

Junior Newsletter | April 2026

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Welcome!

My name is Julie Sitko, and I'm the College & Career Counselor at Moon Area High School. My role is to support students and families with the college search, career exploration, and post-secondary planning. Each month, this newsletter will share important updates and resources to help juniors stay on track. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions—I'm here to help!

Spring Post-Secondary Checklist for Juniors

As we move through the spring of junior year, here are some important steps to focus on:

- Begin college and career exploration using Naviance
 - Have family conversations about post-secondary plans and interests
 - Register for the SAT and/or ACT, if your child plans to test
 - Consider test preparation if planning to take the SAT or ACT
 - Participate in college programs and visits
 - Review your child's transcript in the Portfolio section of Skyward
 - Use college Net Price Calculators (found on college financial aid webpages) to estimate affordability early in the process
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CCBC Aviation Showcase

Saturday, April 18, 2026

An open house featuring flight schools, airlines, aviation faculty, partner colleges, flight simulators, discovery flights, and (weather permitting) access to the Air Traffic Control Tower.

SAT/ACT Information

- Check test dates and registration at:
 - www.collegeboard.org (SAT)
 - www.act.org (ACT)
- Dates are posted in Class Teams page under Post-Secondary Planning > Files and the HS Counseling webpage.

Helpful Notes:

- Fee waivers available for students on free/reduced lunch—see Ms. Sitko or your counselor.
 - No preference between SAT or ACT.
 - Research test-optional policies: FairTest.org
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Students taking the June SAT, you can hold on to your laptops for the test. You will bring them to Central Office after the test to turn them in for the summer.

ACT/SAT Test Prep Options

- [Khan Academy](#) (FREE SAT prep)
- [ACT Academy](#) (FREE ACT prep)
- [Penn State Beaver](#) – In-person SAT classes
- [3RPrep](#) – Virtual options
- [Goldstein Test Prep](#) – SAT/ACT tutoring (in-person & virtual)

College Visits – What to Ask

- Four-year graduation & retention rates
- Support for undecided students
- Middle 50% GPA & test scores of admitted students
- Academic rigor, internships, and career center opportunities

Remember: college is about more than earning a degree — it's about growth, challenge, and opportunity.

Scholarships

Log in to Naviance → Colleges → Scholarships & Money → Scholarship Search for current listings. New scholarships are posted regularly!

Recommended scholarship websites:

- www.scholarships.com
- www.fastweb.com
- www.scholarshipamerica.org
- www.finaid.org

NCAA Student-Athletes

If considering Division I or II sports:

- Register at eligibilitycenter.org
- Submit official transcripts via Naviance
- Test scores must be sent directly from SAT/ACT.

Managing College Emails

- Create a **separate email account** for college communication
- Use folders to organize by school
- Check weekly and delete what you don't need

Favorite College Search Resources

[Georgia Tech Admission Blog](#)

Great advice for students and families, with insights into the college admission process. Bonus: It's funny and easy to read.

[College Essay Guy](#)

Tons of free advice on college essays and applications. There are paid options, but many helpful tools are available at no cost.

Enrichment Opportunities

[CCAC Early College Programs](#) Students can take select credit and non-credit courses virtually at no cost and receive a stipend. This program is part of CCAC's Early College initiative, funded by the Bank of New York Mellon, and is designed to expand access to college and career readiness opportunities.

[PSU Beaver High School Summer Camps](#) in Biology and Criminal Justice