

AVID April / May Newsletter

Upcoming Dates to Know

May 18th: Early release

May 21st-23rd: Final exams

August 13th: First day of 2018-19 school year!

August 25th: Annual AVID picnic

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Second semester flew by very quickly, and it is hard to believe we are coming toward the end of the 2017-18 school year. All of the AVID classes were busy the past few months traveling to colleges in and out of the state. The Junior AVID students went on the annual overnight trip to visit school in Indiana. Not only did they get to visit three different universities, but they also experienced downtown Indianapolis. The freshmen class visited Depaul University and out sophomores traveled to Milwaukee to tour Marquette. We encourage our AVID families to continue visiting local colleges during the summer months. It is particularly important to Juniors to visit any college they plan on applying to next year. Our AVID students are gearing up to finish the year strong by preparing for their final projects and exams. The 8 period day was a transition for everyone this year, but overall we are very proud of how our students stepped up to the challenge of managing a larger course load. On May 1st, we honored the accomplishments of the graduating seniors with a Senior celebration dinner. AVID seniors invited a teacher who made an impact on their education at Mundelein to join them in celebrating with their families. Ruben Camargo and Janet Salgado were awarded the growth mindset award, Kayla Gonzalez and Andrea Amador received the Academic Excellent award, and Evan Salazar and Kayla Gonzalez received the Leadership Award. These awards were picked by the senior class teachers and recognize the AVID students who went above and beyond during their high school career. Students were also presented with their AVID stolls to be worn at graduation. It was an amazing event to commemorate the hard work and dedication of our 2018 graduating seniors.



Schools Out! How Do We Make the Most of Summer?



Summer is a great time for your student to relax and destress from the rigor of homework, tests, and projects, but it is also important they utilize their free time to work toward accomplishing their college goals. Here is a list of a few things student's and their families can do over the summer:

1. Visit colleges and universities: With so many colleges and universities within 3 hours, summer is the opportune time to take a family visit to explore their campuses. All colleges welcome visitors over the summer, and families can arrange a tour by calling the admissions office.
2. Volunteer or work: Students can start to save money for their college expenses by getting a job over the summer, or they can volunteer with organizations that fit with their career interests.
3. Attend a summer workshop or program: Lots of colleges provide free or low cost summer programs to help students be prepared for college or dive deeper into their chosen career fields.
4. Work on SAT/ACT prep: summer is a great time to work on test prep because students have no other homework or assignments to balance. Free test prep is available through khanacademy.org.
5. Talk about future plans: sit down as a family and discuss where your student is at in the college process, their four year high school plan, ideas for schools, and finances. It might seem like college is far away, but it will be here before you know it!

WHEN MAKING VACATION PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR, PLEASE MAKE SURE NOT TO LEAVE EARLY OR COME BACK LATE FOR WINTER OR SPRING BREAK. EVERY DAY OF MISSED CLASS LEADS TO A HIGHER PROBABILITY OF STUDENT FAILURES. IT IS HARD TO STAY ON TRACK WHEN ABSENT.

College Corner: The Common App

- **What is it?** The Common Application (informally known as the Common App) is an undergraduate college admission application that students may use to apply to any of more than 700 member colleges and universities in 49 states and the District of Columbia, as well as in Canada, China, and many European countries. Member colleges and universities that accept the Common App are made up of over 100 public universities, 10 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and over 250 institutions that do not require an application fee.
- **How does The Common Application work?** Colleges request a large amount of information from applicants, and we simplify the process by collecting much of that information all in one place. This prevents students from repeating the details of their background, education, activities, and testing over and over again, for every school on their list. It also enables students to stay on top of deadlines and manage school-specific tasks – without leaving our system.

Interested in learning more about the Common Application? Visit their website at <http://www.commonapp.org/>

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