



Fall 2010

Hello Seniors and Parents,

There are a number of important things I want to share with you about events, advice, special announcements and changes. Students – PLEASE save this email in your COLLEGE INFORMATION folder in your email, in case you need to refer to any of it.

- 1) **College representatives visiting the Academy this fall** – I have had an increasing number of colleges calling me asking me if they can visit AHA this fall. This means our school is on their radar screen. There will be a list of the colleges coming to the Academy this fall in Naviance beginning in September. On your home page, under LATEST NEWS, you will find the link to the colleges that are visiting us. PLEASE mark your calendars to come meet with these representatives when they are here. We meet in my office (LSB 103). You will note that they are here during the day and their visits may conflict with class time. PLEASE notify your teachers in advance, if you will be missing any class time to meet with a college representative. Generally the representatives give a brief presentation on their school, and open the session up to questions. Think in advance about what questions YOU have about the school and come prepared with those questions. Think of this as a session to practice interviewing techniques – dress appropriately, be alert and attentive, have prepared questions, and thank the presenter before you leave. I will send email reminders about their visits just prior to the date of the visit.

- 2) **Visiting Colleges** – I encourage you to make college visits when possible. If you will be missing any school days for a college visit, you need to notify me in advance, and put the request in writing. You may have an EXCUSED absence for a college visit if you do this. Please be sure that any absences do not exceed the limit you may have in any one class (information on this is in the HaMadrich). PLEASE check your colleges' web sites to find information on their policies about interviews. Some colleges encourage interviews (some do not do interviews) and with some it is "optional." You may be able to do them during an on campus visit, or with an alumna/alumnus in the Greensboro area. If you are very interested in a college, and you believe an interview will help your application, it is in your best interest to arrange to do one. Again, deadlines may be important. Some colleges have deadlines by which any interview must be done.

- 3) **SATs and ACTs** – The next SAT is October 10, 2010. You need to register for this exam (if you are taking the SAT or SAT IIs) by September 10, 2010 to be an “on time” registrant. You can register for this exam on your College Board account. Some of you may be signing up to take the ACT on campus in September on a Sunday (date to be determined), since there is no national Sunday test center within 70 miles of here. Registration for this is done through Dr. Tarbox’s office (not on the ACT web site). You will need to complete a special form (which I have) and have a check made payable to ACT.
- 4) **College Lists** – It is very important that you finalize your lists now, so that I can help you prepare teacher recommendation folders to give to your teachers, and so you can determine the amount of work needed to complete any applications – including how many essays you will need to write. You also need to do this to see if any of your schools require SAT II (the subject tests) so you can plan your testing accordingly.
- 5) **Meeting with Dr. Tarbox** – If you have not yet done so, please make an appointment to come in and see me. For this process to work best, I need to have regular contact with you. Beginning on Thursdays in September, I will be on campus in the Senior Boys’ or Senior Girls’ house from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. so that I am available for questions and help in the evening. Many of you have very busy day schedules and this is one way to make sure you have available time to see me.
- 6) **Scholarships and Financial Aid** – The process for applying for aid is a separate process than applying for admission. If you are seeking NEED BASED financial aid, you will need to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) after January 1st 2011. SOME colleges also require the College Board PROFILE form. You need to check the FINANCIAL AID page of each of your colleges to determine what forms they need, and make sure those forms are completed by any stated deadline. SCHOLARSHIP or MERIT AID – many colleges give scholarship or merit aid, and often the process is seamless – you are awarded aid based on your admission application. HOWEVER, some colleges require a separate application for particular scholarships. Please check the SCHOLARSHIPS page of your college to determine if there are any scholarships you believe you are qualified for and want to apply for, review the steps in applying, and check the deadlines. Please notify the College Counseling Office of any scholarships you are applying for.
- 7) **UNC Chapel Hill, George Washington University and Brandeis** – There is some specific information about each of these schools that I wish to share.

UNC Chapel Hill made some changes last year. As many of you are aware, it is becoming increasingly competitive. Chapel Hill is no longer sending admissions representatives to individual high schools so they will NOT be on campus this fall. Instead, they host individual parent/student workshops in various locations across the state. If you are seriously interested in UNC Chapel Hill, your application should be started now (Fall 2010) on their web site if you have not done so already. The Greensboro Parent/Student information event in Greensboro is usually in SEPTEMBER and is an INVITATIONAL

event. UNC will issue individual invitations to students. If you have NOT received an invitation and are a serious candidate, you need to contact their admissions office (919-966-3621) to inquire about this event and ask to attend.

George Washington University - Serious APPLICANTS may be able to have an official interview with GWU when they visit the Academy in the fall. Once the date has been determined for a visit from GWU, please contact Dr. Tarbox if you are interested in having an interview.

Brandeis University also visits the Academy in the fall. If you are definitely applying to Brandeis and want to set up an interview, please contact me right away so that I can give your information to the Brandeis representative and arrange that.

As always, if you have any questions, please ask! I will be sharing more information throughout the term.

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