



*Evangelical Christian
School*

Junior Family & Student
College Guidance Meeting

What Should You Expect?

As Guidance Counselor, I will:

- Work on schedules and academic choices
- Make sure students meet academic requirements for graduation
- Organize opportunities to meet college representatives
- Make students aware of scholarship opportunities
- Guide students in college and career choices
- Send transcripts to prospective colleges
- Work alongside and pray for parents and students

What Should You Expect?

As the Parent of a Junior, you will:

- Discuss college options with your student
- Decide what parameters are appropriate for your family
- Discuss major and career expectations
- Visit prospective colleges and universities
- Help your student apply to colleges and universities next year

What Should You Expect?

As a Junior, you will:

- Think about what kinds of colleges interest you
- Consider what you want to do professionally
- Devise a list of colleges over the summer
- Take the ACT, SAT and/or CLT
- Make sure you are receiving the best grades possible!

To Do!

- Choosing a college is one of the biggest decisions that one can make.
 - Pray about it!
- Have open dialogue with your student.
- Encourage your student to take the initiative in the process.
- I'll do my part, you do your part, and we'll stand back and watch your student grow.

The SAT, ACT & CLT

- SAT, ACT and CLT are very different tests.
 - SAT = Verbal & Math (1600)
 - ACT = Verbal, Math, Science, and Writing (36)
 - CLT = Verbal Reasoning, Grammar/Writing, Quantitative Reasoning (120)
- Visit www.collegeboard.com, www.actstudent.org and cltexam.com to register. If taking SAT/ACT at ECS during the school day, follow the Testing Coordinator's directions.
- ECS school code is 100512.
- When registering, add a PUBLIC Florida University in order for Florida Bright Futures to have access to student scores.

Transcripts

- Transcripts are the official record of high school coursework.
- Included on the transcript:
 - Demographic information
 - All High School courses taken with semester grades
 - Cumulative GPA (weighted and unweighted)
 - Community Service Hours
 - Achievements
 - SAT, ACT and CLT scores are NOT reflected on your ECS transcript. You are responsible for sending your scores to the colleges and universities that require them.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

- The GPA will be recalculated by each college. Each college is different in how they do this.
- Most colleges will only take the following academic courses: English, Math, Science, History, and Foreign Language.
- Weighted GPA means Honors, AP and DE weights are included. (0.5 for Honors, 1 for AP and DE)
- Unweighted GPA means Honors, AP and DE weights are not included. (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1)

Community Service

- ECS requires 10 hours per quarter = 40 hours per high school year
- Try to work in an area in which you think you may be interested.
- Use the summer wisely!
- Ideas for Service Hours:
 - Church Ministries
 - Animal Refuge Center (ARC)
 - Cape Coral Animal Shelter
 - Kiwanis Thrift Stores (16 and up)
 - Gulf Coast Humane Society
 - Local hospitals
 - Hope Hospice (14 and up)
 - Mentor Students
 - Little League or teams for younger children
 - USA South Little Spikers Program - volleyball club
 - VBS over the summer
 - Community Cooperative
 - Harry Chapin Food Bank
 - Alliance for the Arts Summer Camps

Extracurricular Activities

- Remember, you are building a high school resume!
- Colleges are looking for more than good grades. They want well-rounded students.
- Take on any leadership positions for which you are suited. Examples:
 - Church
 - Employment
 - Missions trips
 - Student Senate
 - National Honor Society
 - Sentinel Scholar
 - Fine Arts
 - Athletics
 - School Clubs
 - Volunteer Work

Florida Bright Futures

Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)

- Public institution - award recipients will receive 100% tuition and applicable fees
- Private institution - fixed award amount based on the agreement the institution has with the state
- Some Christian schools honor the Florida Academic Scholarship

Florida Bright Futures

FAS Requirements:

- Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA):
 - **3.5** based on the following courses:
 - 4 English, 4 Math, 3 Natural Sciences, 3 Social Sciences, 2 Foreign Languages or 16 credits
 - SAT score of **1340** (Verbal and Math)
 - ACT score of **29**
 - CLT score of **96**
 - Community Service:
 - 100 hours

Florida Bright Futures

Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS)

- Public institution - award recipients will receive a scholarship that covers 75% of the tuition fees and applicable fees.
- Private institution - fixed award amount based on the agreement the institution has with the state.
- Some Christian schools honor the Florida Medallion Scholarship.

Florida Bright Futures

FMS Requirements:

- Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA):
 - **3.0** based on the following courses:
 - 4 English, 4 Math, 3 Natural Sciences, 3 Social Sciences, 2 Foreign Languages
 - SAT score of **1210** (Verbal and Math)
 - ACT score of **25**
 - CLT score of **84**
 - Community Service:
 - 75 hours

Florida Bright Futures

- To receive Florida Bright Futures, you must fill out the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) during your Senior year at:
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org
- The FFAA application opens on November 1st of your Senior year. You must complete it by August 31st of the year you graduate from ECS.
- Completing this application releases transcripts and ACT, SAT and CLT test scores to FBF.
- The ECS College Counselor will put in all of your classes, grades and service hours in the FBF system.
- It is **your** responsibility to make sure you have met the requirements (test scores, GPA, service hours).
- FBF will notify the college you choose and the money will be applied.

Financial Information for College

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Parents must be complete and submit their FAFSA starting December 1st of your Senior year.
- No scholarships will be given to your student until the FAFSA application is completed!
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- The government determines your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC).
- If you do not think you will qualify, still fill it out!

Financial Information for College

- Where to look?
- Scholarship Search Sites
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.bold.org
 - www.floridashines.org/financial-aid
 - www.goingmerry.com
 - www.mos.com/scholarship
 - www.myscholly.com
 - www.nhs.us/scholarship
 - www.scholarshipowl.com
 - www.scholarshipsearch.com
- Civic organizations
- It is the parent's and student's responsibility to apply for scholarships

Helpful Tips

- Be really careful about the types of pictures and content you choose for your social media. College representatives search social media sites for prospective students. Make sure you truly represent who you are and what you're about on social media sites.
- Choose a college based on what you want in the future, not on the cool mascot, cool colors or where your friends are going.

Dates to Remember

- October 5: Homecoming Banquet
- October 10: PSAT/NMSQT in school
- October 15: First Quarter Ends
- October 24: ACT in school
- December 20: First Semester Ends
- January 7: Start of Second Semester
- January (TBD): Scoir PrinciplesYou Testing
- March 14: Third Quarter Ends
- March 17-21: Spring Break
- March 27: SAT in school
- June 4: Last day of school

Helpful Websites

- Information on SAT:
www.collegeboard.com
- Information on ACT
www.act.org
- Information on CLT
www.cltexam.com
- College Athletics:
www.naia.org
- National Collegiate Athletic Association:
www.ncaa.org

Helpful Websites

- College and career news:
scoir.com
- Information regarding various majors:
www.mymajors.com
- Federal Student Aid on the web:
www.studentaid.ed.gov
- US Department of Education:
www.ed.gov

You've got this!

We are praying for each and every one of you!

If you have any questions, please contact:

- *Mrs. Samantha Heredia, College Counselor*

sheredia@goecs.org

(239) 936-3319 ext. 1522

- *Ms. Sarah Collum, School Counselor*

scollum@goecs.org

(239) 936-3319 ext. 1209