

## COLLEGE COUNSELING

The College Counseling program is designed to assist students with all aspects of the college selection, application, and financial aid process. Utilizing a developmental approach, students are encouraged to challenge themselves academically, discover their strengths and leadership qualities, and grow in self-awareness.

The college counselor works closely with parents, teachers, and other members of the counseling staff to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their post-secondary plans.

### OUR GRADUATES

Graduates of the Class of 2008 can be found at colleges and universities across the country, including the following:

University of Illinois, Urbana	North Park University
Loyola University	Carthage College, WI
Western Illinois University	University of Wisconsin, Platteville
Illinois State University	Clark-Atlanta University, GA
DePaul University	Eastern Illinois University
Dominican University	Northeastern Illinois University
St. Ambrose University, IA	Southern Illinois University
Northern Illinois University	Lewis University
Ripon College, WI	Marquette University, WI
Elmhurst College	University of Illinois, Chicago

### IMPORTANT POLICIES

#### **College Visit Policy**

Every junior, during the second semester, and every senior is allowed ONE excused absence to visit a college or university. The procedure is as follows:

- 1) At least two weeks prior to the date of the intended visit, the student should contact the college admission office and make an appointment with a representative.
- 2) On the day of the scheduled visit, a parent must contact the Attendance Office at Guerin Prep and notify the school that the student is visiting a college campus.
- 3) Upon returning to school, the student must bring a note to the Attendance Office.

There will be NO excused absences before September 15th or after May 1. The student may not have an excused absence on the day of a scheduled test. All work missed due to the absence must be made up. The procedure must be followed exactly or the absence will not be considered excused.

### **Transcript Request Policy**

Any student who wants a transcript sent to a college must bring the following to the Registrar's Office:

1) A completed Transcript Request/Authorization Form signed by both the student and parent. This Transcript Authorization Form may be obtained from either Ms. Kenning or Ms. Stephany in the Registrar's Office.

2) A stamped envelope with the address of GUERIN PREP. as the return address. (Postage: business envelope = 42 cents)  
Transcripts should be sent WITH THE APPLICATION. NO OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE STUDENT; IT MUST BE SENT BY THE REGISTRAR DIRECTLY TO THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.

3) An enclosure listing the courses in progress.

NOTE: For college applications, the first two (2) transcripts are free. Thereafter, a fee of \$5.00 per transcript is charged. For scholarship applications, one transcript may be requested before a fee of \$5.00 will be charged.

### **EVENING PROGRAMS**

We invite parents to attend either of the evening programs listed below, depending on the student's year in school. Both programs include a presentation, an opportunity for questions, and a packet of pertinent materials.

#### **College/Financial Aid Senior Parent Night**

Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008  
7 p.m. in the Auditorium

#### **Junior/Sophomore Parent College Admission/Financial Aid Night**

Thursday, Dec. 11, 2008  
7 p.m. in the cafeteria

Please feel free to contact the college counselor if you have any questions about either of these programs.

### **OTHER SOURCES OF COLLEGE INFORMATION**

Visits by college representatives: The announcement of visits to Guerin Prep by representatives of various colleges and universities is made through homeroom announcements. Announcement posters are also hung on the bulletin board outside the Counseling Dept. Representatives are available outside the cafeteria during lunch periods.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit scholarship opportunities are publicized through a listing prepared by the college counselor and distributed to seniors through homeroom. Students should see the college counselor for the specifics of any scholarship in which they are interested.

Other sources of college and financial aid information are listed in our Resources section.

## COLLEGE TIMELINE

While general in nature, the following timeline is designed to help students and parents prepare for the college search and selection process.

### Freshman Year

- ✓ Take challenging classes
- ✓ Become involved in school activities and clubs
- ✓ Get involved in a service project in your community: church, community center, park district, etc.

### Sophomore Year

- ✓ Continue to challenge yourself in classes and remain involved in extracurricular activities
- ✓ Talk to the college representatives who visit Guerin Prep

### Junior Year

- ✓ Attend a college open house and investigate admission requirements
- ✓ Take the ACT
- ✓ Continue to work hard in classes and stay involved in activities; consider a leadership position in clubs

### Senior Year

- ✓ Apply to colleges and be aware of deadlines
- ✓ Complete the FAFSA after January 1

The purpose of this guideline is to give you some ideas. We strongly encourage both students and parents to meet with the college counselor since each student and each family's situation is unique.