WEBSITE:

Students and parents are encouraged to visit: http://www.bdhsmultimedia.org for all things Academic and College Planning. This website is packed with information and reminders that we hope you will find useful.

COLLEGE BOUND CARDINALS, CLASS OF 2019!

Mrs. Carpenter will work with seniors during Family Homeroom to provide updates on the college admissions process (i.e. transcript review, letters of recommendation, application reminders and financial aid). Please ask your student for updates shared in class.

Seniors applying to 4-year college this fall, please contact Mrs. Carpenter for a family meeting. Together, we will review your college list, tasks to be completed this fall and address any questions you may have. Please call 967-1266 ext. 119 or email lgonzalez@bishopdiego.org to schedule your family meeting.

Seniors considering enrolling at SBCC next year are to notify Mrs. Carpenter. Beginning in the spring semester, these students will be provided with monthly information sessions at Bishop, from SBCC counselors.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID FOR SENIORS

To help students and families with this process, four information sessions will take place at Bishop. The first is planned for September 20 at 6:30 pm. This training on the FAFSA is for parents only in the College and Career Center (adjacent to the Library). The second session is for students and their parents on October 3 from 5:00-8:00 pm in Room 202. Support in English and Spanish
will be available at this event where families will log into the FAFSA or Dream Act Application and get their questions answered in completing the forms. The third and fourth training sessions are for students only and will take place during the school day during September and October.

Seniors may begin their application for Federal and State financial aid through the FAFSA beginning October 1, at https://fafsa.ed.gov/ or for AB540 students at https://dream.csac.ca.gov/. Please direct any questions to Mrs. Carpenter.

To complete the FAFSA, parents will use data from their tax returns filed this year.

COLLEGE ADMISSION EXAMS (SAT/ACT)

We strongly encourage students to take both the SAT and ACT. Once scores are in, students should consider taking for the second time the SAT or ACT, depending on which test earned them a higher score. It is perfectly acceptable for seniors to take the October or November exams. And many schools will also take December scores. (We recommend juniors take the SAT/ACT in March, April, May or June of 11th grade.)

If paying for an SAT/ACT exam presents a financial hardship, please see Mrs. Carpenter, as financial assistance may be available for qualifying families.

The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) will be given to all 10th and 11th grade students on October 10. For 11th grade students, this is the year to aim for eligibility in the National Merit Scholarship program. That same day, 9th grade students will participate in Academic, Personal and Career exploration activities.

For students in grades 10-12...If you receive Resource Services, please contact Dr. June (jszabo@bishopdiego.org) with any questions regarding
applying for accommodations on the PSAT, SAT, ACT or AP Exams. These exams have separate applications, requirements, and deadlines. Contact Dr. June about the specific deadlines to request accommodations and to inquire about the availability of a proctor for a given exam date. Do not register for an exam prior to discussing both the accommodation and proctor requests with Dr. June.

**TEST PREP** - Seniors interested in taking the SAT or ACT in September, October, or November may wish to register for our **SAT/ACT Bootcamp**. The cost is $299.00 and will take place September 14-16. This bootcamp is an excellent option for seniors looking to boost their score before going into the fall semester exams. Juniors who think they have a chance to score in the top tier on the PSAT may also wish to consider our bootcamp in gearing up for the PSAT exam this October. Register at: [http://tutorsacrossamerica.com/actcourse/](http://tutorsacrossamerica.com/actcourse/). The deadline to sign up is September 7.

There is also a free SAT Prep Course being offered through Cal-SOAP. Qualified applicants must apply no later than September 21. Application forms are available in the College and Career Center. Qualifications include: High School Seniors who have taken the SAT exam, are first generation college bound, come from a family with limited income, have at least a 2.8 GPA and are on track for college admission. For more details, see Mrs. Carpenter.

