



# PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

1800 W. Lincoln Highway • New Lenox, Illinois 60451 • (815) 485-2136 • [www.providencethecatholic.org](http://www.providencethecatholic.org)

## COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Dear Parents,

January 8, 2018

Happy New Year! We hope you had a blessed Christmas. Enclosed with this quarterly Counseling Department newsletter are first semester report cards. We hope they reflect the best efforts of your students.

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 15. We hope you've been regularly checking grades on the Portal. School and home working together provide the best opportunity for our students to be successful.

The scheduling process for the 2018-2019 school year will begin on Wednesday, January 17 for our current juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. Counselors will give presentations in English classes to current freshmen on January 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, current sophomores on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and current juniors on January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup>. During these presentations, counselors will explain the scheduling process and assist students in making their course selections using their devices via the Student Portal. These selections will then be sent to the Parent Portal for your review and approval. Course request approvals for current freshmen will be due on January 27, current sophomores on February 3 and current juniors on February 10. AP permission forms will be due on February 10<sup>th</sup> also. Specific instructions will be emailed to you soon on how to review and submit your student's approved selections.

Seniors have been busy completing their college applications, making choices for housing and filling out scholarship applications. Juniors and seniors had the opportunity to visit with over 60 college representatives here at Providence Catholic this fall.

In its fourth year, the Counseling Department will be offering college planning meetings for juniors and their parents in February and March. Our Senior/College Counselors, Kyle Murphy and Frank Palmasani, will host these personalized, interactive sessions which will focus on the college search and selection process. Each junior **along with their parents** will be assigned a specific date and time during the school day to meet in small groups in our College and Career Center. Our goal is to assist juniors in identifying "perfect college fits" as they prepare for the college application process which begins in the fall of their senior year.

Juniors, sophomores and freshmen: Now is a great time to plan trips during our Easter break to visit college campuses. Just a reminder: All students are to take the ACT test in April or June of their junior year as a graduation requirement. When registering your student, please note that all test scores will be automatically sent to Providence Catholic. Mr. Senffner made ACT presentations in all junior English classes at the end of November and the beginning of December. **Providence Catholic is a test site for the April 14<sup>th</sup> test.** ACT questions? Contact Mr. Senffner at 815-717-3184.

**REMINDER TO PARENTS---YOU AND YOUR STUDENT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING YOUR STUDENT'S ONLINE ACT REGISTRATION.**

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Other things going on in the Counseling Department include all of us continuing our counseling visits with your kids in our offices. Peer Mediation is available for working at resolving conflicts between students. The Student Assistance Program Team is intervening in students' lives.

The results of the PreACT test taken by freshmen and sophomores on All School Testing Day in October were explained to students in December. The PSAT results were also explained to juniors who took the PSAT. Parents were emailed instructions on how to access these score reports on the portal. Juniors who took the retired ACT test received their results the day after testing. Your son or daughter should have shared these with you.

Have you used Naviance Family connection with your son or daughter? It is a web based software program that assists in managing the college selection process as well as assisting in career searches. Sophomores, juniors and seniors have been instructed in its use. Freshmen have been introduced to it through their Introduction to Technology and Health classes. Each class, freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors, have been assigned tasks which can be found on their own Family Connection homepage. Please ask your children to share this program with you. It can be accessed through the Counseling Department page on the Providence Catholic website. To log in, students use their school email as their username. Their password is the same one they use to log in to our Providence Catholic network.

November, December and January's High School Notes have also been sent with this email. Some of the topics covered are homework habits, being responsible, communicating with your teen, bullying, making academic resolutions and the opioid epidemic among other things. Please take a few minutes to look at them.

We do hope the enclosed grades reflect the best efforts of your kids. Continue to support and encourage them as we begin the second semester. We'll be doing the same here.

Sincerely,



Pamela J. Ryan  
Director of Counseling

PJR:lb  
Enclosures