

# Guide to the Secondary School Process

*2018–2019*

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## 2018 – 2019 Secondary School Counseling Calendar

Please follow the instructions that coincide with each date to ensure your son the most productive secondary school process possible.

### Late April-May

Complete and return the Secondary School Counseling Team questionnaire. Your responses to this questionnaire are very valuable as we compile a list of suggested schools for your son. This list will be sent over the summer months and serves as a starting point for the search process.

Initial meetings with your son's secondary school counselor. These meetings will focus on examining your son's academic performance through the year(s), analysis of the April SSAT score report, discussing interests outside of class, and providing advice on areas for growth in the community and over the summer.

Introduction to the Test Innovators SSAT preparation program.

### June–August

**A list of suggested schools is emailed to you in early June.** Begin researching these and any other schools in which you may be interested by viewing school websites. Keep in mind that our list of suggested schools will reflect your son's current level of performance and may have to be adjusted in the fall depending upon his progress.

This period of time is best spent educating yourself about the numerous secondary schools in North America, their programs, and features of particular interest for you and your son. Once you have looked at information from the schools, decide which ones you wish to visit, complete the online inquiry forms, and then make appointments to interview at these schools during Cardigan's long weekend in the fall.

Begin working on the Test Innovators SSAT preparation program.

### Early September

All interview appointments should be made for the week of October 22 – 26, 2018. October is the busiest interview month for schools. It is far better to schedule an interview and cancel later than not to schedule one. As mentioned above, many schools require an inquiry form to be completed prior to scheduling interviews. These inquiry forms are available on each school's website and should be completed by parents.

### September

During the opening weekend of school there will be a “secondary school meeting” for ninth-grade parents and students.

Students should utilize their free time to continue to prepare for the SSAT with the Test Innovators program.

### October

SSAT practice test – More information will be provided on the Plan of the Week. Students must sign up to participate. *Date to be determined based on K. Langetieg's weekend duty schedule.*

- October 13** Ninth-grade SSAT—Your son will be automatically registered for this test. Students will be excused from classes that morning.
- October 20–21** Parents’ Weekend – Meetings with secondary school counselors will be scheduled for ninth-grade parents. There will also be a forum on secondary school interviews and tours.
- October 22–26** Fall Term Long Weekend: SCHOOL INTERVIEWS! Students are free to depart on Saturday, October 22, after their final commitment. Arrange interviews for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (October 22–26). Boys are due back at Cardigan for athletics on Friday, October 26. If you need extra days, Columbus Day (no classes at Cardigan on October 8) works well, and the days that immediately follow Thanksgiving vacation (November 26–29) may be used upon approval by the Student Life Office.
- After Interviews** “Thank you” notes (handwritten preferred): Nothing elaborate or lengthy, but they should be done in a timely fashion. In the hotel, the evening after the visit, is a good time to take care of them.
- November** After school visits, most boys reduce their list to eight or fewer schools (*international families will reduce their lists to 10–12 schools*). Given how busy our students are on campus, we encourage them to complete *drafts* of their applications at home over the Thanksgiving vacation and *finalize* their applications at home during the December vacation. We are more than happy to help your son with his applications once a draft is complete. To simplify the process, we require students to use an online common application offered by SSAT (Standard Application Online, or “SAO”), which is preferred, or Gateway to Prep Schools.
- November** SSAT practice test – More information will be provided on the Plan of the Week. Students must sign up to participate. *Date to be determined based on K. Langetieg’s weekend duty schedule.*
- November 10** Ninth-grade SSAT—Your son will be automatically registered for this test. Students will be excused from classes that morning.
- December 8** Ninth-grade SSAT—Optional testing date for ninth graders. Students taking the test will be excused from classes that morning. **If you do not want your son to take the December test, please notify Kristin LeRoy; all other students will be registered for this test.**
- January 10** Cardigan school-supported materials submitted to schools by the Secondary School Counseling Team. These materials include transcripts, SSAT scores, and a graded writing

sample (if required), as well as letters of recommendation both from teachers and from the head of school/director of secondary school counseling.

**January 15**

Deadlines for most applications. Please check deadlines carefully. Late applications are often looked at secondarily and may result in waitlist decisions, at best.

