



## Information from Counseling Department – January 2021

### For Parents of All High School Students:

#### Spring Virtual College Exploration Opportunities

Click here for information about spring college fairs, webinars, virtual college visits, and more: [Spring 2021 Virtual College Exploration Opportunities](#)

#### Summer Enrichment Opportunities

The fall and early winter are good times to start thinking about enrichment opportunities for next summer. The BSM website has an extensive list of programs that colleges offer for high school students. (Note that some of these may not be taking place in Summer 2021 due to COVID-19). Some programs, such as ones sponsored by Duke University and the University of Notre Dame, have started accepting applications or will start on December 1st. Please see the [Summer Opportunities](#) page of the BSM website for a complete list.

#### Gap Year Fair:

Go Overseas is sponsoring a virtual weekend webinar and virtual gap year fair on Saturday, January 23, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. You can get the most up-to-date information about gap year basics, how the gap year field has adapted to COVID, tips for researching & planning your gap year, navigating the college deferral process, and which programs are accepting students. What is a Gap Year? It is a period of time between completing high school and beginning college when a student steps outside the traditional classroom to explore the world, reflect on personal values and goals, and prepare to take the next purposeful step in life. More information and registration is available [HERE](#).

#### 2020-2021 ACT and SAT Test Dates:

**2020-2021 ACT Test Dates** Create account and register at: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

National Test Dates	Registration Deadlines
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021
March 2, 2021 – BSM is a district test center for BSM juniors only	February 2, 2021 – register via BSM not through ACT
April 17, 2021 – BSM is a test center	March 12, 2021
June 12, 2021	May 7, 2021
July 17, 2021	June 18, 2021

**2020-2021 SAT Test Dates** Create account and register at: [sat.collegeboard.org](http://sat.collegeboard.org)

National Test Dates	Registration Deadlines
March 13, 2021	February 12, 2021
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021
June 5, 2021 – BSM is a test center	May 6, 2021

## For Parents of Sophomores:

### College Planning Meeting for Parents of Sophomores

This event is on the calendar for Wednesday, January 27 in the theater. In lieu of an in-person meeting, we will send all parents of sophomores a link to attend the counselors' presentation via a webinar at **noon on Wednesday, January 27**. The webinar will be recorded and sent out to all sophomore parents, as well. Some of the topics that will be covered include the ACT and SAT, paying for college, visiting colleges, and a timeline for BSM's college and career planning services.

## For Parents of Juniors:

### Building Your Future Workshop

All BSM juniors are required to attend the Building Your Future workshop about college and career planning on Tuesday, February 5. Juniors should plan to arrive at school no later than 8:30 a.m. Juniors will be directed by alphabet to the theater, the library, or the Great Hall, and expected to be seated by 8:45 a.m. They will be released at noon.

### College Planning Meeting for Parents of Juniors

This event is on the calendar for Wednesday, February 10 in the theater. In lieu of an in-person meeting, we will send all parents of sophomores a link to attend the counselors' presentation via a webinar at **noon on Wednesday, February 10**. The webinar will be recorded and sent out to all junior parents, as well. Refer to the letter emailed in early January for more details concerning what will be presented at the meeting.

### Applying for Extended Time on the ACT, SAT and AP Exams:

If your son or daughter meets all of the following three criteria, he or she **may** qualify for extended time on standardized tests: 1) your son or daughter has documentation from a complete assessment of his/her disability (including academic and intelligence tests) done by a licensed professional in the past three years, OR an update of a previous assessment; 2) your son or daughter has an accommodation plan on file at BSM that states the need for extended time on tests; and 3) your son or daughter is currently using extended time in at least one class at BSM. Note that the school must apply separately to ACT and/or the Collegeboard (PSAT, SAT and AP) for each student, so please start the process of applying for extended time at least one month before the test's registration deadline. For example, the registration deadline for the **April 17 ACT is March 12**, so you should begin the process with Maureen Miller, BSM Learning Specialist, **by February 12**. For specifics about how the application process for extended time works, click on this page <https://www.bsmschool.org/academics/college-resources/important-test-dates> and then on the "Applying for Extended Time" document. Contact Maureen Miller at [mmiller@bsmschool.org](mailto:mmiller@bsmschool.org) if you have any questions or to begin the process.

## For Parents of Seniors:

### Mid-Year Transcripts to Colleges

Some colleges request a mid-year transcript from applicants. For example, many Common Application colleges require them. The counselors will survey seniors via email in mid-January to find out which non-Common Application colleges have requested a mid-year transcript. The counselors will then send mid-year transcripts to colleges for seniors during the first week of February.