



PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: THIRD FORM

Overview:

During the second semester of Third Form year, students will learn about relevant college counseling topics, such as the importance of class work and developing self-advocacy skills, making appropriate course choices, leadership and service, and the concept of creating a college profile over time. There are no one-on-one meetings scheduled between students (or parents) and counselors during the school year, but emailed questions are answered in a timely manner.

Tips for Students:

1. Work hard, and develop good study habits. You are coming from different middle schools all over the US and the world, so we expect you'll need time to adjust to Asheville School. This adjustment period is the perfect time to cultivate your study habits.
2. Get involved! Learn about extra-curricular activities and try 2-3 that interest you. The most successful college applicants are those who are involved and engaged in something beyond academics. You can start getting involved now!
3. During second semester, start thinking about your courses for the next three years of high school. Talk to your advisor, and consult the College Office as necessary.
 - Plan to take a core curriculum of Humanities, math, science, and foreign language courses. These are the building blocks colleges you'll need to be successful in college.
 - If appropriate, take some Honors classes during your Fourth Form year. Again, consult with your advisor.
4. If you have excelled at a particular sport and think you might want to play in college, talk to the Athletic Director and the College Office to gain a better understanding of the recruiting process.
5. Make good use of your summer: get a job, go to camp or work as a camp counselor, volunteer in your community, travel, or take a class (it could be academic or extracurricular – a film class, for example). Pursue something that interests you.

Tips For Parents:

1. Read *College Admission: From Application to Acceptance, Step by Step* by Robin Mamlet and Christine Vandavelde, available in bookstores and online.
2. Begin financial planning for college now. Don't wait. Investigate college costs, use "Net Price Calculators" on colleges' websites, and plan ahead!
3. Plan to attend our Fifth Form College Weekend in February. Though geared towards Fifth Form students and parents, we also welcome under-form parents to attend and to learn from a panel of college admission officers. (NOTE: Third and Fourth Form students are not invited, but parents often find it helpful to get a preview of what to expect moving forward.)