



St. Mary Catholic Schools  
Grades P3-12

A Community Inspiring Success

# SMCHS COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

October 2019

## College Visits **UPDATED**

October 8 - St. Norbert College  
October 9 - Drake University  
October 15 - University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
October 21 - Viterbo University  
October 22 - U.S. Army  
October 29 - Marian University  
November 12 - U.S. Army  
November 14 - The University of Alabama



## October 9 **UPDATED**

Just a reminder that freshmen will be visiting UW Madison during the school day and plan to arrive back at SMC by 3:12pm.

## October 16 PSAT - Optional Testing for Juniors **UPDATED**

Students who are scheduled to take the PSAT will report to school at the normal time on Oct. 16th and will be dismissed when testing is complete. Food service will be available for students who want to eat before leaving. Detailed information will be sent home with those students who are testing. Students who are not testing will have a normal school day.



## **NEW** Freshmen Conferences

Freshmen conferences will begin October 17th. Parents will receive an invitation through Sign Up Genius to schedule their conferences.

### **Students** whose last names begin with:

A-N sign up with Mrs. Castagna  
O-Z sign up with Mrs. Van Camp

## **NEW** Engineering Technology Open House

The UW - Oshkosh Engineering Technology Department invites you to their first annual Open House on Friday, October 11th from 10am-2pm (third floor - Halsey Science Center). Lunch is provided and students will meet faculty and staff, interact with current students, and explore both the department and campus. The Engineering Technology Department offers three majors: Electrical, Environmental, and Mechanical Engineering Technology; each of which leads to the Bachelors of Science degree. All three majors have been accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET. UW-Oshkosh is now the only school in Wisconsin to have a full suite of Engineering Technology programs that are accredited.

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## **NEW Post High School Night - Save the Date!!**

Representatives from post-secondary institutions will each present and be available to answer your questions on **November 11th** 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.

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## **NEW StEP-UP**

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is offering the Student Enrichment Program for Underrepresented Professions (StEP-UP) to help support students who have an interest in pursuing careers in science and medicine. StEP-UP is a competitive program designed to provide opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, underrepresented cultural and ethnic groups, and individuals with disabilities. The program is free and held one Saturday per month at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, starting November 16th. **Application deadline is Friday, October 11.** Visit [mcw.edu/stepup](http://mcw.edu/stepup) for details.



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## **NEW Medical Career Experience Events**

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 2020 and will be discussed in Science classes 2nd semester.

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## **NEW Senior Transcripts & Applications**

- Seniors are encouraged to complete their college applications by November 1st.
  - 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.
  - Counselors reviewed the process for requesting transcripts, and students were emailed an instruction guide and worked on this during Mentor time.
- If you are interested in pursuing a Global Education Achievement Certificate, be sure to work with your World Language teacher to complete the forms and requirements. (See article below for details)
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## **NEW Law Enforcement Career Academy**

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, will be holding their 4th Law Enforcement Career Academy from June 22 - 26, 2020 at Ft. McCoy. The academy is open to 50 Wisconsin high school juniors and seniors; there is no cost to the student. Applications will be available in January. Click [here](#) for details.

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## **AP Changes**

Beginning this year, AP exam registration for yearlong courses will take place in the fall. Test order forms will be distributed by AP teachers during classes in October.

Testing fees will remain at \$94 per test, however there are two new fees instituted by Collegeboard to encourage student commitment:

- On-time order = \$94 per exam
- Late order = \$94 + \$40 late fee
- Unused/cancelled order = \$40
- AP exams which begin in the fall **MUST BE ORDERED IN THE FALL** to avoid the late fee.
- Tests for AP classes which begin in the Spring will be ordered in the Spring.

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## College Fairs

Oct 6 - [NACAC National College Fair](#) (Milwaukee, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.)

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## Campus Previews/Open Houses

Oct 8 - [Fox Valley Technical College](#)\*\* (Appleton, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

Oct 10 - [UW Oshkosh, Fox Cities Campus](#) (Menasha, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

Nov 13 - Fox Valley Technical College Campus Visit Day (Appleton 12:00 - 2:45 p.m.)  
SMC will be bussing interested students. Details will be emailed to parents.

Nov 19 - [UW Oshkosh, Fox Cities Campus](#) (Menasha, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

\*If you apply at this event your application fee and placement test fee are waived!

\*\*If you apply at this event your application fee is waived!

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## Global Education Achievement Certificate (GEAC)

The GEAC is offered to SMCHS students who have demonstrated a strong interest in global citizenship by successfully completing a global education curriculum and engaging in co-curricular activities and experiences that foster the development of global competencies. To earn this certificate, students must submit a portfolio with evidence of:

- 4 HS credits of one world language
- 4 credits of coursework with a global focus (from approved list or approved by GEAC committee)
- 4 co-curricular activities or cultural events with a global focus
- 8 Cultural Literacy reflections (eight works of international /cultural media, including at least 4 books)
- Global service learning project (minimum of 20 hours)

Contact [Mrs. Albrecht](#) or [Mrs. Castagna](#) for details.

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## FAFSA

[Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) applications open Oct 1st. The FAFSA determines eligibility for grants, work-study, and student loans so be sure to apply early. Contact the Financial Aid Office of schools you have applied to with any questions.

Attend a "[College Goal WI](#)" event for free help completing the FAFSA. You will leave the event with your FAFSA submitted! Check website for items to bring.

- Oct 23 at Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton (6:00 p.m.)
- Nov 4 at UW Oshkosh, Oshkosh (6:00 p.m.)

FVTC (Appleton Campus) also offers free FAFSA workshops every Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

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## ACT/SAT

Students register online for [ACT](#) and [SAT](#) tests.  
Our school code is 501280.

### 2019-20 Test Dates:

Dec 14 (register by Nov 8)  
Feb 8 (register by Jan 10)  
April 4 (register by Feb 28)  
June 13 (register by May 8)  
July 18 (register by June 19)



### Free Test Preparation Resources:

[Quizlet](#); [Princeton Review](#); [Peterson's Test Prep](#); practice booklets can be found outside the Counseling offices; check your local library

### For Purchase ACT Test Preparation Resources

[ACT Online Prep](#); [Test Prep Seminar](#); [ZAPS ACT Test-Prep Seminar](#)

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