Deadlines for financial aid forms vary from school to school—make sure the online forms are completed on time. Remember to request that a copy of the report be sent to *you* as well as to the schools so you can see what financial aid officers are looking at as they calculate your need. More information can be found at <http://sss.nais.org/>

**March 10**

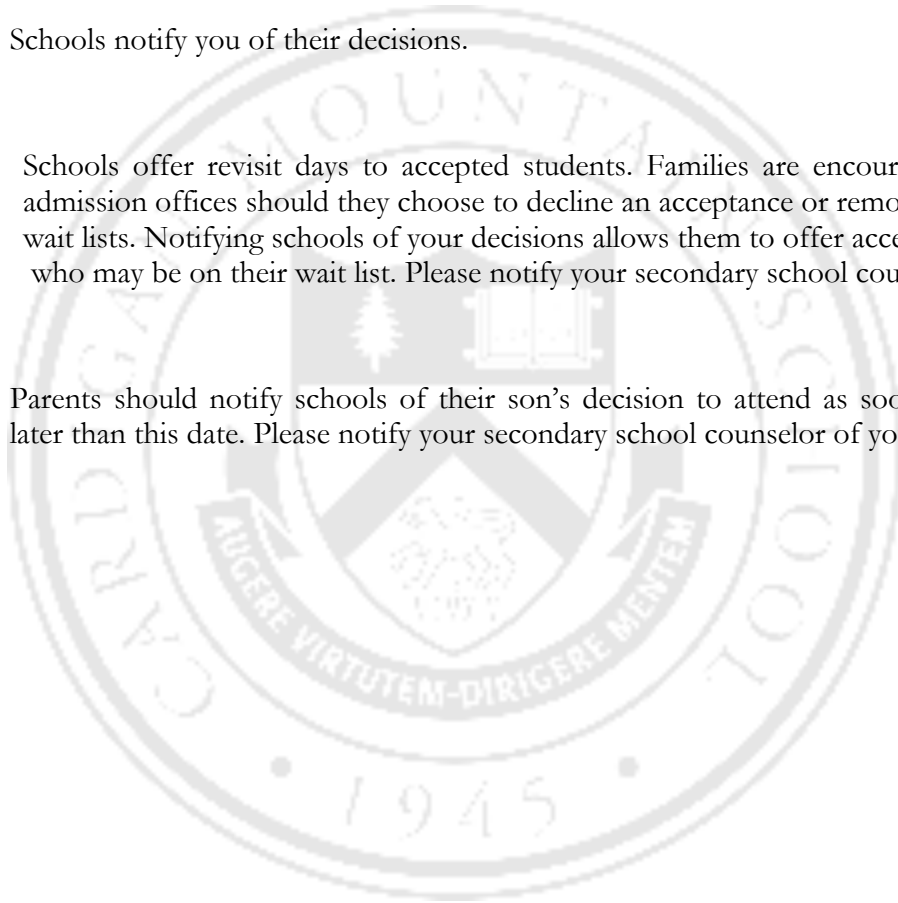
Schools notify you of their decisions.

**Late March -  
Early April**

Schools offer revisit days to accepted students. Families are encouraged to notify school admission offices should they choose to decline an acceptance or remove their son from the wait lists. Notifying schools of your decisions allows them to offer acceptances to students who may be on their wait list. Please notify your secondary school counselor of results.

**April 10**

Parents should notify schools of their son's decision to attend as soon as possible, but no later than this date. Please notify your secondary school counselor of your decision.



## School Visits and Interviews

There is no advantage to interviewing early in the season, and letting the school year get well underway will give your son more experiences to talk about and better questions to ask. In fact, your sons' Leadership teachers, PEAKS coaches, and secondary school advisor all work hard to thoughtfully provide preparation for interviews. Furthermore, the secondary school fairs and guest speakers will also provide valuable insight for these efforts.

### Absences due to School Visits and Interviews:

The School realizes the importance of allowing opportunities for ninth-grade boys and their families to visit secondary schools during the fall and winter. At the same time, Cardigan ninth-graders are engaged in rigorous courses of study, in addition to myriad other on-campus responsibilities for which missing time is prohibitive. Thus, the School approves the following times for ninth-grade boys to visit secondary schools during the fall and winter terms. Students are accountable for all academic work missed during secondary school visits.

