

## Counselors

*Rebecca Mullen,  
Chairperson*

*Tinuke Colpa,  
Co-Facilitator*

*John Brennan*

*Patrick Dougherty*

*John Dunphy*

*Bernadette Kenny*

*Conor Lander*

*Christine Petrillo*

## Clinical Staff

*John Alkalay  
Psychologist*

*Carolyn D'Agostino  
Student Assistance  
Counselor*

*Stephanie Lia  
Psychologist*

*Patrick McAuliffe  
Psychologist*

*Amy Valentin  
Social Worker*

## Coordinator of Student Life

*Linda  
Ryan-Dehejia*

## Nurse

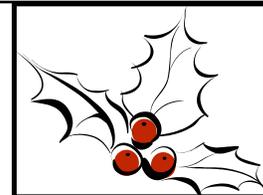
*Kathy Brehm*

**Counseling Dept.  
Hours**

**7am-3pm**

## A Special Thank You

We would like to thank the terrific group of volunteers who do such important work each fall in our College and Career Center. We recently hosted over 165 college admissions representatives who came to meet with our students. Our volunteers are often the first face of Greeley that these admissions counselors see and we hear many compliments on their work from the admissions counselors once the busy season is over. The volunteers also update the college information files, sit in on the informational sessions, and help the admission counselor get to their next location. We are grateful for this extra effort and dedication, and send a huge thanks to **Kelly Mofield, Stephanie Klein, Leslie Weiner, Coleen MacGreevey, Gayle Wasserman, Betsey Corbin, Lisa Edheimer, Margo Gold, Barbara Scheine, Lavanya Young, Lisa Murakami, Wendy Leason and Bonnie Berg.** A very special thank you is also due to Carol Hughes, one of our Counseling secretaries, who oversees the College and Career Center and schedules the college visits.



## Financial Aid

The **FINANCIAL AID** meeting for parents is on **January 4th at 7pm** in the Academic Commons. Parents from all grade levels are welcome to attend this meeting. Michael Fraher, Retired Director of Financial Aid at Vassar College and current Financial Aid Consultant for the Horace Greeley Scholarship Fund, will be our guest speaker.

## SUNY Financial Aid Workshops

SUNY will be hosting several upcoming financial aid workshops in NYC which will provide detailed information about the financial aid application and award process. These workshops will help families become familiar with terminology associated with financial aid, as well as the many resources that are available. Please follow the link below for additional registration information: [www.suny.edu/attend/events/](http://www.suny.edu/attend/events/)

## Seniors

- Over the course of the next several weeks and months you will be hearing decisions from colleges. **It is VERY important that you let Mrs. Campana and your counselor know about these decisions as soon as they are known.**
- For those seniors who applied to colleges through Early Action, Early Decision or Rolling Admissions, we strongly encourage you to complete your regular decision applications prior to hearing back from your early school. Experience tells us that if a student hears disappointing news from their early school, it is difficult to complete new applications.
- Students who are accepted under binding Early Decision agreements should notify the other schools to which they have applied that they are withdrawing their applications. You can do this by either calling or e-mailing the college admission offices.
- **Friday, December 8th is the deadline to fill out transcript request forms** for regular decision applications due on January 1st. The school will be closed over the holiday break so it is critical that you request your transcript beforehand.

# What Should I Do If I Get Deferred?

This is a question counselors are often asked in the middle of December as seniors begin to receive replies from colleges.

## **If you are deferred, here is our best collective advice:**

- \* Most importantly, understand that excellent first semester grades will do more than anything else to enhance your chances.
  - \* Tell your counselor about the decision. We are typically not informed of decisions by the colleges until well after you are notified.
  - \* Thoroughly read the letter from the college. Often they will make suggestions about what you should or should not do to enhance your chances. You may also find suggestions on their website. Follow their instructions carefully. If they say, for example, not to submit additional recommendations, don't do it.
  - \* If the college encourages you to submit additional information, you should write a letter reaffirming your strong interest. In this letter, you might also update the admission committee on any new information that is relevant to your academic, extra-curricular, or personal life, but don't feel you have to do this if there really is nothing new to share.
  - \* Additional letters of recommendation are usually not necessary or helpful. Admission counselors consistently tell us that supplemental letters are only helpful if they provide new information that other writers have not brought forth.
  - \* If you are feeling some anger toward the college, put it aside. Stating that I can't believe I didn't get accepted will be perceived as arrogance, not confidence. Instead, really think about why the college is a great fit for you and explain that as best you can.
  - \* Meet with your counselor to review all other options. Remember that there are several good schools for you.
- ♦ **A word to parents: Resist the temptation to contact the admission staff directly which can reflect negatively on the student. Any communication should be between the student and the college.**
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## **PSAT Scores**

The College Board has informed us that on or around **December 12th**, they will be alerting students via e-mail that their PSAT scores are available to be viewed on the collegeboard.com website. Students should please stop by the Counseling Office beginning **Thursday, December 7th** to pick up their individualized student access code which they will need to view their scores. For more information on how to access PSAT scores, please see the links below.

### **Accessing PSAT scores:**

<https://youtu.be/1I6f51n3-dc>

### **Understanding PSAT scores:**

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-nmsqt-understanding-scores.pdf>

## **Upcoming SAT and ACT test dates**

<b><u>SAT Test date</u></b>	<b><u>Registration deadline</u></b>
March 10th	February 9th
May 5th	April 6th
June 2nd	May 3rd

<u>ACT Test date</u>	<u>Registration deadline</u>
February 10th (not in NY)	January 12th
April 14th	March 9th
June 9th	May 4th

### All Students / Academic Clinics

The Academic Clinics are available throughout the school day for all students to drop in and receive extra help from teachers. Please visit the link below for the time and location of the Academic Clinics:

<http://www.ccsd.ws/files/filesystem/1st%20semester%20clinics%20-%20ver%204.pdf>

**The Counseling Department  
wishes our students and families a happy and healthy holiday season!**

