



St. Mary Catholic Schools
Grades P3-12

A Community Inspiring Success

SMCHS COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

September 2019



New School Counselor!

Please welcome our new School Counselor, Mrs. Lisa Van Camp. You may know her as our former Learning Specialist, and Mrs. Van Camp received her Master's Degree in School Counseling in 2017 from Concordia University. She has experience in all levels of education and is excited to be working with our students in her new role. Starting this year:

- **Mrs. Castagna** will work with students whose last names begin with **A-N**
- **Mrs. Van Camp** will work with students whose last names begin with **O-Z**

College Visits

September 13 - Marquette University
September 19 - Lakeland University
September 19 - University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
September 19 - University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
September 23 - DePaul University
September 25 - St. Mary's College (Notre Dame, IN)
October 8 - St. Norbert College
October 9 - Drake University
October 15 - University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
November 8 - University of Alabama

October 16 PSAT - Optional Testing for Juniors

Information was emailed to parents August 8th. If your child would like to take the test, please return their [permission form](#) and \$17 testing fee by September 13th.

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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Oct. 9th - Freshmen Trip to UW Madison

Students have selected the areas on campus they would like to visit. Please make sure to return the [permission form](#) and \$10 fee by Sept. 12th.



Senior Meetings

Mrs. Castagna & Mrs. Van Camp will be meeting with all seniors on Sept. 5th during the school day to discuss important senior year planning information. Students will also sign up for individual conference times. Parents are welcome to attend.

College Fairs

Sept 24 - [Wisconsin Education Fair](#) (St. Norbert College, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.)

Sept 26 - [Wisconsin Education Fair](#) (UW Oshkosh, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.)

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

Campus Previews/Open Houses

Sept 24/25 - [Northeast Wisconsin Technial College*](#) (Green Bay, 3:00-6:00 p.m.)

Sept 24 for Trades/Engineering, Criminal Justice

Sept 25 for Health sciences, Business

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!

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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.

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.

Financial Aid Overview Night

Paying for College: Finding The Money You Need
Wednesday, September 25, 6:00 p.m.
Kaukauna High School Auditorium
1701 County Road CE, Kaukauna

Featuring College Affordability Specialist Cheryl Rapp from the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI). Attendees will learn about college and career readiness, college savings accounts, student loan options, scholarship resources and the DFI's comprehensive college planning website, [Look Forward to Your Future](#). Financial aid representatives from FVTC, Ripon college, UW-Green Bay, UW-Madison, and UW-Oshkosh will be available to answer questions after the presentation.

ACT/SAT

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

2019-20 Test Dates:

Oct 26 (register by Sept 20)
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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