



## Session 2: The SCLA College Counseling Plan

Speaker: Drew Kock (SCLA Instructor, Coach, & Guidance Counselor)

[DKock@StCroixLutheran.org](mailto:DKock@StCroixLutheran.org)

### The SCLA College Counseling Plan is designed to ensure:

1. We personally know every graduating student's plan
2. A proactive approach to post-secondary planning and counseling
3. Every student has benefitted from guidance programming

### The End Game *isn't* college; it's preparing for a life of service in Jesus.

We want to make sure there's a personal aspect to the post-secondary decision-making process, because it is likely the biggest decision of your student's life up to that point in time.

### The Plan (summarized):

9th Grade	12th Grade
→ Introduce students to the concept of "GPA" → Develop & walk through a <i>Personalized Learning Plan</i> (PLP)	→ 12th Grade Group Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review college options</li> <li>● Introduce testing information*</li> <li>● Remind about college visits</li> <li>● Preview the application process</li> </ul> → Individual Meetings (≥1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● application processes</li> <li>● Post-secondary thoughts</li> <li>● Finalizing list of schools</li> </ul> - Further Group Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mentor opportunities</li> <li>● Financial aid and scholarships</li> <li>● Deadlines and decisions</li> </ul>
<h4 style="text-align: center;">10th Grade</h4> → Individual Meeting with Guidance Counselor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Begin a more personal partnership</li> <li>● Take a personality/career inventory</li> </ul> → Student reviews and reflects on PLP	
<h4 style="text-align: center;">11th Grade</h4> → Two individual meetings with Guidance Counselor → Individual Meeting #1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduce or review <i>Naviance</i></li> <li>● Walk through the basics of post-secondary search</li> </ul> → Individual Meeting #2: more personal discussion re: plans	

\*The current trend for colleges is quickly leaning towards not requiring ACT or SAT scores. The best course of action is to look at the specific colleges on your student's list to see what they require.

## Tools We Use

- **Naviance** - website to research colleges and update guidance counselors and schools of progress
- **Common App** - a standard application used by many colleges; fill out once and send to many
- **Personal Journal** - helps counselors and teachers make more meaningful connections with students throughout their time at SCLA
- **Personalized Learning Plan** - designed to provide a plan/structure for students to reflect on their learning process and how that can translate into post-secondary planning

## Financial Aid Planning with Jeff Younge

Recorded meeting link:

[https://zoom.us/rec/share/ozRW29liY9xWbXhXt8m2-QdincN1pWjcyt07z6Aavj1TGCifNevk9xudl9cg\\_wbx.4U06YCgPLWtoEOwo](https://zoom.us/rec/share/ozRW29liY9xWbXhXt8m2-QdincN1pWjcyt07z6Aavj1TGCifNevk9xudl9cg_wbx.4U06YCgPLWtoEOwo)

*\*Passcode: 5zfU9@6M*

## Guidance Improvement Initiatives:

- Increase parent involvement and information sharing
- Create a more welcoming designated space for guidance meetings & impromptu questions or conversations
- Develop more consistent and meaningful career exposure opportunities, especially through SCLA alumni and mentor connections

---

## How can we increase parents' involvement in the SCLA College Counseling Plan and the sharing of post-secondary guidance resources?

Email your thoughts to Anna Biedenbender (Domestic Admissions Counselor) at [ABiedenbender@StCroixLutheran.org](mailto:ABiedenbender@StCroixLutheran.org).