

# SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS



St. Mary Catholic High School  
Est. 1928

## IMPORTANT DATES

DATE November 15, 2018

### October 1

FAFSA was available online

### December 14

US Army visit

### January 9

Freshmen Finals Review Night

### Grades 9-12

#### **Health Science Workshop at UW-Oshkosh\***

UW-Oshkosh will host its annual Health Science Workshop on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 2:30pm. This workshop provides an opportunity for students to understand more about the health care and fitness professions available to UW Oshkosh Kinesiology and Athletic Training Program graduates. Participants will learn and practice various skills. The program changes each year to encourage return participants. Cost is \$50.

**Registration deadline Nov 27<sup>th</sup>.** Click [here](#) for a brochure and details.

#### **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.

### Grade 9

#### **Save the Date – Freshmen Finals Review**

**Freshmen Finals Review Night** will be Wednesday, January 9 from 3:30 – 5:30. Watch for details!

**Freshman conferences** will begin after finals. These meetings give you and your child an opportunity to meet with Mrs. Castagna or Mrs. Piette to discuss academics and course planning, post high school exploration, testing, and high school resources. Parents will receive an email from Sign Up Genius to schedule their appointment.

### Grade 11

#### **Badger State\***

Badger Boys & Girls State are week long summer programs that help students become better informed citizens on how state government functions. Participants are divided into two political parties and "learn by doing" as they run for office and function on city, county and state levels. SMC selects at least one male and one female candidate each year. Students apply through their Social Studies classes. For more information visit the [Badger Girls State](#) and [Badger Boys State](#) websites.



### **Junior Conferences**

Parents should have received an invitation through Sign Up Genius to schedule Junior Conferences. These meetings give you and your child an opportunity to meet with Mrs. Castagna or Mrs. Piette to discuss academics, post high school planning, testing (ACT/SAT/PSAT), transcripts, career and college resources and graduation requirements.

### **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](http://www.wilegion.org). Please direct any questions to [Sheri@wilegion.org](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Deadlines differ by military branch, but may fall anywhere between December 1 and January 31 of your senior year.

### **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 13<sup>th</sup>



## Grade 12

### **Rotary Luncheons\***

Both the Neenah and Menasha Rotary Clubs offer scholarships in the spring to students who live in the Neenah and Menasha Joint School Districts. Students who plan to for a Rotary scholarship should also attend a Rotary Luncheon. Details have been emailed to all seniors.

### **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange\***

The Congress-Bundestag Vocational Youth Exchange is a work/study program for recently-graduated U.S. high school students to spend a gap year in Germany. Applications are due Jan 15. Click [here](#) for details.

### **College Applications**

Seniors are encouraged to complete their college applications as soon as possible.

### **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**

Parents of seniors can file their [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) now. 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