**October 8:** Columbus Day – *Founders' Day Sandwich Fair Trip*

**October 22-27:** Fall Family Weekend Break – *9<sup>th</sup> graders must return by athletics on Friday.*

**November 26-29:** Post-Thanksgiving Break – *By request only*

**Any other days missed beyond the above for secondary school visits will be considered unexcused absences.** Your son is entitled to five unexcused absences per academic year.

### Absences due to Spring Revisit Days:

In regard to revisits in the spring, ninth-grade boys may miss a **maximum of two school days** to revisit secondary schools if a revisit is necessary for the boy's decision process. **Any other days missed beyond the above for secondary school visits will be considered unexcused absences.**

### Procedure for Scheduling School Visits & Revisits:

**Your son's secondary school counselor will be your initial contact point for all scheduled visits to secondary schools.** Please be sure to inform his specific counselor of when and where you plan to make your visits. We will be responsible for passing this information along to the Student Life Office, and we can also provide potentially valuable insight on how to plan visits more efficiently if help is needed.

Any time you plan to take your son off-campus for a school visit, you must submit the Planned Absence form. This online form can be found on the CMS website under Parent Resources.

Additionally, your son is responsible for informing his teachers and coaches in advance about upcoming absences and for obtaining assignments he will miss. It is extremely important for your son to stay on top of his schoolwork during this time, as fall and winter term grades play a very significant role in admissions decisions.

## How to Prepare for School Visits and Interviews:

Many schools require an online inquiry form to be completed prior to scheduling school visits and interviews. These forms are often on the admission pages of school websites and should be completed by parents and students together.

First impressions are extremely important in the admissions process, for the school as well as for the applicant and his parents. From each school's point of view, the tour guide and interviewer's job is to get to know the applicant. This means the applicant should be prepared to talk about himself, his interests, his Cardigan experience, his academic successes, his talents, and summer activities. He should relax and be himself. The applicant should also show a vested interest in the school where he is interviewing via thoughtful, school-specific questions and the ability to appropriately elaborate on topics regarding the community. This requires some degree of research prior to the visit.

Keep in mind that tour guides and admission office receptionists often provide feedback to the admission office, so polite and courteous behavior during the tour is wise. The following suggestions are intended to be helpful to our boys, especially as they approach their first interview.

- Study the school website prior to the interview so that you can ask intelligent questions that reflect your interest in the school.
- Be neat and well groomed. A suit is too much for an applicant. Instead, a blazer, a tie, khakis, a belt and dress shoes are always acceptable interview dress, even if the school has a more casual dress code. (If your son plans to wear his Cardigan blazer, please make sure he removes all but the most important pins.)
- Look through the school's materials in the admission office (yearbooks, course catalog, school newspaper, etc.).
- Give a firm handshake.
- Try to remember the name of the interviewer and address him/her by the proper name (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Miss \_\_\_\_\_).
- "Yes, sir" and "No, sir" are more impressive than "Yeah" and "Nope"!

Show your interviewer that you are interested and involved in this process by giving him/her direct eye contact and being an attentive listener.

- While bearing in mind all of the above, please remember that they want to get to know you. Be yourself!
- Smile and be enthusiastic!

## After the School Visit and Interview

Write a short thank you note to the interviewer, student tour guide, and any other adults with whom you met (coaches, etc.). An email will suffice, but a handwritten card has been referred to by a number of directors of admission as a “lost art that is still really appreciated.”

Please do take into consideration your “gut reaction” to the school and how it “feels.” Often, that initial feeling about the overall warmth of a campus or the fact that students were very helpful to you in finding the admissions office, for example, are a good way to judge how happy you might be with a school. Take the time to summarize your feelings about a school orally and in writing, considering responses to your questions as well as the following.

- Academic appropriateness of the school for this student.
- Interview procedures.
- Extent of the facilities and grounds and their general state of repair and cleanliness.
- Friendliness, spirit, and enthusiasm of the students (and faculty) for the school.
- The general level of involvement of the faculty in the daily life of the students.
- The overall “fit” of the school and how much of a “fit” it would be for the applicant.

