

## **SUPPORT & GUIDANCE**

The Guidance Department continues to be available to students and parents by email 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday during the school closure. You may also contact Dr. D'Urso via his work cell (973) 224-5983.

## Student Support

Each week, guidance counselors are available to assist students with online learning and address any concerns or questions they may have. In addition, counselors may be in touch with individual students in order to facilitate organization of academic work, identify barriers to learning or completion of work, and offer support as needed. Teachers have been asked to report to Guidance those students who fail to meet academic responsibilities and school expectations so that the counselors may provide appropriate interventions.

## Parent Support

Visit "Helping our Parents" on the Virtual Delbarton dashboard for zoom links and recordings of prior zoom meetings.

## **College Counseling**

In lieu of the Sophomore Parent College Guidance program, the Guidance Department and Office of College Counseling are proud to offer the Delbarton School Guide to College Admissions. We hope that the Guide will provide an overview to our sophomores and their parents of what is to come in their remaining years at Delbarton, and ease any anxiety along the way. The Guide will walk you through the college admissions journey from fall of junior year through graduation and unpack essential information about standardized testing and test prep, summer experiences, and the college application process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Rosenhaus, Sean Flanagan, or Nick Linfante in the Office of College Counseling.

### **GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT: Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Will Delbarton finish with letter grades?

Yes. Pass/fail will not be an option. Year end course grades will be the average of the three end-term grades (each term counts for  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the final grade)..

#### Are the current courses expected to cover the same material as they would during a normal school year?

No. Instructors have amended their course expectations for what would be covered in class to account for the disruptions caused by the current health crisis and the limitations of online learning.

# If the current year's courses are abridged and less opportunity is available to master academic skills, will students be at a disadvantage in their classes next year?

We anticipate that the impact of the current circumstances on learning will be significant for students. As such, the faculty are prepared to make adjustments in their courses next year to address gaps in knowledge and bolster skills to ensure students arrive at the end of 2020-21 courses where they need to be in terms of academic content and skills.

#### Are spring sports canceled?

The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) has advised against the resumption of the 2020 spring sports season. Read the latest update from the NJSIAA <u>here</u>.

#### Will summer classes be offered online?

Due to health and safety concerns, Delbarton Summer Session will deliver instruction via online classes. You can visit www.delbartonsummer.com for course offerings and to register.

#### Should students proceed with SAT Subject Tests in August?

Students should consider taking SAT Subject Tests under certain conditions. It is imperative that students discuss this decision with the appropriate teacher to determine if they have mastered the material and to ensure that the class has covered all of the information on a given subject test. In certain cases, the student may need to learn or review additional topics outside the scope of their class.

#### Will Delbarton run standardized prep courses?

Each year juniors are invited to participate in free standardized test prep. Sessions typically run during the three week period prior to the School Day SAT and ACT administrations. Mrs. Gleason and Mr. Schochet continue to run SAT test prep sessions online. All juniors are welcome to join and should contact either teacher if they are interested. Additionally, organized test prep at the beginning of senior year is under consideration.

#### What additional resources are available for the AP exams?

College Board now offers live <u>AP online classes and review sessions</u> for free. These should be a supplement to the instruction and review provided in the AP courses. A full listing of which units will and will not be covered on each AP exam can be found here .

#### Will 11th grade English classes include a focus on the college application essays in late spring as planned?

#### Yes

#### How should students and parents use Naviance?

Naviance can be used by parents and students as the information about college is certainly pertinent to both. Typically, the most useful part of the program includes scattergrams for individual colleges. These graphs can help shed some light for prospective students on how their own academic profiles might compare with the last few years of Delbarton graduates. Although the college admissions process includes few certainties, the scattergrams may help students place colleges into their reach, target or safer categories.

#### When will data from the Class of 2020 be uploaded to Naviance?

The data for the class of 2020 will not be fully uploaded until individual students update the office on their final decisions, which is likely to occur by about May 1. Throughout April and May the college counselors will continue to input data as it comes in so that everything is as up to date as possible. Currently the data for the classes of 2019 and 2018 is already in Naviance.

#### What options for graduation are being discussed?

For information on alternate graduation plans, visit the Class of 2020 tab on the Virtual Delbarton hub.