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### Juniors Spend Time Planning Ahead

While juniors geared up to take the ACT this spring, the counselors were able to help them get started on planning for life after their glorious day of graduation in May 2026.

To this end, the English Department was kind enough to share instructional time with counselors in March so that juniors could learn about a variety of topics related to postsecondary planning.

Four-year universities, community colleges, apprenticeships, trade schools, the military and entering the workforce were all explored in depth via Power Point, and students had the opportunity to log into their Naviance accounts.

From there, researching colleges and careers was an option, and some students even began working on a résumé for summer jobs.

A positive aspect about Naviance is that any college or career that a student finds interesting can be saved to revisit in future log in sessions.

The juniors were engaged in all sections and hopefully found this head start to be helpful ahead of the maelstrom that is senior year. •

# If You're Testing and You Know It, Clap Your Hands

April 16th was statewide testing, and Argo is certainly no exception to this.

While Wednesdays are normally late start days for students, they reported to their assigned testing rooms at 8:00 on this big day.

On Tuesday April 8th, students completed the registration portion for their tests to ensure that everyone was ready to go and to iron out any technical difficulties as testing moves from the old school bubble sheets to the online modality.

Additionally, Mr. Schutz and our counseling interns visited PE classes throughout second semester in order to help students decipher their results from the practice tests they took in October.

Here is the breakdown of what went down on the 16th:

- · Freshmen: practice ACT9
- · Sophomores: practice ACT10
- · Juniors: the legit ACT

This was a non-attendance day for most all seniors so that they could take the opportunity to solidify their postsecondary plans, complete FAFSAs, and make sure that work to pass classes they need for graduation.

#### **Argo Junior Has Merit**

A select group of juniors took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) exam in October.

Out of approximately 1.3 million juniors who take this exam nationwide, the top 50,000 of them receive recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Lo and behold, a member of Argo's Class of 2026 has received recognition and her name is Natalie Granda.

From here, all recognized students will enter the competition to be Commended, Semifinalists, and actual Merit Scholars.

Regardless, everyone at Argo is extremely proud of Natalie for this accomplishment! ©



Argo Junior and potential National Merit Scholar Natalie Granda

#### **Healthy Outlook Needed**

Argo's counselors have multifaceted roles within the school. They are charged with monitoring their students' educational progress towards graduation and intervene when needed; they also help students work towards goals they set for themselves after high school.

In March, counselors also let students in Health classes know that they are attuned to the social-emotional needs of their students as well. Repeating what happened with first semester Health sections, counselors went through a variety of topics with students about emotional intelligence, stress management, peer conflicts, and healthy lifestyle choices.

Students engaged with the material and found many ways to relate what they learned to past experiences and to strategize for future stressful situations.

The counselors would like to thank the P.E. Department for sharing instructional time. ${\mathfrak C}$ 

## Other Argonaut Happenings

A quick look at some other events that took place since our last newsletter. Check it out below:



Argo students attended the Job Shadow Day event at Little Company of Mary Hospital.



Students from Mr. Hills' Anatomy and Medical Terminology classes attended a career fair at Midwestern University in Downers Grove.



Argo students attended a hands-on work experience at In-Tech Technical Institute, the training facility for IBEW Local 134 in Alsip.



Students working at In-Tech Technical Institute.



An IBEW member gives a tool demonstration.