## A Word of Caution on School Visits and Interviews

Some families allow themselves to be falsely encouraged or discouraged by how they think the interview “went”, by what the admission officer of a school said or did, or the feedback of a coach with whom they met, or by the personality of their student tour guide. Some interviewers are naturally more enthusiastic than others, and some follow up with closing comments or thank-you letters while others do not. **Please remember that admission decisions are not made until March, by whole admissions committees, and are based on many factors including the applicant’s academic performance, teacher recommendations, test scores, extracurricular activities, and the personal interview.**

## Common Questions Asked by an Admissions Officer

Below are questions that sometimes are asked by interviewers. This is a good time to consider answers to such questions. Remember the popular saying, “Show, don’t tell.” Have examples and brief stories ready.

- Why do you want to come to this school?
- What goals do you have in life?
- What hobbies and interests do you have at (and outside of) school?
- In what sports, clubs, and activities do you participate at school? **(This answer should not relate to academics!)**

- What is your favorite class, and why? Most difficult?
- What book have you most enjoyed reading in the last year?
- What have you done to help your present school? What are some ways you plan to help in the future?
- What have you enjoyed most about CMS? What would you change?
- Have you been in a leadership position? What have been the biggest challenges? **(There are more ways to lead than simply have a leadership title! You all lead in some manner or another!)**
- Tell me about your family.
- How would your best friend describe you?
- How do you spend your summers? **(“Studying” is not a sufficient answer. Be ready with something interesting.)**
- Use three adjectives to describe yourself.
- If you knew you were going to be stranded on an island for a month, what three things would you bring with you (besides food and water)?
- What are your strengths/weaknesses?

### Examples of Questions to Ask an Admissions Officer or Tour Guide

This is by no means intended to be a script to follow, but merely an idea of the sorts of questions you might wish to have answered. Be careful not to come on too strong, but do make sure that you are finding out all you need to know about a place where your son will be spending his secondary school years.

- What are the specific strengths of the school—academic and other—that distinguish it from other similar schools?
- How important are SSAT scores in determining the admissibility of a student? What factors are more important?
- What colleges and universities do the school’s top graduates generally attend? How about students from the middle and lower sections of the class?
- Are study hours mandatory? Where do students study? To what extent do faculty members supervise them?
- How does the school handle counseling? Does each boy have a faculty advisor? How are advisors chosen? Do advisors report regularly to parents?
- What type of contact is scheduled (from an advisor, dorm parents, or counselor)?



- Is the non-academic portion of the day fairly structured, or do the students have significant independence?
- What service commitments are required of the students, either on campus or in the local community?
- What sports commitments are required of the students? Are there other options provided or encouraged?
- What is the school's attitude toward providing weekend activities for the boarding population? What percentage of the student body is generally off-campus for any given weekend?
- If the school is church-affiliated, what is expected of the students in terms of religious participation?
- How is faculty supervision in the dormitory handled?
- What percentage of the student body is international? How many students from [your country] will be accepted?
- What are some fun or unique traditions at your school?
- What drew the interviewer to this school?

## Standardized Testing

### Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT)

The SSAT is an important component of an application, and it is essential that applicants take the test seriously. However, recognizing that anxiety about the test can hinder performance, it is important for parents not to overly emphasize the test or any “target score” for which a boy should be striving. Returning students have already taken the test, as it is administered in the spring of their eighth grade year.

**To prepare for the test, the School provides a variety of offerings:**

- Summer test preparation with Test Innovators’ personalized online SSAT practice, which includes:
  - six full-length tests (online or printable)
  - score reports
  - interactive diagnostics
- An optional Thursday SSAT preparation club that meets during the Thursday clubs period.
- SSAT practices tests on one Sunday in early October and one Sunday in early November

Kristin LeRoy, Cardigan’s SSAT Coordinator, is your contact point for any questions regarding testing accommodations. We have the capacity to offer extended (1.5) time on campus, but any greater needs must be tended to off-site.

## **The Character Skills Snapshot (CSS)**

The Character Skills Snapshot is a new online assessment, taken at home in approximately 20 minutes, that provides schools with a more holistic view of your child. It measures your child's character skill development and is meant to complement more traditional cognitive assessments, such as the SSAT. The Character Skills Snapshot gives admission teams richer holistic information and illuminates areas where their school can help your child grow, thrive, and shine. The Snapshot is meant to provide a snapshot in time of your child's view of his/her character skills - it is not a fixed, absolute measure.

