PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
1800 W. Lincoln Highway • New Lenox, Illinois 60451 • (815) 485-2136 • www.providencecatholic.org
COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Dear Parents of Seniors: April 2018

It is hard to believe that the school year will soon be over. We bet your sons or daughters would be able to tell you how many days, if not hours, are left until graduation! College plans are in the stages of being finalized by now and all the months of decision-making are winding down. We hope that the following information will be helpful.

THINGS SENIORS SHOULD BE DOING IN APRIL

1. Finalize housing. The deadline for completing housing contracts in many schools is late April or early May.
2. Make a final college visit to make sure the college is the right one academically and socially. Don't forget - college visits must be taken before May 1!
3. If planning to attend Joliet Junior College, Moraine Valley or any other community college, make sure you apply and arrange to take their Placement Test.
4. Continue to look for scholarship opportunities. (Check Naviance scholarship page.)
5. Inform a school in writing that you plan on attending or not attending by May 1. **It is very important to contact the schools that you are not attending, not only as a courtesy, but also so that your spot may be given to another applicant that may be on a waiting list.**

COLLEGE DAYS

Seniors planning to take a college day to visit a college or university of their choice must do so before May 1. A note from a parent must be given to Mr. Murphy or Mr. Palmasani one week prior to the planned visit for approval.

SPRING COLLEGE FAIR

On Friday, April 20, we will host our annual Spring College Fair during fourth period in our Sacred Heart gym. Students who are sophomores and juniors will have the opportunity to meet with over fifty college representatives during their fourth period TDT times. Parents are also invited. Upon their arrival in the gym, each student will be given a list of suggested questions to aid them in their conversations with the representatives and help alleviate some "nervous jitters." Each year the college representatives comment on how much they enjoy meeting our students and attending this fair. A list of colleges expected may be accessed here.

TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Palmasani will visit all senior English classes on Friday, May 11. The purpose of their visit will be to share information about typical concerns that graduates have about their first year of college. They also want to be sure final arrangements will be made by each student with the school that they will be attending next year.

FINAL TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM

This completed form is necessary to give Providence Catholic the permission to release and send your student's final transcript to the college that they will be attending in the fall. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Palmasani having been meeting with each senior individually to explain this form. A parent must sign this form unless the student is eighteen years old. This form may also be found on the PCHS website Class of 2018 information page or by clicking here. Every senior must submit this form to the Counseling Center by May 4, 2018 in order for us to send transcripts. **PLEASE NOTE: FINAL TRANSCRIPTS TO COLLEGES, NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER, AND/OR NAIA ARE NOT SENT UNTIL AFTER JUNE 8, 2018.**

SELECTIVE SERVICE AND FINANCIAL AID

For many years now, there has been a requirement in the State of Illinois that young men are to be registered with Selective Service to be eligible to receive state student financial aid or to seek employment in Illinois. These laws are similar to federal legislation which links registration to federal student aid and federal employment. Young men must register within 30 days of turning 18. The two most common ways to register are online at www.sss.gov or by answering question #22 on the FAFSA form. Failure to register is a felony punishable by a fine of up to $250,000 and/or up to five years in prison.

UPCOMING TEST DATES

TEST	DATE	REGULAR DEADLINE	LATE DEADLINE (additional fee required)
ACT	June 9	May 4	May 18
ACT	July 14	June 15	June 22
SAT	May 5	April 6	April 25
SAT	June 2	May 3	May 23

SCHOLARSHIPS

Information and/or applications for the following scholarships may be found in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection. Paper applications for scholarships that are not "apply online only" are also available from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office.

