



Somerville Public Schools

Education • Inspiration • Excellence

Somerville High School Counseling Department

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

August 2019

Welcome to your student's senior year! This is a very exciting year and it goes by quickly, so enjoy every moment. Please take advantage of all of the wonderful programs and evenings that SHS offers for students and families.

The School Counseling Department is available to provide students with any needed academic, social-emotional, and college and career support as they begin to plan for life beyond high school. This year, we are excited to add additional staff to our department who will assist with your student's future planning. Please see the back of this letter to meet your College & Career Planning Team!

We invite you to attend our ***Post High School Planning Night on Thursday, September 19th, 2019 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.*** in the SHS Auditorium. You will hear from our counselors about the post-secondary planning process, including financial aid. To learn more about SHS School Counseling events throughout the year, please see the enclosed flyer.

Student schedules will be available via Aspen starting on Friday, August 16th. We will have add/drop time during the week of August 19-23rd. Please contact your counselor during this week if you plan to come in to make changes. Schedule changes after the start of the school year will be VERY limited. Please refer to Program of Studies (pg. 77) for our add/drop protocol.

Please check our website for updates throughout the school year:
<http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/schools/somerville-high-school/counseling-college-career>

We look forward to an exciting year ahead and please let us know how we can assist you.

Sincerely,

Somerville High School
School Counseling Department



Your College & Career Planning Team

Your School Counselor works with you throughout your time at SHS to provide academic, social emotional, and future planning support. Here are some of the things your School Counselor may do in your senior year:

- Hold an individual meeting with you to discuss your future plans.
- Assist in beginning your college list
- Work closely with your College & Career Counselor. Communicate with them to be sure you get what you need from your team.
- Write your letter of recommendation for colleges (if/when you request it).
- Be available for questions you have regarding college & career planning.
- Communicate with your family and teachers as necessary to support you and your plans.
- Continue to support you with academic and social emotional needs.
- Track your graduation progress and work with you to meet your graduation goals.

Your College & Career Counselor will provide you with additional support, specifically around college and career planning. Here are some of the things they may do in your senior year:

- Hold multiple individual meetings with you to support you throughout your college application or career planning process.
- Assist in finalizing your college list
- Assist in completing applications (help you fill out applications, edit your essay or resume)
- Assist students with tasks on Naviance, our college planning site.
- Submit your SHS transcript, recommendations, and other necessary documents to colleges.
- Work closely with your School Counselor. Communicate with them to be sure you get what you need from your team.
- Be available for questions you have regarding college & career planning.
- Communicate with your family and teachers as necessary to support you and your plans.

uAspire College Affordability Advisor

SHS is lucky enough to partner with an organization called uAspire that helps our students and families throughout the college financial aid process. Twice a week, a College Affordability Advisor from uAspire will be at SHS in Room 220 to meet with students and families by individual appointment. Specific contact information for the Advisor will be available on our website and in Room 220 in September.

