Class of 2028

College Counseling Newsletter

October / November 2026

Junior Parent Night

Tuesday, November 17th @ 7:00 PM in the Leadership Center

Topics to be covered: 1) Practice ACT / Analyze Ed 2) School Day ACT 3) Changes to ACT 4) General questions about testing 5) what to do this year to prepare for senior year

On Tuesday October 6th, the juniors took a practice ACT. Based on the student's performance on this practice ACT, Analyze Ed will provide each junior with an individualized report on what areas to focus on to prepare for the School Day ACT that juniors will take on Tuesday March 9, 2027. Details about the report from Analyze Ed will be presented at this meeting. In addition, the counselors will talk about testing in general, the changes to the ACT, and what juniors and families may do in 2nd semester to get ready for senior year.

MARIAN COUNSELING STAFF

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Counselor Assignments for the Classes of 2027

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Counselor Assignments for the Classes of 2028, 2029, and 2030

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Social Worker: Mrs. Johnson **fjohnson@marianchs.com**

During October, the college counselors met with the juniors during their English class. We asked the juniors not to focus on this question "**Where do I want to go to college?**". Instead, we encouraged them to consider two different questions as they begin to think more about college and what they will do after graduating from Marian:

"Why do I want to go to college?" and ***"What do I want to do in college?".***

To build on these two questions, the Georgia Tech Admission Blog has an outstanding post that parents and students are encouraged to read: Is That a Good School? It is a great blog to subscribe to - their posts cover a variety of college-related topics that will help you as a parent navigate through junior and senior year with your student.

Testing Information - ACT and SAT

Second semester of junior year is when students traditionally take the ACT and/or SAT for the first time.

The juniors will take a School Day ACT on paper on Tuesday March 9th. For future test dates for the ACT, students may choose between a paper or an online test.

Juniors do not have to register for the School Day ACT in March. Registration will be taken care of when counselors visit their Theology class in second semester. If they choose to retake the ACT later in June or July or in the 1st semester of senior year (dates are below), they will register themselves at MyACT.org.

The SAT is now Digital! As of March 2024, there is no longer a paper and pencil test for the SAT - it may only be taken as a digital test. For more information about the Digital SAT, click here. To register, go to the College Board website.

As you and your junior discuss whether they will take the SAT, or if they will retake the ACT, or if they should do test prep, we suggest reading this blog post:

Should You Take the SAT/ACT or Not?. While the blog is from October 2021 when the impact of COVID on testing was still very new, the topics it covers are still ones to consider now in 2026, especially with the decision on whether or not to submit test scores. The writer states:

"I want parents to come away with the tools to make the 3 binary testing decisions on the road to college application:

1. *to prep for tests or not to prep*
2. *to test or not to test*
3. *to submit scores or not to submit"*

ACT / SAT Test Prep Opportunities

ACT Test Prep Class - An in-person ACT test prep class taught by Marian faculty will be offered at Marian in 2nd semester. Details are being finalized and information will be distributed soon.

Analyze Ed - Juniors will receive their log-in information to access their individualized test prep program.

Other Test Prep Possibilities

Jeanius Prep offers online classes for all ACT and SAT test dates. For their complete schedule, go to www.jeaniusprep.com

Revolution Prep offers online classes for all test dates and is also offering a gift card. Revolution Prep has a team of professional tutors who have been teaching online for over a decade. Visit www.revolutionprep.com for more information!

ACT offers FREE online test prep - on the ACT website, look for Free ACT Practice Tests and Resources.

SAT offers FREE online test prep - Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy

Test Optional / Testing Information

At the present time, more than 1,800 colleges and universities are test optional.

Many colleges and universities are test optional for the Class of 2027. The issue is will they remain test optional for the Class of 2028. Hopefully colleges and universities will announce their decision early as the University of Notre Dame and Princeton University did. For updated information on whether a college / university will be test optional for the Class of 2028, go to the Fair Test website www.fairtest.org or an individual college's admissions website.

As mentioned above, juniors will take the School Day ACT on Tuesday, March 9th. Watch for more information in future newsletters. Registration for the School Day ACT will be handled by Marian. For the other test dates for both tests, students are responsible for registering themselves – the Counseling Department **DOES NOT** register students for the National test dates for the ACT and SAT.

ACT / SAT Test Dates More information about the test along with how to register is available at

ACT - www.my.act.org	SAT - www.collegeboard.org
Feb 27 ACT Registration deadline Jan 27	**March 6 SAT** registration deadline Feb 19
March 9 ACT School day at Marian	**May 1 SAT** deadline April 16
June 12 ACT deadline May at Marian	**June 5 SAT** deadline May 21

July 10 ACT deadline June 4

Projected Test ACT test dates for Fall 2027 - these dates are subject to change

September 11th and October 16th

PLEASE NOTE - the SAT may ONLY be taken in the digital format - College Board does not offer a paper and pencil option.

For the ACT, students have the option of choosing to take the test online or in paper and pencil format.

There will be opportunities to take either test in the first semester of senior year. Dates will be announced by ACT and the College Board later in the school year

Marian Catholic HS Code - 141393

Juniors should memorize this code - it will be required when registering to take either the ACT or SAT. It may also be asked for when completing other college forms. It is sometimes referred to as a CEEB code.