

COLLEGE COUNSELING

The College Counselors at Saint Ignatius work closely with each and every student and his parents/guardians from the very beginning of the college search process through the application phase, the financial aid and scholarship applications, through to decision making. As every young man is an individual, we tailor our processes to help each student discover what God is calling him to in this process.

"The College Counselors at Saint Ignatius High School work with young men to lead them not just to successful lives, but to lives of significance."

-Fr. Robert Welsh, S.J. '54, former President of Saint Ignatius High School

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There is no one-size-fits-all when it comes to choosing the right college. The College Counseling Department presents a *Day of Discernment* for seniors to reflect on their path thus far and in the future.

The department also hosts a *College Readiness Day* for seniors bringing back alumni and guest speakers to discuss issues students will face in college.

We process more than

2500

college applications every year!





Our College Counselors visit

over 60
colleges every year!



We meet with the entire **freshman class** to encourage them to achieve their fullest academically, so that they will have choices that they love when it comes to identifying colleges. The importance of grades, involvement and finding your own path are topics covered with the freshman class.

During **sophomore year**, we:

- meet to discuss the importance of concentrating on strong academic performance, becoming involved in extracurriculars, and utilizing resources to begin exploring potential careers.
- offer an evening program for sophomores and parents to encourage each student to discover what he loves and ways to use that information to search for colleges. Many different types of schools are highlighted in an effort to get students to start thinking beyond the more well-known colleges and universities.

At Senior Orientation, students are urged to schedule a one-on-one meeting with their college counselors to discuss further testing, their college applications, deadlines to apply, and scholarship opportunities.

- Sponsor a Senior Parent College and Financial Aid program in mid-September.
- Contract with a financial aid advisor from College Now who is available to meet with students and their families at Saint Ignatius to help navigate the world of college financial aid.

During **junior year**, we meet with the class to discuss PSAT preparation, and SAT/ACT testing dates and preparation.

We meet to explore how the intersection of strengths, interests, and values connects to their future college/career/personal and professional goals. Every junior is assigned a college counselor in the fall after a class meeting of juniors and their parents.

Every student and his family has a one-on-one meeting with the college counselor in the winter to discuss appropriate college choices. The college counselor will follow up with the student in May to see how he has progressed since the family meeting.

We also sponsor an essay writing workshop, so that juniors can get a headstart on the college essay during the summer.



- Feature an ongoing Career Speaker Series with alumni guests.
- Host an annual celebration for each and every senior's choice on May 1st, the National College Decision Day!