - Students should pursue what they love
  - Students should be careful not to have activity overload
- Students can begin to reflect on what qualities and programs they might want in a college
  - Size
  - Location
  - Programs
Over the summer . . .

- Relax
- Take family trips
- Volunteer for student service learning hours
- Rejuvenate after a long school year
- Camps or learning experiences in areas of interest
- Exploration of new subject areas
- Work/Internships for rising juniors that do not overburden students
Contact Information

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Magnet Office: 301-649-8240

Counseling Office: 301-649-2810

A-Bi Mr. Hollins
Bj-Coq Mr. Simms
Cor-Fo Ms. Bray
Fp-He Ms. Putney
Hf-La Dr. Howard
Lb-Me Ms. Martinez

Mf-Oz Mr. Burwell
P-Rom Ms. Wilson
Ron-Te Ms. Bailey
Tf-Ya Ms. Taylor
Yb-Z Ms. Johnson