**SAT/ACT EXAM DATES**
SAT Dates - [sat.org/register](http://sat.org/register)
- September 7 deadline to register for October 6 exam
- October 5 deadline to register for November 3 exam
ACT Dates - [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org)
- September 28 deadline to register for October 27 exam
TUTORING SUPPORT

Cal-SOAP provides tutors and mentors (from UCSB) for students at Bishop. Qualifying Bishop students are first-generation college-bound, come from a family with limited income and are working toward 4-year college eligibility. If interested in tutoring support, please contact Ms. Anderson for details.

AP COURSES

Students enrolled in classes that are called AP (Advanced Placement) are required to pay for the AP Exam no later than Friday, October 12. Students will be charged $120.00 for each AP exam they take, which covers the price of the exam, materials and administrative costs. Parents will receive a Bishop invoice with a due date of October 12 for these exams. Students who have not paid for AP exams by October 12, will have the AP course removed from their schedule. If you have any questions about this process, please contact rcarpenter@bishopdiego.org.

CSF/NHS APPLICATIONS

10th, 11th & 12th grade students: California Scholarship Federation (CSF) and National Honor Society (NHS) applications will be available starting September 4th. Applications will be available in the College and Career Center and online. You can apply for CSF if you earned at least a 3.5 GPA last semester (spring of 2018). The GPA required to apply for NHS is 3.75 (cumulative). September 14 at 3:30pm is the last day to turn in applications and fees to Ms. Gonzalez. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Please do not ask Ms. Gonzalez to print your grades for you. You can access and print this information from PCR. If you are having trouble with PCR, please contact Ms. Gonzalez for assistance.

COLLEGE VISITS
College admission counselors are already booking their visits to Bishop. These are the individuals who read college applications and make recommendations for admission. Therefore, it is critical that our students introduce themselves when college representatives are on campus, ask questions to help them better understand the schools, and make an overall positive impression. Parents are welcome to sit in on any of these presentations. Please note that the University of Southern California (USC) is visiting us soon! Parents and students are invited to attend these presentations.

University of Southern California (USC)
Tuesday, September 11
7:50am-8:20am
College and Career Center

Santa Clara University
Thursday, September 13
1:45pm – 2:15pm
College and Career Center

Linfield College
Monday, September 17
7:50am – 8:20am
College and Career Center

Whitworth University
Tuesday, September 18
12:53pm – 1:23pm
Quad at lunch

Whittier College
Wednesday, September 19
9:40am – 10:10am
College and Career Center

University of Miami
Thursday, September 20
7:50am – 8:20am
College and Career Center

Concordia University, Portland
Tuesday, September 25  
7:50am – 8:20am  
College and Career Center  

University of the Pacific  
Wednesday, September 26  
7:50am – 8:20am  
College and Career Center  

Other college presentations around California may be of interest to you. Here are a couple we wanted to bring to your attention. RSVP to these events directly with the colleges, but feel free to contact Mrs. Carpenter if interested in more information about a particular event. Please note that a few of these events are right in our backyard. Don’t miss out!

September 12 - Anaheim  
University of Chicago  

September 23 – UCLA from 1:00pm-3:30pm  
National Performing Arts College Fair  

September 24 from 6:00pm-8:00pm – Santa Barbara  
Christian College Fair – Main Gym, Bishop Garcia Diego HS  

September 30 - Pasadena  
MIT  

October 4 – Goleta at 7:00pm  
Duke, Georgetown, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania and Stanford University will present to parents and students about their institutions and admission practices  
RSVP at: exploringcollegeoptions.org  

October 11 - Los Angeles  
Harvard, Princeton, UVA, Wellesley and Yale  
www.hpuwy.com  

November 1 – Santa Barbara  
National College Fair at Santa Barbara High School from 6:00pm-8:00pm
Students interested in visiting colleges on their own are encouraged to set up an official tour. It is easy to do...go to the college webpage, click on Admissions and then Visit. There, you will be given details on how to sign up. If you have questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Carpenter.

Rya Carpenter
Director of Counseling and Student Services
College Counselor
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