COLLEGE COUNSELING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS 2026-27

Date	Event	Details	Audience
August 17	Optional: Application Launch Workshop	Complete critical tasks in Common App, Naviance, STARS, writing supplemental Essays, etc. before school begins. Attend either session. 3–6pm, Parents Room	Seniors (please attend either 8/17 or 24)
August 24	Optional: Application Launch Workshop	Complete critical tasks in Common App, Naviance, STARS, writing supplemental Essays, etc. before school begins. Attend either session. 9am–12pm, Parents Room	Seniors (please attend either 8/17 or 24)
September - November	College Admission Counselor Visits to GA	More than 100 colleges visit GA. Check Naviance for a list and sign up. College representatives register for visits throughout the fall, so check Naviance frequently. **Attend sessions to demonstrate your interest in a college!**	Juniors and Seniors
September 1	Senior Retreat	After the off-campus portion of the Senior Retreat, Seniors who didn't attend an Application Launch Workshop will meet to complete critical tasks in Common App, Naviance, and STARS. 1:15 – 2:30, Parents Room.	Seniors
September 16	Parents' Committee Meeting	Parents' Committee Breakfast and Meeting (presentation by College Counseling), 8:15am, Common Room	All Upper School Families
September 22	Meeting for Senior Families	Presentation to Senior Families, 7pm, Honickman	Senior Families
September 23	PSAT- NMSQT Preparation for the 10/27 PSAT at GA	Juniors meet with College Counseling during Community Time to complete pre-test registration information, Common Room	Juniors
September 28 & 30	Upper School Family Orientations	A Look Ahead… Orientation for GA Families (led by US Admin Team, presentation by College Counseling)	All Upper School Families

		Grades 11 and 12 – 9/30 – 8:30-9:15am, PR Grades 9 and 10 – 9/28 – 8:30-9:15am, PR	
September 30	How to Finance College Webinar	Topics include college costs, scholarships, financial aid, responsible financing/loans and how to try to make college affordable regardless of your financial portfolio. 7pm, Ring Central Webinar HERE	All Upper School Families
October 9 - 12	College Application Weekend	Work on your college applications! No quizzes/tests/projects or presentations for the Class of 2027 due on October 13	Seniors
October 15	Application Workshop-Seniors	Late Start/Day of Service for 9-11: Seniors will meet with your college counselor for application and essay review. 10:30am-1pm. Start in Arts Center, break out into classrooms. Lunch provided!	Seniors
October 20	Standardized Testing Webinar	Franklin Yard will present a review of standardized testing, updates and insights into the timing of testing. 7pm Must register Here	Sophomore and Junior Families
October 20	SmartTrack College Funding Webinar	What every parent needs to learn about funding and paying less for college. 8pm Register Here	All Upper School Families
October 27	PSAT/NMSQT or Practice ACT for Juniors	PSAT/NMSQT will be administered on campus, 8am, Field House. (special schedule)	Juniors
October 28	Polaris Workshop	You're invited to join Polaris Athlete for ***NIL Ready: What Families Need to Know***, Part II of the Polaris Athlete Fall Family Series, a complimentary live workshop designed to help high school student-athletes and families better understand the evolving world of Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL). Registration is required. 7:00pm	All Upper School Families
November 2 (no classes)	At-home digital ACT	Students may register and take the At-home ACT via *Compass Prep* Register HERE	Juniors
November 3	Senior Love Day	Celebrating Seniors completing applications by the first major deadline in the college process. Break Party! Location: TBD	Seniors

November 9	Virtual Financial Aid Presentation	Financial Aid 101, a virtual session to learn more about financial aid and affordability offered by Chris Gruber, Vice President, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Davidson College, NC. **Zoom Registration link:** (This session is organized by Penn Charter for all PAIS schools and students.)	Sophomore, Junior and Senior students and families
November 17	Athletic Recruitment Conversation	Are you thinking about College Athletics, the recruitment process and coach contact? College counseling and athletics will share an information session. 7pm, Honickman	Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors and Families
December 9	Meeting for Junior Families	Presentation to Junior Families, 7pm, Honickman	Junior Families
January 5	Alumni Panel	Recent GA Alumni Panel Presentation about the transition to college. Community Time, Arts Center	Juniors and Seniors
January 19	College Seminar	College Seminar starts with the second semester Seven instructional sessions about the college process with the college counseling team (required attendance)	Juniors
February 1	PSAT 10 Registration	Sophomores meet with College Counseling during Community Time to complete pre-test registration information, Common Room	Sophomores
February 18	Case Studies Program	MANDATORY FOR ALL JUNIORS and strongly recommended for families. Admission officers lead participants through the review and selection of applicants to a fictious college. 6:30pm, Upper School Classrooms	Junior Families
TBD	US Academics and Course Selection Coffee	Join the US Admin Team & College Counseling for an information session focused on registering for classes for the 2027-28 school year. 8:30am, Parents Room	All Upper School Families
March	College Counselor Assignments	Sophomores are assigned to college counselors in March.	Sophomores
March 5	No School PSAT 10	MANDATORY FOR ALL SOPHOMORES. The PSAT 10 will be administered on campus. 8am, Field House	Sophomores
April			Sophomores

7, 14, 21, 28	PSAT Review, SAT Prep Online Workshops	Four workshop sessions following the PSAT 10 to build familiarity with the digital SAT, learn testing basics, and practice applying key strategies for a great introduction to SAT prep. Presented by *Franklin Yard.* Register Here (will be added)	
April 15	Meeting for Sophomore Families	Presentation to Sophomore Families, 7pm, Honickman	Sophomore Families
April 10 & 24	At-home Digital ACT/SAT	Students select between two dates to take the digital At-home ACT/SAT via *Compass Prep*. Register here:	Sophomores and Juniors
May 14	Parents' Committee Meeting	Parents' Committee Breakfast and Meeting (presentation by College Counseling), 8:15am, Common Room	All Upper School Families
May 19	College Fair	College Fair – more than 130 college and university representatives visit GA! 6:30-8pm, Field House	Sophomores, Juniors and Families

Great College Visit Days for During the School Year

One goal for members of the Class of 2028 is to visit a variety of college campuses between now and January of their junior year so they can articulate to their college counselor what they want in a college by their January junior interview. Then, students may begin targeted visits. The following dates are weekdays when students do not have school, but colleges should be in session, making for great campus visit days:

- End of August (school does not begin until September 2) – many Southern colleges start school in August, so their campuses will be populated with students.
- October 9-12 - Fall Break
- November 2 – No school. Comment Writing Day
- November 20 – No school. Family Conferences with teachers
- November 30 – Monday after Thanksgiving. Teacher In-Service
- January 18 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 12-15 – President's Weekend
- **March 22-April 2 – Spring Break / Easter**

Updated August 18, 2026