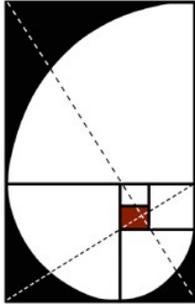


May 2018



THOMAS MACLAREN SCHOOL

College Counseling Newsletter

Dear parents,

We have all made it through another school year! I would like to thank you all for the time and energy that you give to your children, supporting the mission and vision of Thomas MacLaren School. At the conclusion of the school year, I would like to get some information on your radar before we all disperse and fall into the summer holiday. Take a minute to look through the information relevant to your child and please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I will be in the office through the end of May and will return the last week of July. I look forward to everyone's return in August!

Wishing everyone a restorative summer break.

Amy Cooper, College Counselor

acooper@maclarenschool.org

2018 COLLEGE FAIRS

STEM College Fair
June 3, 2018 (Sunday)
1:00-4:00 pm
University of Denver
Gates Field House

NACAC College Fair
Sept 30, 2018 (Sunday)
1:00-4:00 pm
Denver Mart
Denver, CO

Performing Arts College Fair
October 15, 2018 (Monday)
7:00-9:00 pm
Denver Center for Performing
Arts—Seawell Ballroom

Students can register at www.gotocollegefairs.com



RISING SENIORS

All members of the Class of 2019 have met with Mrs. Cooper to discuss his/her plans after graduation. Each student has a summer plan customized to each student's personal needs. Ask your child about his/her summer plans or email Mrs. Cooper for a summary of your child's Junior Spring Conference.

All seniors will meet with Mrs. Cooper early in the fall semester to create a plan for seniors year. Keep an eye out for an email about these meetings if you would like to join the conversation.

There will be a Senior Parent Night and a Financial Aid presentation in September. If you would like to get a head start on financial aid this summer, I recommend completing the [FAFSA4caster](#). Although the FAFSA does not open for the Class of 2019 until October 1, the FAFSA4caster can give you an idea of what your Expected Family Contribution. This can help you estimate how much financial assistance your child may be given based on financial need.

SAT and ACT

ACT Test Dates

June 9 (Register by May 4)
July 14 (Register by June 15)
Fall test dates TBD

SAT Test Dates

June 2 (Register by May 3)
August 25 (Register by July 27)
October 6 (Register by Sept 7)
November 3 (Register by Oct 5)

All tests have a \$46 test fee that must be paid at the time of registration.

CEEB Code: 060-251

SENIOR CHECKLIST: SUMMER

- Continue to research colleges. Visit college campuses if possible**
- Review SAT or ACT scores.** Register to retake 1 test if you would like to try to improve your scores.
- Get organized.** Mark application/scholarship deadlines in a calendar and understand application requirements for each of the schools in which you are interested.
- Make a financial plan.** Create a college budget, use colleges' Net Price Calculators and search for scholarships for which you are eligible. Apply for

Free College Application Workshop this Summer

This free hour-long program, hosted by Texas Tech Univ., is designed to assist prospective college students with their college applications, discussing how to strengthen their applications, what to write (and not write) on their college essays, financial aid and scholarships, and tips and tricks to make the college application process a little easier.

July 24, 2018—1:30 pm
Pikes Peak Library, Rockrimmon
[RSVP](#)



RISING JUNIORS

Junior year is the time when students begin thinking more intentionally about their plans after MacLaren. Next school year, the Class of 2020 will discuss several of the practical aspects of the college search and application process, including how to pay for college. This summer, I encourage you to have conversations with your child about what he or she is thinking about doing after high school graduation. It is too early to expect many definitive answers, but these conversations are beneficial to spark thoughts and brainstorming. It is never too early to begin exploring colleges or visiting a few campuses, if possible.

Many colleges will send their representatives to MacLaren in the Fall. By the time Juniors are thinking more specifically about college in the Spring, few representatives are still traveling to high schools. Encourage your child to attend as many of these college visits at MacLaren during the Fall semester as possible. This is one of the simplest ways to learn about a college and make contact with admissions counselors, many of whom will be the one reading applications and recommending applicants for admission!

PSAT10 test scores have been released and your child will be receiving information to access his or her scores during oral exams. Juniors will take the PSAT again in October. This particular PSAT is used to identify National Merit Scholars. If your child is wanting to perform well on this test, encourage him or her to review scores and to take advantage of free test prep from [Khan Academy](#).

I look forward to working with your child personally and helping him or her navigate the college process! Please contact me if you have any questions.

RISING SOPHOMORES

In 10th grade, the Class of 2021 will continue to explore options for education and career beyond MacLaren. They will begin to look at how their personal interests align with different education options. This will lead into discussion about different types of education and, eventually, the financial impact of post secondary education. Your child will learn about saving money for college, different types of financial aid and find resources for scholarships.

PSAT8/9 test scores have been released and your child will be receiving information to access his or her scores during oral exams. Sophomores will take the PSAT again in April. If your child is wanting to score well on this test, encourage him or her to review scores and to take advantage of free test prep from Khan Academy.

RISING FRESHMEN

I would like to welcome the Class of 2022 to high school! Next year, each student will begin an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP). There will be an information night for parents in the fall where all of the details of ICAP are explained. As a quick introduction, ICAP is a graduation requirement for every Colorado high school student. At MacLaren we are striving to create meaningful conversation about education and career beyond high school in a way that is consistent with our vision.

We believe all students can be active and useful participants in the ongoing and enduring conversation that is a vibrant civilization. We believe all students can be formed in a habitual vision of greatness that makes lifelong learners of the doctor and mechanic, the housewife and professor. Thomas MacLaren School strives to build a lasting community of learners in which each student is the agent of his or her education.