## **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)**

Most schools require a TOEFL score for all international students for whom English is not their first language. Families will have to register their son for the TOEFL test themselves at [www.ets.org/toefl](http://www.ets.org/toefl). The School encourages students to take the TOEFL test during the summer after their eighth-grade year. If the student needs to take the test again, the School prefers that the student take it during a vacation. If there is no alternative, students may take the test while at Cardigan. **The family will need to clear this with the director of student life, as it will be an unexcused absence, and the student will need to notify his teachers of his absence.** Transportation can be arranged with our travel coordinator. Finally, parents will need to have official TOEFL score reports sent to all the schools to which their son is applying.

## **Financial Aid**

In recent years, secondary schools have reported a significant increase in requests for financial aid. Schools are working hard to meet this need by increasing the size of their financial aid budgets, yet each year, most schools do not have sufficient funds to offer awards to all financial aid applicants. At many schools, highly qualified applicants sometimes end up on a wait list or are admitted without financial aid because the school does not have the resources to meet all of the needs of the students they would like to admit.

As you begin to look at secondary schools, it is important to evaluate if you will need financial aid. As part of the application process, it might be wise to have a conversation with each admission office to determine the impact financial aid may or may not have on your application. It is also important to note that due to a smaller pool of applicants, junior boarding schools tend to be more generous when offering financial aid grants. Thus, many of our Cardigan families face a more selective financial aid qualification and grant process when applying to secondary schools.

## **Financial Aid Application Process**

To apply for financial aid, all schools require the School and Student Services (SSS) application and forms from NAIS ([www.sss.nais.org](http://www.sss.nais.org)). The SSS forms may take several weeks to process, so please plan ahead and allow ample time for paperwork to arrive at schools by the required deadlines. It is suggested that you complete the SSS paperwork in early December to allow for an adequate processing time.

## Financial Aid Decisions

Schools consider the SSS information when determining financial aid awards. Each school reviews SSS and other data to arrive at its own determination of a family's ability to pay. The school then considers the amount of its financial aid funds available for the upcoming year. At nearly all secondary schools, the need for financial aid exceeds the available funds, and schools cannot support each and every request for need. In this case, an applicant may be placed on a financial aid waitlist or be admitted without aid. In general, schools do not base grants on academic, athletic, or similar "achievements" criteria.

## Your Son's Application

Cardigan guides each family through the application process and submits much of each applicant's materials. However, there are several pieces of an applicant's file that must be completed and submitted by the family and applicant. Below is more information on each piece of the file and who is responsible for its completion and submission:

### Application Portals:

**The Standard Application Online (SAO)** is our preferred common application portal, and we require our applicants to use it if it is an option for a school. ***This resource is also directly connected to your son's SSAT account.*** (<http://www.ssat.org>)

**Gateway to Prep Schools** is the other primary common application portal. There are roughly a dozen founding schools that exclusively use Gateway for applications. While this is a centralized resource for applications, it requires for more of the applicant than SAO. (<https://www.gatewaytoprepschools.com>).

### *By Students and Their Families —*

The Secondary School Counseling Team oversees large portions of your son's applications, but there are some specific areas for which you will be responsible.

#### **Application Responsibilities:**

**Candidate Profile / Biography:** This should be completed together. Be thorough in your son's interests and achievements, but do not "over do it" by exaggerating accomplishments or listing achievements that are not pertinent to his application. **Make sure this portion is complete before paying for any applications.**

**Parent Statement / Questionnaire:** Boarding schools have become increasingly interested in the parents' perspective on their children. These are often comprised of questions about your son's learning style, strengths/weaknesses, and character, not to mention aspects of your son's education that you prioritize.

**Short Answers / Essays:** Applicants have a variety of short answer and essay questions to complete.

**School-specific Supplements:** Many schools include an additional component that could range from a short selection of checkboxes to in depth essays. Please be sure to check each application carefully to determine whether or not a school might have a supplement.

**Application Fee:** Parents must also provide payment of the application fee. Late or absent payments will delay the application process. International students often have to pay higher application fees to cover the cost of international communication.

