

School Counselors

- Mr. Tom Overberger (A-G)
- Mr. Dan Barber (H-O)
- Mr. Tyrone Neal (P-Z)
- Mrs. Anne Grant all students with an IEP



All seniors should be actively finalizing after school plans. Whether deciding on a college, enlisting in the military or applying for a job, now is the time.

- For students seeking employment, websites like <https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/> and <https://www.pacareerzone.org/> are great resources for finding jobs. Also, a program like <https://www.montcopa.org/1349/Youth-and-Young-Adults> can be valuable for some graduates.
- With a job search, students should consider employment that offers full time hours, benefits, opportunities for advancement, or training/certificate/education opportunities. Students should be prepared to provide a resume and understand the interview process. See your counselor if you have any questions regarding these areas.
- If you are applying to MCCC, do not wait until the last minute. In order to register for classes, students must first apply and then take placement tests in Math and English.
- Any student considering the military should be in contact with the appropriate recruiter from their desired branch. **REMINDER TO ALL MALE STUDENTS:** Once you turn 18 years of age, you must register for selective services.
- Undecided on which college you will be attending? Use the following pages of the newsletter to assist with your decision.
- Regardless of your post secondary choice, there are many amazing opportunities. It is imperative that you put in the necessary time and effort to research these opportunities and make the best decision for you. And with every opportunity, you need to put in the hard work and commitment to make it successful.
- Best wishes to all seniors as they pursue an exciting future.

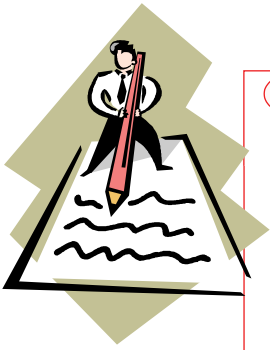
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How do you choose a school between all schools you were accepted?

- ◇ The most important overall factor is to be confident in your decision!
- ◇ Complete a compare chart with pros/cons for each school (College Compare Chart available later in this newsletter!)
- ◇ Explore the curriculum of your major a little further –can you meet all requirements in 4 years? Does their focus match what you are looking for?
- ◇ Review all your checklist of everything you want in a college –Have your wants changed after gaining more knowledge and making visits? Does the school still have everything that you now want in a college?
- ◇ Explore other majors at each college –do they have other majors that would interest you? Most college students change their major at least 1 time during their college career, so if you decide to change majors, will your school be able to offer something your are interested in? It is easier to change majors than colleges.
- ◇ What are the living arrangements for each school? Requirements for living on campus for a certain amount of time? What are the off campus living options?
- ◇ Revisit the campus –Is it the same as you remember? Has anything changed with what you think? If the school is very far and you are unable to visit, utilize virtual tours available through Naviance, school website or collegeweeklive.com.
- ◇ Trust your instincts with not only with your final decision, but your instinct or “gut” feeling when on campus.



How do you choose a school between all schools you were accepted? (continued)

- ◇ Attend “accepted student days” –you are not committed to the college by attending and will get a great feel for the campus and type of student that you will be with over the next 4 years if you decide to attend –Do you see yourself interacting with the type of student on this college for the next 4-6 years? How will you fit in? What impact will you have on the campus?
- ◇ Compare scholarships and financial aid packages from each school –What is the total out-of-pocket expense for each school? – How much will you owe upon graduation?
- ◇ College is all about your personal success and growth. Will this college support your success and growth based on your learning style, strengths, weaknesses? Will you be able to graduate in this environment in 4 years? 5 years?
- ◇ Make your decision based on what is best for you, not what your siblings, friends, have done or where they are going . What is best for them may not be best for you and vice versa.
- ◇ Remember, you can always decline a school even after you sent in a deposit...however, you will lose your deposit.
- ◇ Like above, you can always transfer if you do not like the school you selected, but hopefully by going through this list and conducting the appropriate research, you will select the best “fit” for you, supporting your success.
- ◇ Contact schools that you will not be attending, informing them that you will not be attending will allow another student a possible opportunity.
- ◇ National Candidate Reply Day is May 1. To guaranteed attendance, students must inform colleges by May 1 that they will be attending.

College Compare Chart

	College 1	College 2	College 3	College 4
Academic programs				
Academic Support / Tutorial Supports				
Campus atmosphere				
Campus Safety				
Campus size				
Class Size				
Clubs				
Distance				
Employment Opportunities				
Extracurricular activities				
Financial aid				
Freshman programs				
Freshman retention rate				
Graduation rate				
Honors program				
How do I fit in with the student body?				
Internship opportunities				
Location				
Major				
Meal plan				
Professors				
Religious affiliation				
Research opportunities				
Study Abroad				
Surrounding Area				
Total cost				
Transportation				
Type of Students				
% of students on campus on weekends				
Weekend activities				

College Planning Time Line

Senior Year

March/April/May

- Notify guidance with your college decisions (accepted, denied, waitlisted) when received
- Compare financial aid packages from each school you were accepted
- Discuss with your parents your college choice
- Send in deposit to final choice college no later than May 1
- Finish your senior year strong!

June

Graduation!!!