

Senior Newsletter | December 2025

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Dear Seniors and Families,

My name is Julie Sitko, and I the College and Career Counselor. I'm here to help you through the college search and application process and to support your post-secondary planning journey. This monthly newsletter will help keep you on track with timely tips and important updates. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

❄ Winter Reminders and To-dos

📄 Transcripts & GPA

- Transcripts from the beginning of the school year are available in Skyward Portfolio.
- GPAs will update only after semester or year-long courses are completed.
- Transcripts will be updated at the end of the first semester of senior year.
- Need a report card? Download from Skyward Portfolio for an unofficial copy.

🏠 College Applications

- Apply to schools that are a good fit academically, socially, and financially.
- Aim to submit all applications by winter break.
- Be mindful of college-specific deadlines—check individual school websites.

📝 Recommendation Letters

- Students should speak with teachers first, then request letters in Naviance.
- Transcript & recommendation requests must be submitted by Dec. 4 to ensure they're processed before winter break.

📄 Naviance & Required Forms

- Request transcripts and recommendations through Naviance.
- Complete the Moon Transcript Release Form via the Class of 2026 Teams page (found under "APPS").

📊 SAT/ACT Scores

- Only send scores if they enhance your application.
- Check each school's testing policy—some may review scores even if you apply test-optional.
- Free score sends are available when registering for the SAT/ACT.

👤 Selective Service

- Males must register at age 18: www.sss.gov
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💰 Financial Aid

FAFSA IS OPEN!

Many colleges require students to submit the FAFSA, even if they may not qualify for need-based aid. Some colleges will require students to also complete the CSS Profile. You **ONLY** need to do the CSS Profile if prompted by the college.

Before completing the FAFSA:

- Create your FSA ID (parent and student):
studentaid.gov/fsa-id
- Use a personal email (not your Moon Area email).
- Wait a few days after creating FSA ID before filing FAFSA.

Tools & Resources

- Try a Net Price Calculator on college websites for cost estimates.
- Great resources:

- www.mysmartborrowing.com
 - www.collegecosts.ed.gov
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Scholarships

- Scholarships are posted in Naviance:
Colleges > Scholarships and Money > Scholarship List
- Check regularly—new ones added often!

Recommended Scholarship Websites:

- www.fastweb.com
- www.goingmerry.com
- [Pittsburgh Foundation Scholarships](#)

Featured Scholarships:

- [PACAC Scholarship](#) – for seniors with 3.0+ GPA
 Deadline: Feb. 2, 2026 | Awards: \$1,000–\$1,500
 - [Jackie Robinson Foundation](#)
 Deadline: Jan. 7, 2026
For minority students with leadership and academic excellence.
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LECOM Visit in January

A representative from **LECOM (Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine)** will be visiting MAHS to share information about their programs in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and health sciences. Students interested in healthcare careers are encouraged to stop by, ask questions, and learn more about early acceptance opportunities. Students will also participate in a soap carving – to teach students about tooth anatomy, and basic carving skills used by dentists.

- **Date:** January 13
 - **Time:** 2nd period
 - **Location:** Room 112
 - All grade levels are welcome -sign up in Naviance under “What’s New”
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NCAA Info

 Planning to play D1 or D2 college sports?

 Register at www.eligibilitycenter.org

 Transcripts sent at year-end

 Send test scores directly from College Board or ACT – scores are not mandatory – only send them if you want to

Wishing You a Wonderful Holiday Season!

As always, I’m here to support your family during this exciting time. Wishing you peace, joy, and continued success as we close out 2025.