



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

1800 W. Lincoln Highway • New Lenox, Illinois 60451 • (815) 485-2136 • www.providencecatholic.org

Mrs. Pamela J. Ryan, Director of Counseling

Dear Parents,

May 25, 2018

Congratulations to those of you who are parents of our most recent graduates - the Class of 2018. You have reason to be proud especially if there were moments when you may have doubted that it would happen! They now continue on their journey into adulthood.

Second semester grades are included in this email. We hope they reflect the best efforts of your students. Those who do have first and/or second semester failures must make them up in summer school in order to qualify for readmission in the fall. Courses must be approved in advance by our Assistant Principal, Janlyn Auld. Our Assistant Principal will be contacting you to ensure that all summer school credits are made up. Anyone with questions regarding grades must contact our Assistant Principal.

Those of you who are parents of next year's seniors, the Class of 2019, please mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 11, 2018. Please join us with your sons or daughters at 7:00 pm in our small gym. Our college counselors, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Palmasani, will go through the college application process step by step. Explained will be things like: What's on my transcript? How do I get it sent? What's the Common Application?

Those of you who are parents of next year's freshmen and sophomores please mark your calendars for our Parent College Night on Thursday November 1, 2018 at 7:00 pm in our small gym. The purpose of this night is to help parents through the college selection process. Especially if you are a "first timer" at sending a son or daughter to college, the information presented by our own college counselors will prove helpful. The purpose is to explain what Providence does to prepare students for college, timelines, etc. We hope you join us. The presentation shouldn't last more than about 45 minutes to an hour. Our college counselors will then be available for individual questions.

In addition, we will be hosting our annual Conquering College Costs College Financial Aid Night on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm in our small gym. With college costs rising annually, all Providence Catholic parents are encouraged to attend given the important information that will be shared. It's never too early to start looking at a financial fit for college. Mr. Frank Palmasani will be our presenter. Comments from parents after attending our spring juniors and their parents college planning meetings have mentioned how helpful it was to attend this college financial night prior to those planning meetings.

In February and March, every junior and his or her parent(s) will be invited to attend a college planning meeting during the school day with our college counselors. Families will be provided a comprehensive explanation of the college search and selection process. These personalized, interactive meetings will use the Naviance and financial fit programs. Parents of next year's juniors will receive an email from us next January with the particulars.

On April 13, 2019 Providence Catholic will be a national test center for the ACT test. As a graduation requirement, each junior must take the ACT test in April or June of their junior year.

Next year's seniors and their parents will receive in June an email with information regarding letters of recommendation. We ask that you complete the College Planning Packet or develop a resume if you need a counselor letter of recommendation for college. If you choose to do the resume, please also include the parent brag sheet. This can be completed as soon as you receive the email from us and throughout the summer. Submit it to our department administrative assistant, Laura Brassil, so that our college counselors can begin

working on these letters. Typically, colleges open their applications around August 1st. Transcripts reflecting courses and grades through the end of junior year can be requested at the start of the school year.

Parents of seniors will continue to receive via email a monthly newsletter from the Counseling Department to guide them through the college selection process. It includes such things as visits to Providence by various college representatives, upcoming test dates, financial aid information and scholarships available.

Each year parents request copies of tuition statements from our tuition office here. In putting together financial aid packages, some individual colleges are considering the cost of high school (and grade school) tuition. I strongly encourage you to save all of your tuition statements each year for proof of additional education expenses for those schools who may consider this when awarding college financial aid.

Just a reminder that Naviance is available for all of our students, freshmen through seniors. This web-based software program that assists in managing the college selection process as well as assisting in career searches can be accessed through an account each student has set up. It provides a wealth of information. Effective August 2018, Naviance Family Connection will be known as Naviance Student.

The [April](#) and [May](#) High School Years newsletters may be accessed by clicking each link. They include information on volunteering, learning to speak confidentially in front of a group, summer jobs, “adulting 101” among other topics.

And, finally, I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to work at Providence for the past 42 years. I was hired right after college and planned to work at Providence for about five years to “get my feet wet” and then go to the public schools to make “real money.” Happily, God had other plans.

Over the years, I have greatly enjoyed working with Providence students and families. While I made my share of mistakes, I always did my best and had the best interests of our students and families in mind. It is with these memories and many blessings that I begin retirement.

The Counseling Department is in good hands with Luke Senffner as the next Director of Counseling.

May God continue to bless you and Providence Catholic in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela J. Ryan".

Pamela J. Ryan
Director of Counseling

PJR:lb
Enclosures