

COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING - PROGRAMS AND SERVICES YEAR BY YEAR

The following list describes the opportunities to facilitate college and career planning for SCPA students from freshman through senior year. The following descriptions include details on meetings that need to be scheduled with your counselor and resources that can be used to ensure your post-graduation transition is smooth.

Programs and Services for Freshmen at SCPA – Freshmen should be focused on adjusting to the rigors and demands of their schedules at the high school level. Students who have concerns about their course load, majors or academic readiness should have parents contact their counselor for a consultation to determine if any schedule changes for the present or future may be necessary. It is also recommended that students speak with their artistic and academic teachers with questions about courses of study and possible career opportunities.

Programs and Services for Sophomores at SCPA – Sophomores at SCPA are offered a few opportunities to begin thinking about life after high school. These include:

- **Opportunities to attend College Presentations at SCPA** - Numerous college admission officers visit SCPA throughout the school year to meet with any and all high school students. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend these visits to ask questions and gather information on what each school and its programs have to offer.

Programs and Services for Juniors at SCPA – There are numerous opportunities available to Juniors as they near the end of their K-12 educational experience at SCPA. These include:

- **Opportunities to attend College Presentations at SCPA** - Numerous college admission officers visit SCPA throughout the school year to meet with any and all high school students. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend these visits to ask questions and gather information on what each school and its programs have to offer.
- **Junior Meetings** - Beginning after Thanksgiving Break of a student's junior year, counselors will begin meeting with juniors and their parents to kick start focused post-secondary goal planning (what do I want to do after I graduate? Work, attend college, join the armed forces?) and give students guidance on career paths that best suit their skills and interests.
- **Coffee with the Counselor** – Periodically, the counselor's office will offer the opportunity for parents to come into the school and enjoy some coffee and light refreshments in an informal atmosphere that will allow them to receive the same information that the counselors are giving to SCPA's students. Another goal of this program is to give parents tips on how to help and support their children with their goals and post-secondary plans. Stay tuned for specific dates and times for these opportunities.

Programs and Services for Seniors at SCPA – The final year for students at SCPA includes a wealth of opportunities to plan and prepare for life after high school. These include:

- **Opportunities to attend College Presentations at SCPA** - Numerous college admission officers visit SCPA throughout the school year to meet with any and all high school students. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend these visits to ask questions and gather information on what each school and its programs have to offer.
- **Senior Meetings** – Beginning in the fall of each school year, seniors and their parents are invited to meet one on one with the counselor. At this very important meeting, discussion will occur regarding the college application process and timeline. This also serves as an opportunity for parents and students to ask counselors to answer any questions they may have about the college admissions process.
- **College Application Workshop** - In addition to individual meetings with their counselors, seniors take part in College Application Workshop in August during Senior English Class. During this workshop, seniors will:
 - Receive their post-secondary planning folder
 - Learn how to complete college applications
 - Write and revise their college essays
 - Learn the college application procedures, including how to send their transcripts to the college(s) of their choice through Naviance online (goodbye paper applications!)
 - Start the Common Application, which is applicable to over 500 colleges
- **College Application Working Lunch** – All SCPA seniors have the opportunity to meet one day each week during their lunch with the counselors to assist in college application preparation and submission.
- **Coffee with the Counselor** – Periodically, the counselor’s office will offer the opportunity for parents to come into the school and enjoy some coffee and light refreshments in an informal atmosphere that will allow them to receive the same information that the counselors are giving to SCPA’s students. Another goal of this program is to give parents tips on how to help and support their children with their goals and post-secondary plans. Stay tuned for specific dates and times for these opportunities.