

PROVIDING AN EXCELLENT classical EDUCATION, FOUNDED UPON A biblical WORLDVIEW



# CARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Freshmen College Counseling November 2022

#### **CARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

Laura Smith

Director of College Counseling <a href="mailto:lsmith@carychristianschool.org">lsmith@carychristianschool.org</a>

919-303-2560 x248

Dickinson College, BA in Political Science and Policy Management Studies

Hood College, MBA

University of California Riverside, Certificate in College Counseling



## **Topics**

College Counseling at CCS

Knightly News and Component Page Information

Freshman Year is Foundational!

College Admission Landscape

Transcripts

Summer Activities

Scoir

College Visit and College Fair

For the Future: AP Classes, AP Exam Only, and Dual Credit

#### What does College Counseling involve at Cary Christian School?

- Grade appropriate college counseling with grade-wide meetings for students and parents.
- In class grade appropriate college counseling activities starting with one class time in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and increasing throughout high school.
- College Counseling Component Pages in VX and regular emails, usually quarterly.
- Scoir
- Career exploration via Career Connections and YouScience.
- PSAT and AP Exam Administration
- Individual Student/Parent/College Counselor meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> semester Junior Year.
- Individual essay and scholarship application help senior year.
- NC Governor's School and scholarship application process

## **Knightly News Communication and Component Pages**

How to keep current on college Counseling

Please read the **Knightly News** on a weekly basis to find events, meetings, and what is up and coming for Freshmen students.

- 1. Click on the Knightly News link
- 2. Click on Upper School
- 3. Scroll down to the College Counseling section

College Counseling Component Pages are in Veracross in the parent and student portals.

- 1. Sign in to your Veracross account
- 2. At the top click on "Academics"
- 3. Click on the section that says "College Counseling"
- 4. This is where you will see the different grade levels with specific information for that specific grade

#### Freshmen

- All the doors for your future are open to you!
- Middle school grades do not carry forward. You entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade with blank slate.
- Grades matter.
- Develop good study skills.
- Participate in extracurricular activities at CCS, in the community, and at church.
- Explore summer activities; jobs, entrepreneurship, summer camps, or classes.
- Attend the College Fair on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 from 5:00-6:30 P.M.
- Attend College Visits at lunch that are announced in the Knightly News.
- Scoir information

## Look to the Future for a Minute



Who do you want to be?

Who is your role model and why?

What character traits do you admire?

How do you develop those character traits?

## **Role Models**

Is your role model a....



- Church leader?
- Older sibling or student at your school?
- Teacher?
- Blogger?
- Musician?
- Author?



# How do you get there?

- Use a planner or organizer
- Keep track of your assignments
- Do your assignments
- Ask your teacher for help if you don't understand something
- Incorporate noble character traits



#### **New things on the College Admissions Landscape**

- Most colleges are doing some sort of holistic review.
- From a 9th grade perspective, this means you should work hard so that your grades reflect your ability.
- Get involved in some activites at school, in church, or community.
- Many colleges "test optional" but not all.
- However, that could change for you. Therefore, you should plan to test for the first-time towards the end of Sophomore year. ACT and SAT are the big two. CLT is a distant, but up-andcoming third.
- Testing still matters for highly selective and elite schools.
- Increasingly more schools are doing self-reported grades and test scores.

#### **Transcripts**

- The college world deals in transcripts not report cards.
- Grades are reported on a semester basis with a final grade.
- Final grade matters.
- Classes are reported with credits. For example, History for a year is 1 credit.
- Electives are graded by semester and earn .5 credits per semester. They do not count towards GPA.
- CCS uses a rigorous Honors curriculum which is on a 5-point GPA scale.
- AP Classes are on a 6-point scale. Passed AP Exams are listed on transcript and can receive a
  GPA boost.
- CCS activities are listed on transcript.

#### **Transcripts**

- If you were not present at the meeting on Wednesday evening, your transcript will be given to you by Ms. Fredrickson on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> in Rhetoric.
- Please verify that all the personal information is correct. If it isn't correct, a parent can correct it through the parent portal.
- Note: the phone number on your transcript needs to be the main number in Veracross. Most likely it is a home phone number or a parent's cell phone number. That is okay.

#### **Summer Activities and Volunteering Ideas**

- Volunteer Activities-Dorcas Shop, Habitat for Humanity, local hospitals, YMCA, Miracle League, Teen Court, tutoring, etc.
- Mission Trips
- Jobs
- Camp Counselor or Counselor in Training (CIT)
- College Camps explore potential majors or careers or learn new skills.
- Governor's School
- Boys' State, Girls' State, Boy Scout High Adventure opportunities, Venture Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, etc.
- Possible goals: broaden your horizon, serve the community, serve the disadvantaged population, make money, learn a new skill, explore, etc.

#### **CCS** has provided Scoir for you

- Scoir is designed to offer a user-friendly solution for students, parents, and college counselors to navigate through the college search and application process.
- Students can like, follow, and eventually apply to colleges via Scoir.
- Scoir offers a well-regarded aptitude test called YouScience.
- www.Scoir.com

#### What should you do in Scoir?

- Update your profile
- Be sure your parents are in Scoir
- Upload awards or portfolio pieces into "My Drive" in Scoir
- Follow a couple of colleges
- Complete the survey by November 30th
- I recommend waiting until you complete 10th grade before you do YouScience

## **College Visits and College Fair**

- Next year you will be able to have access to college representatives visiting at lunchtime.
- The College Fair is September 27, 2023, mark your calendar!

#### For the Future

AP Classes, AP Exam Only, and Dual Enrollment

- AP Classes
- AP Exam Only
- Dual Enrollment (currently available to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>)



# THANK YOU

Cary Christian School College Counseling Presentation