**It is strongly recommended that application work be saved for the Thanksgiving and December vacations. This will give you and your sons enough time to thoroughly review all application materials at Thanksgiving and begin working on specific requirements, but it will also leave time to ask your secondary school counselor any pressing questions upon return from the first vacation.**

**We strongly encourage parents to play an active role in supervising the student's completion of the application materials, and we ask that an effort be made to complete all of your requirements by the time your son returns to Cardigan in January.**

### ***By Cardigan—***

The Secondary School Counseling Team submits the school-supported portion of applications through SAO and Gateway. The following materials are provided by The School:

- ***Academic Transcript***—Includes ninth grade fall term grades, marks from previous year(s) at Cardigan. **(Required transcripts: 2016-2017, 2017-2018 & 2018 Fall term)**
- ***SSAT Scores***—Each applicant's score is reviewed by the Secondary School Counseling Team, and his best score is typically is sent to each school. The full score report, for the applicant's best overall test, is sent to each school via the SSAT website. **It is important to note that SSAT does not offer "super scoring."** For example, an applicant cannot select a verbal score from one test and a quantitative score from another test, to achieve his best overall score. If a school is willing to do their own "super score," that will be taken into account accordingly.
- ***Teacher Recommendations***—Cardigan utilizes a standard recommendation form, which means that you do not have to worry about math, English, or personal forms for any specific school. If a school requires specific additional forms (e.g., foreign language, science), please notify your son's secondary school counselor so that the appropriate Cardigan teacher can complete the form, and it can be included in your son's placement materials. **Specific instructions will be provided for requesting recommendations on the application portals in November.**

Given the importance of these recommendations, it is essential that your son work to display both superior attitude and performance in all classes as soon as he returns to campus in the fall of his ninth grade year.

- ***Graded Essay***—Many schools require a graded essay from a ninth grade English or history class. The director of secondary school counseling will work with your son and his English or history teacher to select an appropriate piece of work and include this in your son's application materials.
- ***Head of School/Counselor Letter***—A letter co-written by Head of School Chris Day and Director of Secondary School Counseling Kris Langetieg that summarizes your son's achievements, activities, and general performance while at Cardigan.

## The Following Schools utilize SAO, Gateway, or both resources:

<b>SSAT Standard Application Online (SAO)</b>		<b>Gateway to Prep Schools</b>
<i>This is a selection of schools to which Cardigan graduates have historically applied—the complete list of schools accepting the SAO can be found at <a href="http://www.ssat.org/member-search">http://www.ssat.org/member-search</a></i>		
Avon Old Farms Baylor School Berkshire School* Berwick Academy Bishop’s College School Blair Academy* Blue Ridge School Bolles School Brewster Academy Brooks School* The Bullis School The Canterbury School Cate School* The Church Farm School Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School Cheshire Academy* Christchurch School Concord Academy* The Culver Academies Cushing Academy Darrow School Dexter School Dublin School* Dunn School Episcopal High School* Forman School Fountain Valley School of Colorado* George School Gould Academy* The Governor’s Academy* The Gunnery* Hawaii Preparatory Academy Hebron Academy The Hill School Holderness School The Hun School of Princeton Hyde Schools Kent School* Kents Hill School Kimball Union Academy* Lawrence Academy The Lawrenceville School	The Loomis Chaffee School* The Masters School (NY)* McCallie School Mercersburg Academy Millbrook School* Milton Academy* New Hampton School* North Country School Northfield Mount Hermon* Northwood School Peddie School Pingree School Pingry School Pomfret School* Portsmouth Abbey School Proctor Academy The Putney School Ridley College St. George’s School (RI)* St. Mark’s School* Salisbury School South Kent School Stanstead College Stevenson School Suffield Academy* Tabor Academy The Taft School The Thacher School* Tilton School Trinity-Pawling School Vermont Academy* Western Reserve Academy* Westminster School* The White Mountain School* Wilbraham & Monson Academy* The Williston Northampton School* The Winchendon School* Woodberry Forest School Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School	Berkshire School* Blair Academy* Brooks School* Cate School* Cheshire Academy* Choate Rosemary Hall* Concord Academy* Deerfield Academy Dublin School* Episcopal High School* Fountain Valley School of Colorado* The Governor’s Academy* Groton School Gould Academy* The Gunnery* The Hotchkiss School Kent School* Kimball Union Academy* The Loomis Chaffee School* The Madeira School The Masters School (NY)* Middlesex School Millbrook School* Milton Academy* New Hampton School* Northfield Mount Hermon* Phillips Academy Andover Phillips Exeter Academy Pomfret School* The Putney School* St. George’s School (RI)* St. Mark’s School* St. Paul’s School Suffield Academy* The Thacher School* Valley Forge Military Academy Vermont Academy* Walnut Hill School for the Arts Western Reserve Academy* Westminster School* The White Mountain School* Wilbraham & Monson Academy* The Williston Northampton School* The Winchendon School*

## School Decisions

All schools release their decisions on March 10. Schools will inform you of their decision in one of several ways: an email, a posting on-line, or through the mail with a letter. By checking the admission website for each of your schools, you should find notification dates and ways to access your decision, either electronically or by mail.

