

Sophomore Newsletter | April 2026

Julie Sitko, College and Career Counselor

 jsitko@moonarea.net |  412-264-9440 ext. 2038

Welcome, Class of 2028!

Hello from the Counseling Center! I'm Julie Sitko, your College and Career Counselor. I support students and families in exploring post-secondary options and identifying "best fit" colleges, universities, and career paths. Each month, you'll receive this newsletter to help you stay on track. Please feel free to reach out any time with questions.

Managing College Emails

You'll soon be flooded with emails from colleges. Here's how to stay organized:

1. **Create a college-only email account**
 2. **Set up folders** to sort emails by interest
 3. **Check it weekly** – delete what you don't need, save what you do
-

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 Opportunity

[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.  724-325-6675  earlycollegeprogram@ccac.edu

Summer Programs for Sophomores

These enrichment opportunities are perfect for motivated students ready to explore interests and challenge themselves. Apply early!

- [PA School for Excellence in Agricultural Studies](#) at Penn State
- [Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive](#) at Lehigh University
- [Governor's School for the Sciences](#) at Carnegie Mellon University
- [Governor's School for Global & International Studies](#) at University of Pittsburgh
- [Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week \(PFEW\)](#) – Learn business by running a simulated company.
- [Carnegie Mellon Pre-College](#) – Art, design, drama, gaming, music, STEM.
- [Hillman Academy](#) – Cancer research internships
- [Duke Summer Academy](#), [Eisenman Materials Camp](#), and more.

- [Southwest PA AHEC Summer Health Career Academy](#)- University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
- [Penn State Readiness Institute Summer Program](#)
- [Bucknell Academy Summer Experience \(BASE\)](#)
- [Wildlife Leadership Academy](#) – Five-day residential field school for students interested in conservation leadership. Scholarships available.
- [PSU Beaver High School Summer Camps](#) in Biology and Criminal Justice