Junior Meeting
Blair Magnet Program

Information from
Counseling
Topics for This Evening

- Registration for Senior Year
- College information
  - Beginning the College Process
  - Testing
  - Visiting Colleges
  - Financial Aid & Scholarships
Senior Year Registration

- Registration information will soon be presented to all students during Advisory Period the first week of the second semester.
  - New On-line Registration System
  - Blair Course offerings outlined in Course Bulletin
  - Magnet Certificate Requirements

- In early to mid-February counselors will meet with rising seniors in small groups during their Social Studies Classes. If your student is not taking AP Modern World this year, they should contact the counselor to meet individually to review course selections.
Senior Year Registration

- Senior year is an opportunity to follow interests in depth
- Lots of choices: Check with teachers and other students
- Work Load Alert
  - Be careful of overload in senior year!
  - Maintain academic performance is key
  - Colleges are asking for first quarter grades from students be on the alert!
  - “Breathing Room” to do well and also complete you application on time!
- Improve those COLLEGE ESSAYS, your Writing is expected to be flawless!
Senior Year Registration

Courses:
1. AP or Honors English 12
3. SRP B/Academic class of choice
4. Science course
5. Academic class of choice
6. Academic class of choice
7. Academic class of choice
8. “Breathing Room” class
9. At least 3 well-considered alternate options!
The college application process begins in Junior year...

- Remember that this is a very personalized process
  - Many options: 2,800 4-year schools in the US ranging from large universities to smaller colleges/universities
  - Look beyond the “brand names”: think about the fit between student and college rather than where friends apply
  - Better fit typically means a student will have a better chance to thrive
- Consider a wide variety of colleges if scholarship opportunities are important
Some things to start with...

- Parents and Students will have the opportunity to schedule a college conference with their counselor starting the end of May thru July. A letter will be mailed home and each counselor will provide parents and students their availability.
- In April counselors will meet with juniors to distribute the Trailblazer packet that contains important information that must be completed.
- All juniors will be required to setup a family connections account.
- Career Center is a fantastic resource!
Both the SAT and ACT are accepted by colleges

- SAT the old version vs the redesign SAT – make sure to include the writing section.
- ACT has sections in English, Math, Reading, and Science. If you choose ACT include the writing section.
- Twice in Junior year. Recommend first test in March if you are using the redesign SAT – next test should be taken May or June.
- REMEMBER, test scores are just one aspect of the college admissions process.
- Most important? A student’s grades in challenging courses!
SAT Subject Tests
- Offered in English, History, Math, Science, and Languages.
- Many selective colleges: 2 tests but no more than 3
- Math Level 2 Subject Test (Magnet Functions or PreCal C)
- Students looking at selective colleges typically take one or two other subject tests in junior year, usually in May or June
- Typically, one math, one science (Physics for engineering students), and at most one more sufficient for math/science/computer science majors

AP Tests
- Registration March; tests May
- Self study with magnet electives, but don’t overdo
College Visits

- Beneficial to get a sense about the college beyond what you might learn from a guidebook or the internet.
- Planning for a successful visit: (before being admitted - parents pay the cost for the visit – after being admitted, school absorbs most of the cost for the visit.
  - Most beneficial when college in session:
  - Most beneficial when schedule through the admission office.

**Students are permitted 3 excused absences for college visits with prior approval from Mr. Ostrander.**