These notifications will inform you as to whether or not your son has been accepted, wait listed or denied admission at each school. If he was accepted and you applied for financial aid, you will also be informed of the financial aid award.

Below are a few recommendations regarding the decisions you may receive and next steps:

### ***If Accepted***

If you choose to accept an offer, you will need to sign the enrollment contract and return it with the deposit payment by April 10<sup>th</sup> (earlier for day schools and a handful of boarding schools).

**If you choose not to accept an offer, please let the school know as soon as possible!** A prompt call or email is certainly appreciated. When declining an offer, simply thank the admissions staff for their efforts and consideration of you and relay your decision. Add only as many honest reasons for your decision as you care to share, including none at all, if you prefer.

Look into revisit days, and decide if you and your son are going to attend. Cardigan's attendance policy states, "ninth-grade boys may miss a maximum of two school days to revisit secondary schools." Revisit days are part of the process and an important piece in deciding which school may be the best fit for your son next year. We suggest that you reflect on some of the schools' programs or features that are important to you as you prepare for your revisit days. For many reasons, schools almost never allow revisits by applicants on their waiting lists.

### ***If Wait Listed***

Your son is a strong candidate, and the school may accept him if a spot opens up. It is important to understand that in recent years, few wait list places have turned into acceptances at most schools. If one of your top-preference schools offers a place on the wait list, and you would likely accept an offer of admission if it were to come available later in the spring, convey your interest to the school and request to remain on the waiting list.

Only close to April 10, after schools evaluate their yield, a school may look to its waiting list applicants. Early efforts to "pressure" waiting list situations are usually not productive.

It is also imperative that you notify any school at which you elect to remove yourself from the waiting list.

For financial aid applicants, some schools may offer acceptance, yet place a candidate on the financial aid wait list. In this case, you have been accepted, yet funds are not available to be awarded at this time. Please let the school know whether or not you would like to remain on the financial aid wait list. If you choose to remain on the list, stay in close communication with the school and ask them what they perceive is the likelihood of funds becoming available. You should note that typically, funds from the wait list pool do not become available before the April 10 decision deadline.

## ***If Denied***

Remember that this is not a judgment on your son as a person. He has many great qualities but may not have ranked as highly in a very competitive applicant pool. It is never easy to face rejection, but unfortunately, it is part of the secondary school process. In addition to your support with helping your son to process rejection, advisors and teachers back on campus are ready to help your son grow from the experience and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. If you are denied admission at a school, no further action is required.

## **Contact Information**

### **Cardigan Mountain School**

62 Alumni Drive  
Canaan, New Hampshire 03741  
603.523.3500 • Fax: 603.523.7227  
www.cardigan.org

### **General Student Placement Information**

*Mr. Kristofor "Kris" Langetieg*  
603.523.3532  
klangetieg@cardigan.org

### **SSAT Preparation & Testing**

*Mrs. Kristin LeRoy* (contact for questions about the SSAT or test preparation via Test Innovators)  
kleroy@cardigan.org

### **Travel Plans**

*Ms. Erzi Willems* (arranging transportation, details of departure & return, etc.)  
603.523.3500  
ewillems@cardigan.org

## **Resources**

### **Standard Application Online (SAO)**

<https://ssat.org/sao>

### **Gateway to Prep Schools**

[https://gateway.applywithus.com/users/sign\\_in](https://gateway.applywithus.com/users/sign_in)

### **Financial Aid Forms—School & Student Service**

Help line 866.387.2601

<http://sss.nais.org/>

### **Test Innovators** (SSAT preparation program)

<https://ssatpracticetest.com>

### **The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS)**

<http://www.boardingschools.com>

### **Boarding School Review**

<https://www.boardingschoolreview.com>