

CGS STUDENT NEWSLETTER

From the desk of Mrs. Morganti, CGS Program Counselor



The Commonwealth
Governor's School

Hello and happy January CGS students!

I hope you all had the opportunity to relax over your winter break. First semester certainly went by fast...so will second semester! In this issue I have featured scholarships and enrichment opportunities - please check them out! For the next several months, I will focus on grade-specific post-secondary preparation. This month, I focus on JUNIORS and what you should be doing now to prepare for your next steps after high school.

Questions? Please feel free to reach out whenever you need! Take care!

SCHOLARSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Seniors: Fraternal Aerie of Eagles #412
(See your counselor for information)

Seniors: 2023 Capital One Virginia Military
Dependents Scholarship

Senior volleyball players: D4D Scholarship
(See your counselor for information)

The Coolidge Scholarship

George E. Allen Academic Scholarship

P.E.O. Foundation Rita Berkey

Memorial Scholarship

Marine Corps Scholarship Program

Brown Hudner Navy Scholarship

Native Forward Scholars Fund

United States Military Academy West Point:
schedule a visit

Germanna Community College -
Campus Tours

Career Girls Environmental Science Camp

*Visit your school counseling office and website
for additional opportunities!*

Summer Enrichment Opportunities



Boston Conservatory @ Berklee

Summer Engineering Academy @ U Penn

Summer Institute for the Gifted

Boston University High School

Summer Programs

Rhode Island School of Design Pre-

Collegiate Programs

National Youth Science Camp

Meaningful To-do List FOR JANUARY

Visualize your highest self

Dance to an upbeat song

Explore a new city

Do what you've always wanted to do

Make plans instead of resolutions

Spend quality time with loved ones

Juniors: Your College Prep List

TIPS FOR PREPARING TO APPLY TO COLLEGE AND WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING NOW

1. Career Exploration. Now is the time to figure out what careers you may be interested in. You don't have to know EXACTLY what you do professionally, but it is important to know what you are curious to learn more about. For me, this is the most important step. Without knowing what you want to do, it is impossible to know which post-secondary option is right for you. If you have time, you may want to explore the option of an internship or externship while in high school.
2. Know your options. Be aware that there are different options for education after high school depending on your career goals. 2-year colleges, 4-year colleges, military branches, trade-schools, etc. all have different options for training and degrees.
3. College searches. You can search for colleges using Naviance (if your school uses it), College Board's Big Future, or the National Center for Education Statistics. By the end of your junior year, you should have a list of about 10-15 colleges that you are interested in. Through more research and college visits, you should have that list down to about 5-7 that you will actually apply to by the Fall of your senior year.
4. College visits. Take time during the spring and summer to get on college campuses and take official tours. Official college visits will teach you so much about the college and will give you a good feel for whether or not the college will be a good fit for you.
5. SAT or not? Many colleges now offer a "score optional" application where students are not required to submit SAT or ACT scores for admission consideration. However, it will be important for you to explore whether or not taking the SAT is right for you. Some colleges still use SAT scores as part of their scholarship applications. Be a good consumer and do your research!

Juniors: Your College Prep List

6. Financial aid. Now is the time to educate yourself on how financial aid works and how you will pay for college. Go to <https://www.schev.edu/students/paying-for-college> to learn more. You and your family can apply for FAFSA starting October 1 of your senior year.

7. Get organized. It will be important to keep a list of the colleges you are thinking about in one place. You can create a Google Doc or Sheet to track important features or criteria for each college. If your school uses Naviance, there is an entire section titled "Colleges I am thinking about" - use it!

8. Make an appointment with your school counselor. Your school counselor can help provide you with additional support through this part of your post-secondary planning. Your school counselor possesses a wealth of knowledge and resources and will be an important person during your senior year.

9. Create a resume. Developing a resume will be important for a variety of reasons. First, it is a document that tracks all you have accomplished throughout high school. In addition, it can be used to give to teachers before they write you letters of recommendation. Scholarship applications may also require one. Lastly, as a future professional, it will be important for you to know how to create a resume. [Here are some great resume examples.](#)

10. Athletes. If you plan on playing a sport in college, register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center or the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). See your school counselor, coach, or school's Athletic Director for more information.

