



College Counseling Crier

March 2021

Volume 4, Issue 7

Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

*ACT Test Dates**

April 17, 2021

Registration deadline:
March 12, 2021

June 12, 2021

Registration deadline:
May 7, 2021

July 17, 2021

Registration deadline:
June 18, 2021

*SAT Test Dates**

May 8, 2021

Registration deadline:
April 8, 2021

June 5, 2021

Registration deadline:
May 6, 2021

**If you will be taking these tests
with accommodations, please
contact [Mrs. From](#)*

Sophomore Spring Expo – Just Around the Corner

As a reminder for our sophomore students and families, we invite you to join us on **Monday, March 15**, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. for our Sophomore Spring Expo! In our virtual event with live and pre-recorded sessions, there will be general information about college counseling and course selection, Bullis School Signature Programs, standardized test preparation, and summer opportunities. We hope you will be able to join us through this [Zoom link](#). This is a **no homework night** for the students who attend. Careful attendance will be taken at the event.



Concentrating on Course Selection

In the coming weeks, students will meet with their course selection coaches to begin the process of course registration. We urge *all* students to continue taking **academic major courses** (English, math, science, social studies, and world language) throughout each of the four years here at Bullis, even if they have met Bullis School's graduation requirements. We are planning to offer a standardized test preparation course in the winter trimester led by Applerouth Tutoring Services. This course is only available to juniors and will be included on the course selection sheet for rising seniors. This course costs approximately \$700 and is taught twice a week during a student's study hall block. Bullis partners with Applerouth Tutoring Services to bring students a comprehensive and interactive class on how to tackle standardized tests and increase score-outcomes. In 20 hours of class-time, Applerouth's expert tutor covers not only the content and format of the test but also key strategies for test-taking. This small and comprehensive class includes engaging material and provides the opportunity for students to take 3 previously-released, full-length standardized tests to practice their skills as they go.

We highly encourage interested students to make the selection during course registration. The course selection itself is *not* a guarantee of enrollment, and course availability is subject to change based on necessary safety precautions.

[Save the Dates](#)

Sophomore Spring Expo

Monday, March 15
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join through [Zoom](#)

Virtual College Week College Fairs for Juniors and families

**Monday, April 12 –
Thursday, April 15**
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Mock Admission Program for Junior Families

Thursday, April 22
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Mock ACT Opportunity

We have partnered with Applerouth Tutoring Services to offer a live-proctored (via Zoom), full-length (4 hours and 15 minutes), fully-scored mock ACT. Please note, this is in place of the PreACT traditionally given to sophomore students. These mock exams will be administered at no cost to Bullis students and will be given on Saturday, March 13 and Saturday, March 20. An extended-time exam (6 hours and 30 minutes) will be offered on Saturday, March 20. We encourage all interested sophomore families to use [Applerouth's Bullis-specific landing page](#) to take advantage of this free opportunity and to register by the Friday morning before their chosen exam date. Please direct any questions to Applerouth by calling 202-558-5664 or email, info@applerouth.com.

Comparing Apples to Oranges



Rankings and “numbers” can be difficult to decipher when visiting college websites. In another one of his salient blog posts, [“Nuance in the Numbers,”](#) Rick Clark, Director of Undergraduate Admission at Georgia Tech, compares a recent run with a friend to the nuanced numbers in college admissions. Clark encourages families to look beyond rankings and admit-rates as they continue to craft a college list that makes sense for students.

Waiting Game

Rick Clark and his staff at Georgia Tech recently posted another relevant and helpful article geared toward seniors awaiting college decisions. [“Waiting Well in Uncertainty”](#) reaffirms that at this point, the seniors have done all that they can do and should await the results peacefully.

A New Feel for the College Fair



Each year, Bullis School and other Washington Area Independent Schools host an exciting, lively, and informative College Fair for junior students and families. This year, we've partnered with an even larger cohort of schools to create the Mid-Atlantic Independent Schools [Virtual College Week](#) between April 12 and 15. Every evening, the first 30 minutes will spotlight hot-topic discussions around

financial aid, studying in the UK, and standardized testing. Following these programs, students will have the opportunity to join sessions where individual colleges will share their highlights, followed by a question-and-answer period. A website with more details, links, college groupings, and college representative contacts will follow later this month.

Summer Programs Pour In

College and universities around the country offer summer programs for high school students. Due to the pandemic's unpredictable nature, many of these programs are now offered online! For those students looking strictly for a residential experience, we recommend looking through [TeenLife's listings](#).

These programs are an excellent way for students to get a feel for college life by taking classes and interacting with students from throughout the United States and other countries. With less focus on standardized test scores, participation in a summer program can help students emphasize their purpose when crafting the increasingly important supplemental essay responses. To find these opportunities, please see the [Summer Opportunities](#) section of the College Counseling webpage.

As in the past, we've provided focal groups for a more specific search. In addition to those listed, we will continue to add programs as we hear about them. If students need help throughout the summer program application process, we in College Counseling are happy to provide guidance and assistance.

February Festivities

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,398** applications and Document Request Forms! Most of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action, and Rolling admission have received their decisions; **356** acceptances have been offered.

*As a reminder to our seniors, please let us know of **all** admission decisions and scholarship awards.*

We want to celebrate with you, and provide good advice and counsel.