



GCM College Night ***2023-24***

GCM Student Services

August 29 at 6:30PM





Agenda

WELCOME

Cindy Blakeley, *Director of Student Services*

GCM COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

Gardner Humphreys, *CCS*

TIMELINE & RESOURCES BEFORE APPLYING

Jenna Mollura, *School Counselor*

NOVA INFORMATION

Eunice Torkornoo, *Admissions Outreach Coordinator*

WORKING WITH YOUR COUNSELOR

Brooke Kirtner, *School Counselor*

GUEST SPEAKER

**Barbara Conner, *Director of Recruitment*
Franklin & Marshall College**

7:30ish PM – Seniors to COUNSELOR BREAKOUT ROOMS



GCM College & Career Center

Gardner Humphreys

Info for Students & Parents: Schoology “Marshall Student Services” Course

- ✓ **College Research & App Help:** gkhumphreys@fcps.edu
- ✓ **Financial Aid, Reducing Cost & Scholarships**
- ✓ **Jobs** for students
- ✓ **Volunteering, Internships, Summer Programs**
- ✓ **Test Prep** - free online prep and guides, GCM Library website

School Website: [Google “GCM College Career”](#) or:

<https://marshallhs.fcps.edu/student-services/college-career-center>

Naviance: <https://www.fcps.edu/naviance> **Schoology:** GCM Homepage

College News for 2023-24

- ✓ **Race in admissions** – if use related information, will be [from writing](#)
- ✓ **Test scores and admissions** – most still “test optional”, must check
- ✓ **Direct admissions Common App** – [invite only](#): GMU, VCU (14 schools)
- ✓ **New FAFSA in December** – date TBA, changes in formula
- ✓ **Virginia Tech** - no more ED, **new EA deadline** 11/15
- ✓ **Some schools changing legacy admissions** – UVA+ more (but essays)
- ✓ **AI and applications, essays** – colleges will check for plagiarism but AI can be used some ways. Example: <https://sites.gatech.edu/admission-blog/>

MORE COLLEGE & CAREER EVENTS

2023-2024

- ✓ **Financial Aid for College Night** – December - date TBA (New FAFSA)
- ✓ **PSAT & Senior SAT** – Oct. 11 in school. PSAT for 10-11th no registration needed. SAT for seniors only, free, must submit [Intent Form](#) from 8/16 email.
- ✓ **Senior College Essay Help** – Mondays 3PM in person, Sept. 11+ and online
- ✓ **SAT/ACT/PSAT & Rising 10-12 College Info Night** – mid-December 2023, TBA, online
- ✓ **Junior Focus College/Career Day** – 4/11/24, in school, 11th grade, students only
- ✓ **ASVAB Military Vocational Assessment** – by county region, fall & spring TBA





GCM College & Career Center, cont.

Gardner Humphreys

SOME FAVORITE SITES

College Research and Advice

- ✓ <https://www.fcps.edu/naviance> GCM admissions history, scholarships
- ✓ <https://collegesearch.collegeboard.org/home> also your PSAT/SAT
- ✓ <https://www.nacacnet.org/> go to Knowledge Center
- ✓ <http://uvaapplication.blogspot.com/> UVA admissions blog

Financial Aid & Scholarships

- ✓ <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/> graduation rate/debt/aid info
- ✓ <https://finaid.org/> financial aid advice and scholarship search
- ✓ <https://collegecost.ed.gov/net-price> – **Net Price Calculators** - Dept. of Ed, can be anonymous, start there!

Career Exploring: <https://www.careeronestop.org/> and [Naviance](#)

Timeline for Grades 9 to 11

What should I be thinking about in 9th grade?

ALLOW YOURSELF TO EXPLORE and BUILD YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- What is a class you've always wanted to try?
- Is there a class you did well in that you might consider taking in HN this year?
- Talk to your School Counselor about your goals - it's okay if you don't have a long term goal yet, but what can be a short term goal?
- Get involved! Try new things! Work hard academically and figure out what you like!
- Check your email daily!

What should I be thinking about in 10th grade?

EXPLORE YOUR PERSONALITY & INTERESTS AND GET INVOLVED!

- Career Cluster on Naviance
- Stay strong with your grades
- Maintain a balance
- Continue building connections with your teachers, counselors, and classmates.
- Join a team, club, or other extracurricular activities, including volunteering!

What should I be thinking about in 11th grade?

CULMINATION OF 3 YEARS OF EFFORT AND GROWTH

- How can you demonstrate your interests and skills?
- How are you showing your commitment and depth in your activities?
- Have you thought about taking the SAT or ACT and how to prepare?
- Are you talking with your School Counselor about crafting a well-balanced schedule?

Start coming up with the questions and answers that will shape your search

- Visit your colleges, take virtual tours!
- What are you looking for in a college? Big or small size? Private or public? Urban, suburban or rural?
- Make sure to visit some of our college speakers in the College & Career Center.
- Talk to your family about your budget and applying for financial aid - everyone needs to do the FAFSA!
- Use Naviance as a resource - admission requirements or trends

Working with your Counselor Senior Year

Brooke Kirtner

- Presentation tailored to 4-year college applications
 - See us for other opportunities

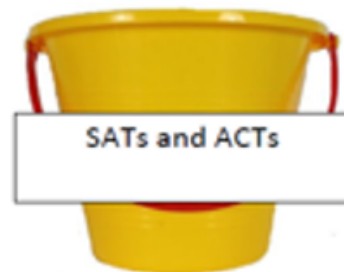
Applying to College

The Four Buckets



Testing Bucket

- In a traditional cycle, this often comes first
- Timeline
- Test-optional policies this year
- SAT at Marshall – 10/11/23 in school
- The sending of scores



Letters of Recommendation & Transcript Bucket

- Another bucket you can get rid of quickly!
- Senior Information Packet
- Counselor vs. Teacher Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Transcript Request Form
 - Front: Signatures, Waive Right
 - Back: Deadlines, Type of Decision, Portal Used



Application Bucket

- Type of Decision
 - Early Decision, Early Action, Regular & Rolling
- Spreadsheet of Important Dates
- Work on Essays
- Get materials sent




Scholarship/Financial Aid Bucket

- We will have an evening to cover this topic
- FAFSA can be started in December, date TBD
- Do it to be considered for merit-based aid as well as other financial aid opportunities such as grants, work study & loans.



