

CHS PTO Counseling Update May 1, 2024

- **The final deadline to make schedule change requests for the entire 2024-25 school year is May 1st.** Limited reasons for schedule changes after May 1st are listed in the Carmel High School [Program of Studies](#). Questions about course requests/schedules for next year should be directed to your student's CHS counselor.
- **2024 Summer School Options:** communication was sent home to CHS parents in early March about summer school options for the upcoming summer. A summary of that information follows:
 - Students can enroll in a maximum of two summer courses regardless of platform.
 - There is no cost associated with any of the summer school options listed below. (Indiana Online-online textbook fees may apply)
 - Questions about summer school enrollment should be directed to your child's counselor.
 - **CHS options: Online PE I OR PE II via Edmentum, May 28- July 3**
 - **Indiana Online Eligible Courses: June 10 – July 31**
 - Any course the student has earned a grade of C+ or lower to improve their grade or need to recover credit
 - Math courses to get back on sequence, must be approved by counselor
 - IB diploma students who have questions about summer school should reach out to their counselor
 - Online textbook fees may apply
- **CHS Social Workers are working to support students and families!** The period leading up to the end of the school year can be a stressful and difficult time for students and families for a variety of reasons. Please remember that CHS Social Workers are here to help by collaborating with PTO to implement the backpack program; meeting individually with students to provide support for mental health, social-emotional needs, family crisis, and more; providing community resource information for families; and guiding students through organizational and academic concerns.
- **Class of 2024 Senior Survey.** Seniors are completing the Senior Survey via Canvas in Government and Economics courses or SSRT. Seniors not enrolled in these courses during the current semester were sent instructions for completing the senior survey. The survey is a two-part process and asks seniors to share thoughts on their Carmel High School experience as well as provide information about their plans after high school. Seniors will have an opportunity to request their final transcript for their college of choice when they complete the survey. The survey must be completed electronically in Canvas and Naviance. Please encourage your seniors to complete the senior survey now by logging into Canvas, going to the Counseling Canvas course and clicking on the "Senior Survey" button on the course home page.
- **Seniors were sent a High School to College Transition Checklist** via Canvas announcement on May 1st, and parents will receive the same information via email. The checklist answers many of the frequently asked questions we receive during this time of year and outlines important next steps for college-bound seniors. You can find the checklist document [here](#).
- **Graduating Seniors: Request Your Final Transcript:** Almost all colleges require a final transcript and we DO NOT send them automatically – your student must make the request for a final transcript in Naviance Student and tell us where they plan to attend. This will be done through the Class of 2024 Senior Survey mentioned above.

Please note that we do not mail final transcripts to graduating seniors, but you are welcome to stop by the Counseling Center any time after June 30 to pick up a copy. You may call Wendy Nordhoff-Pemberton, CHS Registrar at 317-571-5922 Ext. 7431 or email her at wnordhof@ccs.k12.in.us. Parents of graduating seniors may get transcripts through the summer months, but after September 1, only the graduate will be allowed access to any of their Carmel High School records. Graduating senior PowerSchool accounts will be de-activated shortly after graduation.

- **In mid-March and again in late-April the College & Career Resource Center (CCRC) sent a [recorded presentation to current juniors and their parents called *Top 10 Things Juniors Can Do Before Senior Year*](#).** This presentation focuses on the things the Class of 2025 can be doing to prepare for the college application process and/or prepare for next steps after graduation. Juniors and their parents should continue to keep an eye out for more resources that we will roll out during the spring and summer to help support rising seniors in their post-high school planning.
- **The CHS College & Career Resource Center has created a Class of 2025 Virtual College Application Boot Camp Course in Canvas** that covers every aspect of the college search and application process. All current CHS juniors will be invited to join the College Application Boot Camp Course before the end of the school year. With this virtual format, students can work

through the information, videos, and exercises on THEIR schedule as quickly or as slowly as they'd like! Summer would be an ideal time to work through this boot camp course in preparation for the Fall semester, when many students will be completing college applications. **NOTE:** there are no "assignments" or grades associated with the boot camp course, just a lot of useful information to help take the mystery out of the process.

- **The CCRC plans to offer in-person college application and essay help sessions for Class of 2025 seniors in late-July** At these help sessions, students can have drafts of their college essays reviewed and get help with application processes and questions. More details about how to sign up for a help session slot will be shared in the coming weeks. While space will be limited for these help sessions, please know that additional opportunities to get help will be available throughout the fall semester!
- **Financial Aid Process and Scholarship Resources**
 - With the many known FAFSA challenges this year, many colleges are just now sending financial aid award notices to accepted students, and many have also extended their deadlines to enroll beyond May 1st. Seniors are encouraged to read their email regularly to make sure they are receiving the most up to date information about their financial aid and scholarship awards and necessary steps to confirm them. Our partners at [INvestED Indiana](#) have great resources online to help families understand and compare financial aid offers. Students and parents are always welcome to contact the CCRC for help navigating the financial aid process.
 - **CHS Community Scholarship Night is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14th starting at 6:30 p.m. in the CHS Auditorium.** Seniors to be recognized at Community Scholarship Night will receive invitations to attend in by May 7th. Carmel Education Foundation scholarships and many local scholarships are presented during this program, along with Military Academy appointments and ROTC scholarships.
- All CHS seniors who have earned scholarships are asked to submit an electronic scholarship confirmation form WITH official documentation confirming the award. Please note that we ask seniors to submit only those confirmed college scholarships **for the school they will be attending**. Students who have received private scholarships (i.e. not from the college itself) are also encouraged to report those awards on the electronic scholarship confirmation form with supporting documentation.

Submission of the electronic scholarship confirmation form and supporting documentation will allow us to celebrate graduates scholarship award(s) at CHS Graduation. Please note that all financial information will remain confidential, but we will add reported scholarship amounts to the grand total that will be announced at graduation. **Please use the form linked [here](#) to submit scholarship awards.**

NOTE: Given the current FAFSA delays and enrollment extensions many colleges are granting as a result, the **CHS scholarship recognition list will be posted electronically this year.** This will allow seniors who are unable to make a college decision by May 1st to be recognized along with their peers. The initial deadline to submit scholarship confirmations for recognition in time for graduation is now **Monday, May 20th**. The final deadline to submit scholarships for inclusion in the electronic list is June 3rd.

Questions about scholarship confirmations should be directed to Melinda Stephan mstephan@ccs.k12.in.us or Leah Owens lowens@ccs.k12.in.us in the CHS Counseling Office.

- **CHS College Advisors, Ms. Beth Henke and Mr. Pettibone, are busy meeting with students and families who want assistance with the college search and career exploration process.** Collectively, we have met with over 1,100 students/parents in the CCRC since the school year started! Students can request an appointment by completing an online request in PowerSchool. Students can note that parents wish to join these appointments when completing the request form.
- **Don't forget to use the following resources to learn more about the services and resources offered by the Counseling Department and the College & Career Resource Center (CCRC):**
 - Visit the Counseling Department Canvas Course to access a variety of resources
 - Follow the CHS Counseling Department on Twitter @counselingatchs and the Freshman Center Counseling office on Instagram @fc.counseling.chs
 - Follow the CCRC on Twitter @CHSCollege411 or Follow the CCRC on Instagram @chscollegecareer