

November's Newsletter Contains:

- Mirror, Mirror...
- Juniors-College Selection Conferences
- 20 Minute Meetings
- Scholarship/Financial Aid Timeline
- By the Numbers—College Applications
- Question of the Month

Important November & December Counseling Dates:

11/18 – Standards Based Grading Symposium – 6-7 p.m. at WIHI

12/1 – Jan. Rec. Deadline

12/2 – Paying for College program at WIHI
(**6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** – 11th and 12th grade families are encouraged to attend)

Counseling Dept. Contact Information:

Brian Nemerovski
10th-12th Grade Counselor
Email: bnemo@wihi.org
Ext: 4604

Kathryn Hoover
6th-9th Grade Counselor
Email: khoover@wihi.org
Ext: 4670

Chase Stevens
Counseling Dept. CA
Email: cstevens@wihi.org



WIHI Counseling Department College Counseling Newsletter

November 2015 Edition

MIRROR, MIRROR ...

Well, it's been one month, 52 letters of recommendation and approximately 600 college applications since our last newsletter edition! Now that November 1 college deadlines have passed, we can pause, **reflect** and indeed confirm that WIHI is about the greatest school on the planet! We were reminded of this when:

- Writing recommendation letters and reading heartwarming contributions from parents, friends and those who know our wonderful seniors.
- Reviewing seniors' transcripts for a visual reminder of how hard our students work and the rewards they deserve.
- Talking with parents and students during conferences, where so many of you expressed thanks for our college counseling work and excitement for what is to come!

This month's newsletter continues the "**reflective**" theme by sharing some data on college applications, encouraging juniors to reflect on their own needs in advance of College Selection Conferences and more!

Juniors - College Selection Process Conferences!

WIHI Junior Conferences for College Selection start **November 10th!** The WIHI Junior Conference is among the **most important** steps to completing a thorough, personalized college selection. The conference is a **45-minute meeting with Mr. Nemo**, students and parents. During your conference, we will review your goals and plans for the future and academic progress at WIHI. We'll also discuss options available to you and sketch a "road map" to **help your reach your college and career goals!**

TO SCHEDULE A CONFERENCE:

- sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4da8af2aa3fa7-wihi>

IF YOU HAVE SCHEDULED A CONFERENCE : be sure to complete the student and parent questionnaires in order to get the most out of your conference! Links are on the right-side menu at wihi.org/college-counseling.

Quote of the Month:

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

? of the Month

How many times should I take the ACT and SAT?

ONCE each during 11th grade. All juniors will take SAT on April 12, 2016. We recommend taking the ACT as well—register at actstudent.org. Then bring your scores in for comparison and to plan next steps!

Important College Counseling Reminders

Every Wednesday – College Resource Center is open after school

Ongoing – Colleges visiting WIHI! Sign up in the binder

20-minute Meetings

As [Dr. Patrick O'Connor](#), our favorite college counseling guru, notes, great communication between students and parents is the cornerstone of great college selections. Dr. O'Connor's suggestion of a **weekly 20-minute college meeting** between parents and students in 11th and 12th grade is totally appropriate for WIHI and IB students. But what are you supposed to talk about? This time of year, some ideas are:

- Standardized testing (11) – do we want/need to register for ACT or SAT? Or a prep program like the FREE Khan Academy materials?
- Visiting campuses (11 and 12) – when are we all available to visit a nearby college as a “practice” visit? Do we want to travel to visit a group of campuses during a school break? Visit the colleges’ sites to register for a tour!
- Junior conferences (11) – what do we want to share with Mr. Nemo at our conference? What do we need to hear? Have we scheduled our conference?
- Paying for College (11 and 12) – Who can be expected to contribute?

Scholarship & Financial Aid Timeline

SENIORS should plan for the following:

- October 2015-Present—CSS/Profile financial aid application is available
- December 2, 2015—Paying for College Night—WIHI Media Center—6:30-8:00 p.m.
- January 1, 2016—2016-17 FAFSA is open for completion—fafsa.gov—the sooner you complete FAFSA, the better your chances are for earning free money!
- March-April 2016—Financial aid award letters are mailed home (or transmitted electronically) from colleges to which seniors have been accepted, based on FAFSA and/or CSS/PROFILE data
- May 1, 2016—National Reply Date when seniors are expected to tell each college where he/she has been accepted either “YES” or “NO.”

By the Numbers—WIHI Class of 2015 College Applications

College Application Numbers - OVERALL

- 70 students; 387 total applications completed with decision
- 5.5 applications per WIHI student (recommendation is 6-8*)
- 29 percent of WIHI students applied to 7+ colleges (nationally, 22 percent apply to 7+)*
- 65.9% of applications from WIHI resulted in **acceptance** (National rate is ~65.5%)*

*-Source - [National Association of College Admission Counselors](#)