



Dear Students and Families,

We hope this message finds you in good health and good spirits. While we adjust to assisting you online, we will continue to support your academic progress, the college search and application process, and your general well-being. If you need to get in touch with one of us, please email us at the address listed below.

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Ms. Jordan Cimilluca, Counseling Office Manager/Registrar

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Ms. AnnMarie Galletto, College Advisement Center Coordinator

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Resources and Information

College Deadlines

Please check individual college websites as many schools have let us know they are extending application deadlines and the May 1 decision deadline. As a service to students and families, the National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is providing an online tool as a central resource for information about changes in college admissions events, deposit dates, and more as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. Click [here](#).

Standardized Testing

The College Board has canceled the SAT and SAT Subject Tests scheduled for May 2. Students who already registered for the May tests will receive full refunds.

The College Board is providing free resources to support remote learning and is working on a plan for students to take AP exams from home.

For up-to-date information from the College Board, click [here](#).

The ACT has rescheduled its April 4 national test date to June 13. All students registered for the April 4 test date will receive an email from ACT in the next few days informing them of the postponement and instructions for free rescheduling to June 13 or a future national test date. For up-to-date information from ACT, click [here](#).

Listed below are a few online test prep sites that we highly recommend:

www.khanacademy.org

www.collegeboard.org

www.magoosh.com

www.princetonreview.com

www.number2.com

Transcripts, Letters of Recommendation, Mid-Year Grades

We are able to send transcripts, letters of recommendation, and mid-year grades to colleges and scholarship committees. Email requests to Ms. AnnMarie Galletto at agalletto@mcquaid.org.

Please be sure to include the following information with your request:

- The name of the college/university or scholarship organization
- The purpose of the request (college application, scholarship application, etc.)
- The address (preferably an email address) where materials should be sent

Financial Aid Information

Seniors - - - if your parents have not completed the FAFSA, please see the links below to complete. The forms need to be completed in this order: FSA ID, FAFSA, TAP (if attending a school in New York State).

- [FSA ID](#)
- [FAFSA Application](#)
- [New York State HESC TAP Application and Information](#)
- [New York State Excelsior Scholarship Information](#)

Juniors - - - If your parents are looking to get a head start on the financial aid process, please encourage them to click [here](#) to find the FAFSA4caster which will explain your options for paying for college.

Naviance

STUDENTS: Naviance recently forced all students to change usernames and passwords. If you have not done this recently, please contact Ms. AnnMarie Galletto at agalletto@mcquaid.org.

PARENTS: If parents have not already activated your own Naviance account, please email Ms. AnnMarie Galletto at agalletto@mcquaid.org. You will receive a password from Naviance asking you to create a password.

Click [here](#) for Naviance log-in.

College Visits

If you were planning to visit a college that has canceled prospective student visits, consider using [this website](#) for virtual college tours. Many colleges are hosting virtual information sessions to help students learn more about the academic, cultural, and social opportunities on their respective campuses. Check individual college websites to learn more about these

The Common Application

For the Common Application Solutions Center, including frequently asked questions regarding the Common Application, click [here](#).

Online College Search

Juniors: Prior to our school closure, we were halfway through our College Planning Seminars. The next topic that we were going to introduce to you was the online college search. Please click [here](#) to begin your search.

College Essays

Juniors: The Common Application college essay prompts for 2020-2021 can be found [here](#). It is a bit early to begin your college essay. However, we want to be sure that you are familiar with the essay prompts that will be in place for next year.

Also, Ethan Sawyer (a.k.a. The College Essay Guy) provides practical, step-by-step guides on writing beautiful college essays and putting together a strong college application. Click [here](#).