

SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS



St. Mary Catholic High School
— Est. 1928 —

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE October 19, 2018

College Visits

Oct 22 – UW Green Bay
Oct 29 – Ripon College
Oct 30 – UW Stout
Nov 6 – UW La Crosse
Nov 8 – Michigan Tech
Nov 13 – St. Mary's (Winona, MN)
Dec 14 – U S Army

October 1

FAFSA available online

November 1

Early Action Deadline for UW
Madison & UMN Twin Cities

November 5

Post High School Night - FAEC

November 14

FVTC Campus Visit Day

Grades 9-12

Right Track Tutoring*

SMC's National Honor Society provides students with academic assistance for anything from proof-reading a paper to helping review before a test. This is not necessarily a program for students who are struggling. As it says in the name, this is to help keep students on the "Right Track". If your child would like assistance/someone to study with please click [here](#) to have your child submit the form and NHS will match them up with a tutor.

Post High School Night – Save the Date

Representatives from post-secondary institutions will each present and be available to answer your questions on November 5th from 6:30-8:00 pm. Presenters include the US Military, University of Wisconsin System two and four year campuses, Wisconsin Private Colleges/Universities and Wisconsin Technical College System. **Juniors** and their parents are highly encouraged to attend; students from all grades are welcome.

Grade 9

Save the Dates*

Freshmen finals review night will be Wednesday, January 9 from 3:30 – 5:30. Watch for details!

Freshman conferences with Mrs. Castagna and Mrs. Piette will begin after finals. Parents should watch for an email from Sign Up Genius to schedule their appointment.

Grade 11

Junior Conferences

You will receive an invitation through Sign Up Genius to schedule your Junior Conference. These meetings give you and your child an opportunity to meet with Mrs. Castagna to discuss academic and career planning including testing, courses for senior year, assessment and PSAT results, progress and plans for the future.

Law Enforcement Career Academy*

Students who are interested in a career in law enforcement have an opportunity to attend the Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy. The academy will be held June 24 -28, 2019 at the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy at Ft. McCoy, WI. There is no cost to the student. The academy offers classroom instruction, hands on experiences coupled with required physical fitness participation. The students stay in the dorms at the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy during the session. The application will be available in January 2019 at www.wilegion.org. Please direct any questions to Sheri@wilegion.org.



Medical Mentoring

The [Medical Mentoring](#) program allows students to job shadow medical professionals during summer vacation following their junior year. Before students can participate in Medical Mentoring they must attend a Career Experience Event (CEE). Click [here](#) for a list of CEE dates and locations. Medical Mentoring applications open in February 2019 and will be discussed in Science classes 2nd semester.

Grades 11-12

Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)*

The ROTC is a leadership-training program for students who plan to serve in the U.S. military after college. Scholarship requirements vary slightly between the military branches. It is important to apply for ROTC scholarships as early as possible, preferably during your junior year of high school. Deadlines differ by military branch, but may fall anywhere between December 1 and January 31 of your senior year. Confirm deadlines with your local recruiter's office.

FVTC Campus Visit Days

On Nov 5th & April 17, seniors and juniors will have the opportunity to attend a Campus Visit to Fox Valley Technical College during the school day. These career exploration visits highlight a variety of career training options, as well as a general college overview, more specific information within a career cluster area, and student panel discussion. Permission forms can be found [here](#). Space is limited in Fall, with more availability in Spring.

Campus Visits

To register for UW System schools click [here](#).

To register for WI Private schools, click [here](#).

ACT/SAT

Students register online for the [ACT](#) and [SAT](#) tests. Our **school code is 501280**. Mrs. Castagna will discuss testing during conferences. Please feel free to contact her with any questions.

Free ACT/SAT Test Preparation Resources:

- Practice booklets outside the Counseling office
- Online Practice Tests:
 - [Quizlet](#)
 - [Princeton Review](#)
 - [Peterson's Test Prep](#)
 - [Khan Academy](#)
- Check your local library for free online practice and prep resources

For Purchase ACT Test Preparation Resources

- [ACT Online Prep™](#)
- [Test Prep Seminar](#) at Xavier High School
- [UW Oshkosh](#) - Fall session begins Oct 13th

Grade 12

College Applications

Seniors are encouraged to complete their college applications by **November 1st**.

Transcripts

Transcript requests are made by the student in Naviance for electronic delivery to colleges and universities. Requests for hard copies should be emailed directly to Mrs. Hall. She is only here part time so please allow 2 days for processing. Mrs. Castagna reviewed the process for requesting transcripts and students were emailed an instruction guide and worked on this during Mentor time.



Scholarships

Applications that come through the School Counseling Office will be posted in Naviance. Scholarships are added weekly so students should check often. Parents can view scholarships and deadlines at [Naviance Student Log-In](#), select "I'm a guest", password **Zephyrs**. Choose "**Colleges**", "**Scholarships and Money**", "**Scholarship List**".

Teacher Recommendation Letters

Seniors will request letters of recommendation through Naviance Student. Forms to give to recommenders were emailed to seniors, and are available outside the Counseling Office.

FAFSA – Oct 1st!!

Parents of seniors can file their [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) starting on Oct. 1. Students must complete this form in order to qualify for grants, government student loans and work-study.

College Goal Wisconsin

Get free help with the FAFSA form at a **College Goal Wisconsin** event. Click [here](#) for dates and a list of what to bring.

*New this month