



## **Summary of Parent Involvement with College Counseling First Presbyterian Day School**

*While we highly encourage that parents assist in their child's college process, we definitely encourage and prefer that students take ownership of the process. We hope that they not only find out God's plan for their college years but also practice wise decision making skills for now and the future through the process. We are here to help so please let us know how we can do so!*

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- The college counselor will visit all English classes in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will have a chance to hear about the importance of GPAs, what colleges are looking for in an applicant, and discuss standardized testing. The counselor will also introduce FPD's college and career tool called Naviance. Every high school student has an account on Naviance.
- In February, parents and students are encouraged to attend a meeting with the college counselors and the high school principal called the Rising 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting. This first part of the meeting is led by the college counselors and includes early college advice and guidance for a student getting ready for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- The college counselors will visit all 10<sup>th</sup> grade English classes to discuss the importance of GPA's, what colleges are looking for in an applicant, standardized or college admission testing, and go over other items that are of importance to this grade level.
- In February, parents and students are encouraged to attend the Rising 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting. This meeting will also be led by the college counselor and the high school principal. Topics covered will include FPD graduation requirements, how to register for classes, what to be doing in the college process and how to factor a GPA (to name a few).
- Students need to continue to use their Naviance accounts.
- All 10<sup>th</sup> graders will take a career aptitude, interest, and opportunities assessment called YouScience. Parents are encouraged to discuss the results with their child.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- The college counselors will visit all junior English classes to discuss issues of the college process. At all times, students are invited to come and see the college counselors to discuss their college options.
- In February, parents and students are encouraged to attend the Rising 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting. This meeting will also be led by the college counselor and the high school principal. Topics covered will include FPD graduation requirements, how to register for classes, what to be doing in the college process and how to factor a GPA (to name a few). Handouts will be provided for parents to take notes.



- Continue to use the Naviance and YouScience results as you look at colleges and consider possible majors.

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- During the summer prior to the senior year, a large packet of valuable information will be mailed to all seniors. This information is for both parents and students. This information will also be emailed.
- The college counselor requests and prefers a senior conference with all seniors and their parents. This conference can be made at the end of the junior year, during the summer, or at the beginning of the senior year. If a meeting is not requested by a parent, the counselors will make a time to meet with the students once school begins.
- In August, there will be a Senior Parent Meeting with the college counselors. This meeting will be a question and answer session between the counselor and parents and cover lots of basis senior information.
- The college counselors also meet with the senior class to discuss their role in the college admissions process. This meeting also takes place in early August.
- There will be on-going dialogue between the counselor, the parents and the students throughout the senior year. Most of this is done by email so please make sure you receive emails from the college counseling office.
- Revisit the YouScience results to assist with college applications and with college choices.

Each grade level has both a parent email group and student email group. The college counselor will be in constant contact with new information, reminders, and other important updates throughout the school year. Students must check their emails and use Naviance. Parents are reminded to check their emails and use the resources on the FPD website under College Counseling.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11*

Sincerely,

Brad Thompson

Director of College Counseling