Naviance Scattergrams


James Madison University 

Communicate 

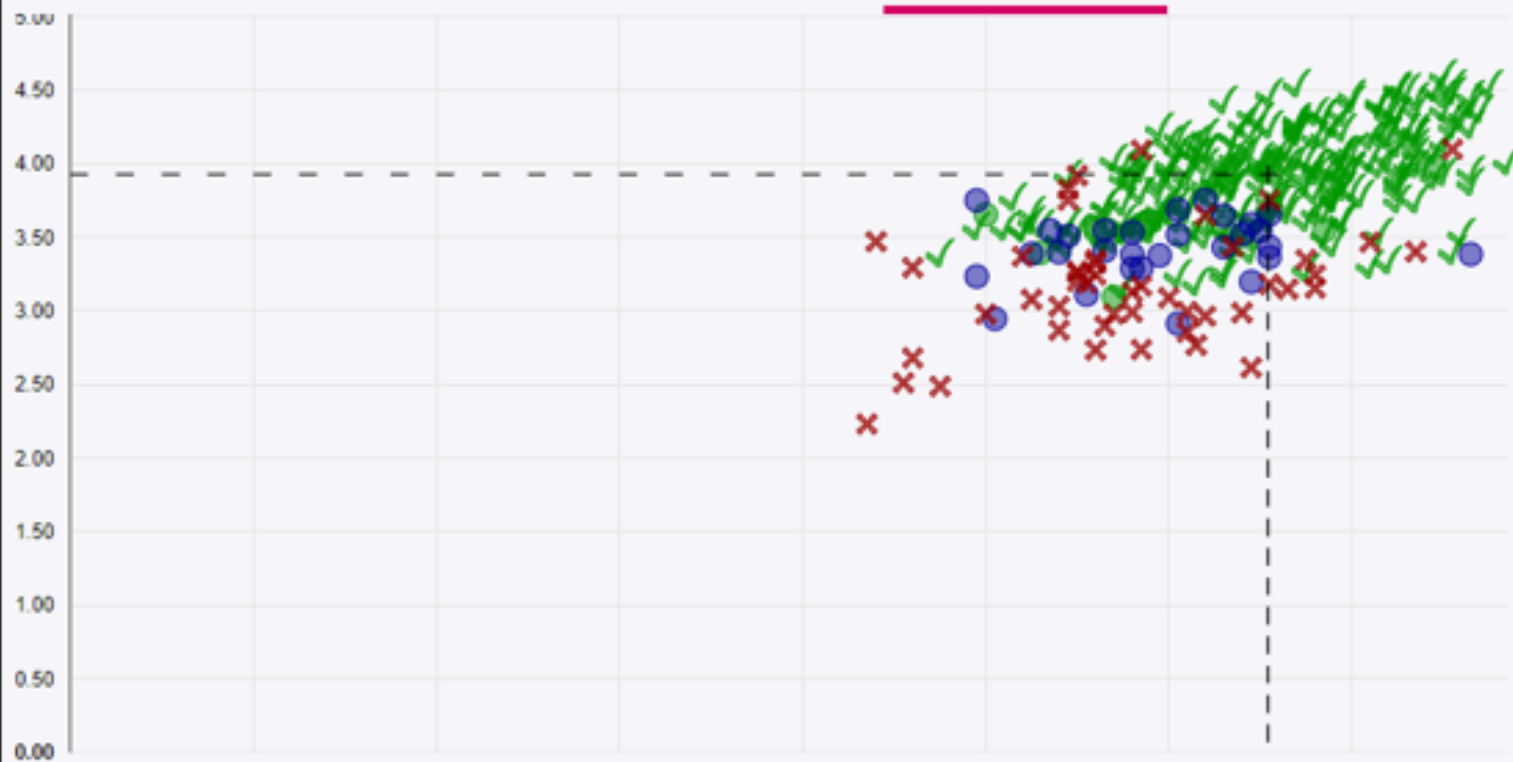
Overview

Studies

Student Life

Admissions 

Costs



Senior Year GCM Support Team

- Counselors
 - Assist in finalizing a list of schools
 - Submission of counselor recommendation, transcript, and Secondary School Report
 - SAT/ACT/NACAC Fee Waivers for qualified students.
- College & Career Center Specialist
 - College and career search
 - Career/Major Interest Inventory
 - Essay and application support
 - Scholarships and financial aid

LOOK OUT FOR THE SENIOR SERIES EMAILS 😊



Counselor Breakouts / Q & A

Pick Counselor Room by Student's Last Name:

A-BEK + DIAN-HAR	Mr. George & Mr. Sawitzky ROOM 301 (Orchestra, a right out aud. door)
HAS-LAM + MUE-RED	Ms. Terry & Ms. Kirtner ROOM C-113 (lobby, then down center hall)
LAN-MUD + STOO-Z	Mr. Tsoi & Ms. Mollura ROOM C-114 (lobby, then down center hall)
REE-STON + BEL-DIAM	Mr. Burton & Ms. Wess ROOM A112 (lobby, College & Career room)