Balanced Man Scholarship (Sigma Phi Epsilon) – (3) totaling $1750 - Open to male students planning to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign who have excelled in the areas of scholarship, leadership, athletics and community service. Applying for this scholarship in no way obligates students to join this fraternity. Apply online only at www.illinoissigeps.com/scholarships. **Deadline May 1.**

Founding Fathers Scholarship – up to $2000 – Offered by the Irish American Society of County Will – Open to all students who reside in Will County. May attend 4 year or 2 year college or trade school. Based on strong character, community service, and minimum GPA of 2.5. Two essays and two letters of recommendation required. Applications available in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection or from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. **Deadline April 23.**

Illinois Sons of Italy Foundation - $1000 - Open to male and female students of full or partial Italian ancestry. Based on financial need, scholastic achievements and activities showing character and leadership. Essay and two letters of recommendation required. Applications

available in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection or from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. **Deadline July 1.**

Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans Joseph Cardinal Bernadin Scholarship - $2000 - Open to male students who are of full or 50% Italian ancestry with minimum GPA of 3.75. Two letters of recommendation required. Applications available in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection or from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. **Deadline June 24.**

Joliet Civic Committee of Italian Americans Frank Vigilante Scholarship (in memory of John Fischetti) - $2000 - Open to MALE students of full or 50% Italian ancestry planning to major in journalism or media communications. Essay on specific topic required. Must be available to accept the award in person at the annual Dante Award Luncheon on May 24, 2018 in Chicago. Applications available in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection or from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. **Deadline May 14.**

Materials Handling & Management Society Chicagoland Chapter Scholarship – (3) $1000, (2) $1500 - Open to students who are interested in the materials handling or supply chain related field (i.e. logistics). Must have membership in MHMS Chicagoland Chapter. Membership is free. See application for sign up link. Essay and one letter of rec required. See Mrs. Brassil for an application. **Deadline April 30.**

The following scholarships are set up specifically for the benefit of Providence students:
Information and/or applications for the following scholarships may be found in the "Scholarship List" on Naviance Family Connection or from Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. All applications must be returned to Mr. Murphy, Mr. Palmasani or Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office.

A.J. Felman Scholarship – $1000 per year for two years – The Albert J. Felman Scholarship is awarded to a Providence Catholic senior planning to attend an accredited college or university. Applicants should meet the following criteria: be in good academic standing, demonstrate financial need, have an indicated potential in science/math. Students wishing to apply must submit letters of application from their parents and themselves detailing why the student fulfills the above criteria. **Deadline May 1.**

Berman & Sons Accounting Scholarship - $1000 - The Berman and Sons Accounting Scholarship is awarded annually to a Providence Catholic High School graduating senior who has excelled in accounting. Applicants must be accepted at and enrolled at a college or university and take at least one accounting class freshman year in college. **Deadline May 1.**

Ed Karnas Memorial Scholarship - $1000 – The Ed Karnas Memorial Scholarship is awarded to one Providence Catholic senior who is or has been a member of the Providence Catholic Bass Fishing team or has a love of fishing. (Priority will be given to a past or present member of the Bass fishing team.) Applicants must also demonstrate financial need. Students wishing to apply for this scholarship must submit a letter from themselves describing how they demonstrate these qualities and why they deserve consideration for this scholarship. **Deadline May 1.**

Dr. Kelly E. Ludwig Memorial Scholarship - $500 – This scholarship is in memory of Dr. Kelly E. Ludwig, a Providence Catholic parent, alumnus and high school administrator. Applicants should meet the following criteria: minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher, recognized for good moral character in the daily living of Christian life, demonstrate financial need, and plan to attend a four year college or university. Student should submit a letter from themselves demonstrating the above qualities and explaining why they deserve this scholarship. A letter of recommendation from an adult (not a parent) is also required. **Deadline May 1.**

Charles E. Murphy Scholarship to DePaul University - $2300 - The Charles E. Murphy Scholarship is provided by an area benefactor to assist a Providence Catholic graduating senior. All majors are eligible, but priority will be given to students who plan to attend the College of Commerce at DePaul University, which includes the School of Accountancy and Management Information Systems (SOA-MIS), Department of Economics, Department of Finance, School of Hospitality Leadership, Department of Management, Department of Marketing, Department of Real Estate. The student must be in good standing and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50. **Deadline May 1.**

Loretta Murphy Scholarship to Joliet Junior College– Amount to be determined by JJC in March or April. - The Loretta Murphy Scholarship to Joliet Junior College is provided by an area benefactor to encourage students to continue their education after high school at Joliet Junior College. The following criteria must be met: residence in the Joliet Junior College school district #525; meet the Joliet Junior College entrance requirements; have a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA. **Deadline May 1.**

