

OCTOBER 2026

COUNSELING NEWSLETTER



COUNSELING HIGHLIGHTS

Senior Check-Ins | 96% Completed!– September was all about connecting with our seniors! Through Senior Check-Ins, counselors met individually with students to review graduation status, postsecondary plans, college and financial aid resources, and important senior-year timelines. We are excited to share that **96% of our seniors have now met individually with their counselor!** These one-on-one connections help ensure our seniors are supported, on track for graduation, and prepared for their next steps after McLane.

McLane Alum Inspires Students - In early September, we welcomed a McLane alum back to campus to speak with some of our high-achieving students about her experience as a QuestBridge recipient and the opportunities it created for her. Through our growing Rising Scholars program, more McLane students are being connected to opportunities like QuestBridge, college visits, enrichment experiences, and resources that can open doors to highly selective colleges and universities. We love seeing our former Highlanders return to inspire the next generation!

Freshman Presentations – We welcomed the Class of 2030 with Freshman Presentations focused on starting high school strong! This year, we tried something new and presented through our freshman math classes, giving the Counseling Team a fun opportunity to collaborate with a new group of teachers. Students learned about graduation requirements, credits, academic expectations, attendance, and the many resources available to support their success at McLane.

Freshman Individual Conferences – Counselors also began meeting one-on-one with our freshmen through Individual Conferences. These conversations allow us to build connections early, check in on each student's transition to high school, discuss academic progress and goals, and identify any additional support needed to help them have a successful freshman year.

9th & 10th Grade Student Success Chats - Our first round of Student Success Chats are underway! Counselors have been meeting with 9th- and 10th-grade students with two or more D/F grades to review academic progress, discuss barriers, and connect them with available supports. Students are encouraged to connect with their teachers and take advantage of tutoring and other resources to get back on track.

UC Representatives Visit McLane - On September 16th, approximately 60 students participated in our UC Presentations and heard directly from representatives from UC Davis, UC Berkeley, and UC Riverside. Students learned about admissions, majors, financial aid, campus life, and the UC application process. Students also began the MAAP application, a new guaranteed admission pathway through UC Merced, giving our Highlanders another exciting opportunity to plan for their future within the UC system!

UC Application Workshop #1 | 132 Students Served! - Our first UC Application Workshop was a huge success! Of our 161 UC-eligible seniors, **132 students—82%—participated** and began their applications with support from the Counseling Team. Counselors were available throughout the workshop to answer questions and guide students through this important step in their college journey.

OCTOBER: COLLEGE, CAREER & ACADEMIC READINESS

October is a busy month for the Counseling Team as we support students at every grade level! Sophomores and juniors will participate in grade-level presentations, while our seniors continue moving forward with their postsecondary plans through UC, CSU, Fresno City College, and financial aid application workshops.

With Quarter 1 coming to a close, counselors will also continue our academic intervention efforts by meeting with 9th- and 10th-grade students with multiple D/F grades, connecting students with supports, and celebrating academic achievement.

IMPORTANT COUNSELING DATES-OCTOBER

- Sept. 30th-Oct. 1st – Fresno City College Application Workshops
- Oct. 1st - CSU Application Opens
- Oct. 2nd – SCCC High School Counselor Conference
- Oct. 5th – Fresno City College Site Visits
- Oct. 5th-6th – Sophomore Presentations
- Oct. 7th-8th – CSU Application Workshop #1
- Oct. 12th – Buy Back Day
- Oct. 13th-14th – Junior Presentations
- Oct. 15th-16th – FAFSA Application Workshops
- Oct. 16th – End of Quarter 1
- Week of Oct. 18th – Quarter 1 Report Cards
- Oct. 19th – Dual Enrollment D/F Chats
- Oct. 21st – UC Application Workshop #2
- Oct. 21st – FAFSA Parent Night
- Oct. 22nd – CART Breakfast | 7:30-10:00 AM
- Oct. 23rd – Quarter 1 Academic Celebration | Lunch in the Quad
- Week of Oct. 25th – 9th & 10th Grade D/F Student Success Chats
- Oct. 27th – PSAT Testing | Library/L119
- Oct. 28th-29th – CSU Application Workshop #2



DON'T FORGET — MONDAYS ARE COLLEGE T-SHIRT DAYS!

We encourage all students and staff to wear their favorite college, university, or military gear every Monday! Whether you represent your alma mater, a future college, a dream school, or a branch of the military, let's fill our campus with college and career pride and keep conversations about life after high school going!