

## **Postings**

From New Trier's Post-High School Counseling Office  
For the Class of 2018  
May, 2017

### **Best wishes on your upcoming final exams**

As the end of your junior year draws near, make sure to reserve some time to relax this summer. While the post-high school counselors have a lot of opportunities to keep you busy, it is vital to have some down time – some time to get away from the stress of your school obligations and have some fun!

### **New Trier's Summer Seminar Series – Both Programs start at 7:00 PM in the Cornog Auditorium of the Northfield Campus**

On Thursday, June 8, 2017, the post-high school counseling office presents “Good to Go: A Trevian Guide to the College Search Process” for students and parents who are wondering how to begin, who are worried about filling out applications, and who are stressed about how to keep up with classes on top of it all. Hear insider tips from Anne Walsh, vice president for enrollment management at Macalester College, on how to conduct a successful search process from start to finish. Learn invaluable tips on how to explore college options while clearing up common misperceptions of admissions and discovering how to best represent yourself throughout the process. Ask questions to a panel of 2017 grads to learn what they did well and what they wish they had handled differently. Additionally, the PHSC department will provide an overview of New Trier's comprehensive, student-centered services, a timeline of developmental goals by grade level and the departmental philosophy on the admission process.

Then, on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, “Rediscovering the Liberal Arts” will be presented. While each student may enter into college with different goals for the future, most will agree that ultimately the hope is to find a career that will lead to personal happiness, fulfillment, and financial stability. This leads some to question why they should study the liberal arts. The better question may very well be, “*Why not?*” Hear from Allie Teagarden-Monk, director of recruitment and admissions for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, about why degrees in the liberal arts can be a great choice for your future. We will define what the liberal arts are, what degree options are available, and what the liberal arts experience is like at a larger university. Learn how students are advised to market their skills and abilities, what employers value from liberal arts candidates, and current outcomes for graduates.

### **Once you are rested, let's get some work done for your future!**

The post-high school counseling office is moving to the Northfield campus, B236 for the summer. A copy of the schedule for counselors is on the webpage at <http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/phsc/> and includes the phone number to call to make an appointment for the summer. If you haven't yet had your initial meeting with your parents, summer is the ideal time to start the process, too.

### **Remember your PHS homework**

As your orange assignment sheets indicate, you should plan to take some time in the summer to continue your college research to find good prospective colleges by:

1. Choosing four to five colleges at a time
2. Read about them in the Fiske Guide or at [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)
3. Take notes about what you like and what you dislike about campus life
4. For the colleges you like, dive into the individual college webpages under “academics” and “programs” to learn more specifics about the college programs in which you are interested
  - A. Print the courses required for a degree in, say, finance, if that is your intended major, and;
  - B. Delve into the catalog online and see how many and what kind of courses each college offers in, for instance, finance.
  - C. Keeping this printed information in your post-high school binder will allow you to compare college programs as your interests develop
  - D. If you don't know what you want to study, use this as a chance to see for instance, what an anthropology major is by reading through the information the colleges provide about certain majors.

### **As you develop your “short list” of college where you think you will apply**

Talk to your parents about when to schedule a visit to a college or two to see how reality matches your expectations. Call the office of admission to participate in an information session and take a campus tour. If you want to talk to the person who advises students about what courses are needed to obtain that degree in history, ask the person in admissions when you make your appointment if you can meet with an academic advisor in history. See if the water polo coach is open to a meeting, too, and always swing by the office for student with disabilities if you will be using any educational accommodations for an IEP or 504 plan.

*Another step with your short list is to give the names of these colleges to your parents so that they can visit college websites and plug numbers into each college's Net Price Calculator to obtain a better estimate as to how much your freshman year of college will cost.*

### **Parents, recommend your students to your New Trier post-high school counselor!**

At the initial post-high school meeting, parents were given a pink form with questions to help your PHS counselor write an effective letter of recommendation for their student. Students who are working to keep up with their obligations and trying to get a good night's sleep often don't recognize what is remarkable about them individually; you, as a parent, do appreciate the wonderful qualities your student has developed as a young adult, and this information is vital to share so your post-high school counselor can write a meaningful letter on your student's behalf. We'd like to have your comments in early June.

### **Common Application Rollover**

The main application form that over 600 colleges use is called the Common Application and can be accessed at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). The application is up and running for the Class of 2018 now, so if you are bored over the summer and plan to apply to some schools that are a part

of the Common Application consortium, feel free to create an account and being to key in some of the easy, demographic information.

***The only part of the Common Application that rolls over is under the tab marked “Common App,” so only complete that information. Additionally, the application essay questions in that area will not roll over, so please wait for the next newsletter to give you the exact questions for the Common Application for graduates in June, 2018.***

### **NT Post-High School Summer Seminars and Workshops**

The most frequent comment students make as they complete this process is that they wished they had written their main application essay over the summer. Once again, college essay seminars and Common Application workshops are being offered free of charge and with no registration required.

Dates and times are as follows:

#### **2017 Essay Seminar**

Class of 2018 students only-no parents, please  
Northfield Campus, Room 234C– attend one only

You will leave with exercises for brainstorming topics and within a week should be able to produce a rough draft.

Wednesday, June 28-1:30 PM to 2:45 PM

Thursday, July 13 – 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Wednesday, July 26 – 4:00 PM to 5:15 PM

Monday, August 7 – 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Tuesday, August 8 – 1:30 PM to 2:45 PM

Thursday, August 17 –10:30 AM to 11:45 AM

Tuesday, August 22 – 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM

Thursday, August 24 – 10:30 AM to 11:45AM

Tuesday, August 29 – 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM

Thursday, Aug. 31 – 10:30 AM to 11:45 AM

#### **\*NEW\* Intro to the Common Application**

Laptop or iPad REQUIRED

Students only – no parents, please

Every Thursday afternoon from June 29 through Aug. 10 at either 1:00 or 2:00 PM

Students walk-in to the main office in the B Building of the Northfield Campus

In addition to setting up your permanent log-in information, you will also complete at least half of the application and understand how to navigate all parts of the application.

#### **2017 Combined Common Application Workshop/Essay Seminars**

Students only – no parents, please

Northfield Campus – Room 234C – Attend ONE ONLY

***Laptop or ipad required for Common App Workshop***

In addition to setting up your permanent log-in information, you will also complete at least half of the application and understand how to navigate all parts of the application

Thursday, August 17 – Essay seminar 10:30 to 11:14 AM; CA workshop 1:00 to 2:15 PM

Tuesday, August 22– Essay seminar 10:30 to 11:45 AM; CA workshop 1:00 to 2:15 PM

Thursday, August 24-Essay seminar 10:30 to 11:45 AM; CA workshop 1:00 to 2:15 PM

Tuesday, August 29- Essay seminar 10:30 to 11:45 AM; CA workshop 1:00 to 2:15 PM

**We KNOW this is a long newsletter!**

And so we will forward another in mid-June as soon as we have the essays for the Class of 2018. We hope to be able to forward essays for the Common Application, the supplemental questions for Indiana University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of Michigan, the University of Wisconsin, and the essay prompts for the University of Illinois, Michigan State University, Loyola University, and the University of California system. The U Chicago supplement will be available in late June.

**Again, best wishes for your final exams and for having a rejuvenating summer!!**