Marquette Bank Education Foundation Scholarship - $2500 - The criteria for this scholarship is as follows (in order of importance): (1) financial need (evidence must be explained in parent letter), (2) community service (must surpass school's minimum requirement) and (3) scholastic achievement (minimum GPA of 3.0). Student and parent must each submit a letter explaining how the student meets the above criteria. **Deadline April 18.**

Matt "Laz" Lulinski Memorial Scholarship - $1000 – This scholarship is a memorial scholarship named for Matt "Laz" Lulinski from the Providence Catholic Class of 2012. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.5, be in good disciplinary standing, demonstrate service to the community above and beyond the school requirement and show financial need. Must have applied for financial aid through Facts Grant and Aid Assessment. Student must submit one paragraph on each of the following: ways you have shown service to school, community, and/or parish, ways you have shown leadership in and out of school and how this scholarship will benefit your family. **Deadline May 1.**

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Schmidt, Sr. and Minnie Kuhn Scholarship – (3) $1750 - The Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Schmidt, Sr., and Minnie Kuhn Scholarship is a memorial scholarship and is awarded to three Providence Catholic students who have excelled academically. Applicants should meet the following criteria: minimum cumulative GPA of 4.0 or higher and demonstrate financial need. **Deadline May 1.**

Ronald Rob Memorial Scholarship - $1000 – The Ronald Rob Memorial Scholarship is awarded to one Providence Catholic High School senior each year. The scholarship is awarded in honor of an alumni parent and respected local businessman. Applicants must live in Will county, have demonstrated financial need, obtain admission to a two or four year college or university and be in good standing at Providence Catholic. Students wishing to apply for the scholarship must submit letters of application from their parents and themselves detailing why the student fulfills the above criteria. **Deadline May 1.**

Kristen Zastro Scholarship - $1700 - The Kristen Zastro Scholarship is awarded in honor of a Providence Catholic graduate who was outstanding for her service to others. Students, both male and female, who are graduating seniors of Providence Catholic High School may apply for the scholarship. Applicants must demonstrate a similar ability to serve others. They must possess the following qualifications: 2.75 or higher cumulative GPA; good moral character in the daily living of the Christian life; service to the community and/or financial need. **Deadline May 1.**

IMPORTANT: As your students learn of scholarships they have been awarded, please have them bring the award letter they received to Mrs. Brassil in the Counseling Office. We will then

make a copy of the letter so that we may keep track of **all** scholarships that are awarded to our seniors. **We ask that you notify us of every scholarship that your student is offered even if you are not sure if they will be accepting them.** These letters are used for tracking purposes and for verification for the graduation program**. Due to our printing deadline, all documentation must be received by Friday, May 4 in order to be included in this program.**

Please note: Only <u>accepted</u> scholarships will be listed in this program.

In addition, we are tracking **all** college acceptances of our seniors. Because we are not notified by most colleges of your student's admission, **please have your student bring in a copy of their acceptance letters to our Counseling Office as well even if you are not sure where your son/daughter will be attending school.** Please also indicate on your Naviance account the colleges at which you have been accepted or denied acceptance.

Graduating seniors are nearing the finish line of college planning. Though it may seem like the hard work is finished, this is no time to give in to "senioritis." More and more colleges and universities are carefully monitoring grades and extracurricular involvement through the end of senior year. Students should keep up on schoolwork and extracurricular leadership roles.

Decisions still need to be made. Review financial aid offers, and all of the other decision-making factors, when choosing a school as this may impact attendance decisions. It is possible to appeal a financial aid package, but often the first offer will be the best one.

Students should start thinking about how to spend their summer after graduation. Would a job provide more perspective on a future career? Is volunteering a wise use of time? How about getting a head start on freshman year by taking courses at a local junior college that will transfer to their institution of choice? Now is a good time to decide how students will spend their time between graduation and the fall term.

Sincerely,

Pamela J. Ryan	Kyle M. Murphy	Frank Palmasani
Director of Counseling	Senior/College Counselor	Senior/College Counselor

PJR/KM/FP:lb

NUMBER OF TRANSCRIPTS SENT TO DATE: 1166