

Sophomore Newsletter | December 2025

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Moon Area High School Counseling Center

Welcome, Class of 2028!

Hello from the Counseling Center! I'm Julie Sitko, your College and Career Counselor. My role is to support you and your family as you begin thinking about your future after high school. This monthly newsletter will help you stay informed and on track for post-secondary planning. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions!

College Counseling Series – Coming Soon

Throughout the spring, I'll be hosting **monthly virtual evening programs** on college planning. These events are designed to help students and families understand key aspects of post-secondary preparation. All programs will be recorded and shared on the Moon Area Counseling Center website.

Everything You Need to Know About the Digital SAT & ACT

 Wednesday, January 21 |  6:30 PM |  Virtual

 *Register by 6 PM on Feb. 10*

[Register here](#)

Presented by Mike Goldstein, founder of Goldstein Test Prep. Topics include:

- Updated data, scoring information, and strategies for the digital SAT and its adaptive testing format
- Adaptive testing and scoring
- Bluebook app and digital testing tools
- Updates to the ACT, including digital options, and the optional Science section
- Understanding today's test-optional landscape
- New format of the combined reading/writing sections with one paragraph per question
- Continued evolution of test optional admissions policies and how to determine where to send test scores
- Decisions by schools such as Yale, Dartmouth, the University of Texas, Purdue, and others to require test scores of all applicants and what it means for admissions rates, average scores, and diversity goals

Questions can be emailed in advance to mike.goldstein@goldsteintestprep.com

Post-Secondary Education Planning Night

 Wednesday, February 4, 2026 |  6:30 PM |  Virtual

Recommended for Grades 10–11

Join counselors from Moon and Pine-Richland, plus guest speaker **Jennifer Winge**, VP of Enrollment at Allegheny College, to learn the basics of the college search process. Registration info coming soon!

Favorite College Resources

 [Georgia Tech Admission Blog](#)

Not just for Georgia Tech! Offers insightful, humorous, and helpful posts on the college search process.

 [College Essay Guy](#)

Free resources on essay writing, applications, and more. While some services cost money, much of the content is completely free and very student-friendly.

PSAT Score Information

Did your student take the PSAT/NMSQT in October? Scores are available!

Here's how to access them:

-  **If your student provided a phone number**, they should have received a text with a link to view their scores.
-  **If they have a College Board account**, they can log in at collegeboard.org to view scores.
-  **Not seeing scores?** They may need to **match** their account using the PSAT matching tool.
-  **No account yet?** Create one (using a **personal email**, NOT their school email), and write down the username, password, and security question—College Board accounts are tough to recover if credentials are lost!

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”

Summer Programs – Apply Early!

Looking for enrichment opportunities next summer? These programs are ideal for current sophomores and juniors. Click on each program below to learn more and apply directly through their websites.

- ♦ **Pennsylvania-Based Enrichment Programs**
 - [PA School for Excellence in Agricultural Studies](#) (Penn State)
 - [Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive](#) (Lehigh University)
 - [Governor’s School for the Sciences](#) (Carnegie Mellon University)
 - [Governor’s School for Global & International Studies](#) (University of Pittsburgh)
- ♦ **[Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week \(PFEW\)](#)**
- ♦  Lycoming College |  Run a simulated business with your own management team
- ♦  Free program (with \$295 registration fee)
- ♦  Choose from 4 different weeks – apply early!

♦ [Carnegie Mellon Pre-College Programs](#)

In-person programs in architecture, art, design, drama, music, game design, writing, and more!

 Free programs available in computer science, AI (AI4ALL), and the Summer Academy for Math and Science (SAMS).

♦ [Wildlife Leadership Academy](#)

- ♦  5-day field school for conservation-minded teens
- ♦  \$600 for the week (scholarships available)
- ♦  Become a Certified Conservation Ambassador

Wishing You a Wonderful Holiday Season!