CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

August 2026

Dear Freshmen and your Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the CBA brotherhood! We hope that you are enjoying a restful summer. As we prepare to return to school in September, the School and College Counseling Office wanted to provide you with an outline for your freshman year. Additionally, we are excited to announce that Ms. Anna Maria Demonte will be joining our team at CBA! Ms. Demonte first began her career in education in the classroom as a teacher with a background in special education. After completing her master's degree in School Counseling, she began working in the counseling office at high schools in New York and New Jersey. During her time as a school and college counselor, Ms. Demonte has also been named the Student Concerns Coordinator and the Interim Academic Advisor. Her years of experience as both a counselor and teacher will be invaluable to our students during their high school years. Please join me in welcoming her to our CBA community.

While the majority of the freshman class will work with Mrs. Nicole Johnson as their school counselor, Ms. Demonte will be working with those students enrolled in the St. Benilde portion of the Colts Plus Program.

This welcome letter will provide you with some very helpful information to refer to throughout the year as you and your student become acclimated to Christian Brothers Academy. Your son's counselor will be available throughout the year as a resource to help each freshman transition to life at CBA. An important date to add to your calendar is Tuesday, September 1 at 1:00PM, which is the Freshman Parent School and College Counseling Information presentation. This presentation will provide you the opportunity to learn more about the counseling approach we utilize here at CBA. Additionally, please mark your calendars for Back to School Night which will be held on Thursday, September 17 at 6:00PM. During this program you will have the opportunity to meet your son's teachers.

Freshman year is an important year. Christian Brothers Academy is a rigorous academic, college preparatory high school. The Academy provides all students and their families with 24-hour access to the online portal. We recommend, especially in the beginning, that you reserve time together to look online, perhaps weekly. You are to use the portal as a means of tracking your son's weekly progress, as well as to contact any teacher as soon as possible in the event of a concern. The teachers will inform their students in September how to access their Assignment Log/LMS, as well as when they are available for extra help.

Enclosed in this mailing, your student will receive a copy of the Student Handbook, which you are required to read together as a family. Along with the handbook is a Cooperative Agreement that you and your student are required to sign and return to school. This agreement maintains that you are aware of all policies and procedures outlined for the 2026-2027 academic year, as well as which extensions to call for such things as an absence, or, for example, the school nurse. Please make sure to read through this handbook carefully with your student when it is distributed.

Telephone: (732) 747-1959 | School Office Fax: (732) 747-1643
adminoff@cbalincroftnj.org | www.cbalincroftnj.org

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Each freshman will receive a minimum of two one-on-one appointments, which take place once each semester. The rest are taught in a group setting to cover topics such as the handbook/rules and time management/organization, our college search engine: Maia Learning, wellness and resiliency, and finally, assisting them in creating their College Board accounts for the PSAT, which the students all take for the first time in their sophomore year.

In the first appointment, we discuss what their goals are and how important this year will be and may increase appointments on an as-needed basis throughout the year or if one is requested. Should you wish for a family appointment, please contact your son's counselor and they will be happy to accommodate you. If you have anything specific that you want the counselor to be mindful of with regard to your student, please do not hesitate to call or email your son's counselor.

Lastly, it goes without saying that each of us has a special role to play in the counseling process to be successful. Working together with you as their parent/guardian will enable us all to ensure the best support possible. Our goal is to be a positive ally for your student during his high school career. Enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,

The CBA School and College Counseling Office