



THOMAS
MACLAREN
SCHOOL

COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE & CAREER COUNSELOR

MR. VON BOECK- tvonboeck@maclarenschool.org

FEBRUARY 2024

CLASS OF 2024—SENIORS

By this time, the bulk of college applications have been submitted. Everyone has worked diligently throughout the college application process, and many seniors have started receiving acceptance letters. Some colleges accept applications through mid-February and some accept applications through July if they offer rolling admission. Now is the time to apply to any additional colleges based on new information or awareness of different priorities.

Seniors should also update their college decision status/acceptance status in Naviance. Instructions on how to do this were sent by email and have been posted on the Senior Postsecondary Google Classroom page. Seniors should continue applying for scholarships this semester. Scholarships will continue to be posted on the Senior Postsecondary Google Classroom page. Parents and seniors should also make sure to complete the FASFA if it is not already completed.

CLASS OF 2025—JUNIORS

Junior Parent Night - Mr. von Boeck will host a virtual meeting for parents of Juniors on **Tuesday, March 12th, at 6:30 p.m.** The Zoom link can be found [here](#).

Mr. von Boeck has begun individual meetings with the juniors and will continue these meetings throughout February and into March.

Many of the questions pertaining to college applications and financial aid for MacLaren students are addressed in the [College Guidebook](#) found on the school website under the *Students tab > College & Career > College Planning Resources > College Guidebook*.

Standardized Testing - Juniors take the SAT on April 19 at MacLaren. The SAT is used as a college entrance exam and students can choose to send their scores to up to six colleges at the time of the exam. Although April 19 is the only date MacLaren will be offering the SAT, students are welcome to register to take the exam additional times by logging into their College Board account. Students can get assistance registering for additional exams [here](#). MacLaren does not offer the ACT, but students interested in taking it can register [here](#). Students who desire to write the optional SAT essay should let Dr. Holiday know by February 14.

CLASS OF 2025—CONTINUED

Students interested in taking the CLT can view test dates and register [here](#). Please note that students can receive a 75% discount for the March 16th test date by filling out the interest form for Charleston Southern University.

Summer Opportunities for Juniors

Boys and Girls State — Applications for Colorado Boys and Girls state are now open. See Google Classroom for more information.

St. John's College Summer Academy — St. John's Summer Academy is a college summer program for high school students (ages 15 to 18), modeled after St. John's discussion-based, interdisciplinary method of teaching great books. MacLaren gets to send two students to St. John's Summer Academy in Santa Fe with a full tuition discount. Please note that the tuition discount does not apply to the Annapolis camps. Information about these camps and application available [here](#). In addition to filling out the application, please speak to Mr. von Boeck as soon as possible if you are interested in this opportunity.

CLASS OF 2026—SOPHOMORES

Sophomores should continue to focus on their school work and build positive, productive habits. The skills needed to succeed in high school parallel those needed in college and the workforce. Students should also be focusing on extracurricular involvement. Whether it's sports, community service, or volunteer positions, colleges and future employers want to see the student's passions, work ethic, and skills outside the school setting.

Mr. von Boeck will meet with the Sophomores this semester to discuss college testing and to set up their Naviance accounts. Naviance is the online platform they will use to start exploring career and college interests, as well as the platform they will use to apply to colleges their senior year.

Standardized Testing - Sophomores take the PSAT 10 on April 18 at MacLaren.

CLASS OF 2027—FRESHMEN

The most important college and career task for 9th graders is to focus on their school work and building positive, productive habits. The skills needed to succeed in high school parallel those needed in college and the workforce: being on time, understanding and meeting expectations, meeting deadlines, following a dress code, overcoming obstacles, self-regulation, and dealing with conflict.

Standardized Testing - Freshmen take the PSAT 9 on April 17 at MacLaren.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Bobbie Anderson Scholarship: The Bobbie Anderson Scholarship is for female students who will attend a Colorado college or university, and who are from the Pikes Peak region. Two scholarships are awarded annually. [Applications](#) due February 23, 2024.

Rotary Champions Student Athlete Scholarship: The Rotary Champions Program awards scholarships to outstanding scholar-athletes from high schools throughout the Pikes Peak Region. Interested students should talk to Mrs. Steigerwald. More information about these scholarships is available on the postsecondary Google Classroom page.

Cameron Beard Scholarship: The Cameron Beard Scholarship is available to Thomas MacLaren graduating seniors. More details about the scholarship are available on the Google Classroom page. Applications are due May 1, 2024.

Scholarship Resources

Institutional Scholarships: Most high-dollar scholarships come from the colleges. To find available scholarships, visit the scholarship webpage for each college of interest.

General Scholarships: Smaller scholarships can be found using National Scholarship databases:

- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [FastWeb](#)
- [College Board](#)
- [Going Merry](#)
- [Naviance](#)
- [Niche](#)

FAFSA and CSS/Profile

FAFSA Help: [Begin FAFSA](#)
[Step-by-step Guide](#)

CSS Help: [Begin CSS/Profile](#)
[Step-by-step Video Guide](#)