

School Counseling Department

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Our vision is connect, engage, and inspire all students in the Ayer Shirley Regional School District to reach academic excellence. We, the educators of the Ayer Shirley Regional School District will instill habits of reflection and inquiry to challenge our students in setting ambitious academic and personal goals. Students will develop a strong voice to express their thoughts and ideas in the community, and the confidence to showcase their talents and successes in preparation for entry into college and the world of work.

November 2017

Happy November! It is hard to believe the holiday season is so close. We have several important reminders for **seniors**:

If you have submitted an application to college, please indicate so in Naviance/Family Connection.

If you are starting, or in the process of completing college applications, please remember the following in Naviance/Family Connection for **each** college:

- Request a transcript to be sent
 - Request counselor recommendations where required, in a timely manner
 - Indicate the correct deadline
 - If using the Common Application, complete the FERPA Waiver
 - Match your Naviance account with Common App on your Family Connection home page
 - Once you have submitted your application, update Naviance to indicate so
 - **Also** – send your official test scores directly through College Board or ACT **at least 2 weeks before** your application deadlines.
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- Make sure you keep vacation periods in mind to give us adequate time to complete recommendations and prepare documents for you.
 - We still have dedicated D block on Mondays and G Block on Wednesdays to seniors. Seniors must come to the School Counseling office and put their name in the Senior Appointment Book. Students are expected to remember their appointments and to make up all missed work.
 - **All Community Service hours must be completed by March 1, 2018 to meet graduation obligations.**

Juniors – practice for the spring SAT by linking your College Board account with www.Khanacademy.org once your new PSAT scores come out in December. You should also have been using Family Connection to search for careers and colleges and put colleges on your “colleges I’m thinking about” list.

PSAT scores will come out in mid-December for students in grades 9-11. *Notification will come directly from College Board via email*, to the email address indicated on the PSAT answer sheet. If no email was indicated, students will be able to go to www.collegeboard.org and create an account to view their scores. It is critically important that each child have only one College Board account. Parents, if you want to make the account – please don't! Two accounts cause problems later because College Board does not allow two active accounts and your child will have difficulty signing up for the SAT or linking their account with www.khanacademy.org. Create **one** account with your child so there is only one login.

We will be continuing to visit classrooms to instruct and assist students in the use of Family Connections in the coming months.

Student login instructions are on the Family Connection login page.

Students are welcome to request an appointment to see us by visiting the School Counseling office before or after school and during lunch to complete an appointment request form. As always, School Counselors are available in emergency situations.

Parents wishing to meet with their child's school counselor are encouraged to schedule an appointment via email or telephone:

Cynthia Esielionis
cesielionis@asrsd.org

ext. 1305

Supporting students as follows:

Grade 9, Last Names Beginning with L – Z

Grade 10, Last Names Beginning with I – Z

Grade 11, Last Names Beginning with I – Z

Grade 12, Last Names Beginning with G – Z

Special Assignments 9 – 12

Kim Sweetland

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Supporting students as follows:

Grade 9, Last Names Beginning with A – K

Grade 10, Last Names Beginning with A – H

Grade 11 Last Names Beginning with A – H

Grade 12, Last Names Beginning with A – F

Special Programs, Grades 9 - 12

Parents – make an appointment to meet with us during Parent Teacher Conferences on November 16th from 6-7:45 PM or the 17th from 11:45-2:15 PM before our spots fill up!

Upcoming Events:

- November 14th John and Abigail Adams Scholarship breakfast in the High School Commons for families of recipients, by invitation.
- November 16th, 17th Parent teacher conferences – make an appointment to meet with us too!
- November 27th, 28th SBIRT screening for grade 9 students

College Admissions Testing

On the next page are the SAT and ACT test dates for the year. Registration for these tests is completed online either at www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org. Payment is made on the websites directly to the test provider.

We recommend that students take each test one time, in the spring of their junior year and retake whichever test they do better on in the fall of their senior year. We also recommend that students take the writing portion of the tests as some colleges and universities require it, some don't and some may use it for placement in college level courses. Students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch are also eligible for a limited number of SAT and ACT fee waivers.

SAT test dates and deadlines and anticipated score release

Test Date	Normal Deadline	Late Registration*	Online Score Release
December 2, 2017	November 2, 2017	November 21, 2017	December 15-21, 2017
March 10, 2018**	February 9, 2018	February 28, 2018	March 23-29, 2018
May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018	April 25, 2018	May 18-24, 2018
June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	May 23, 2018	July 11, 2018

**The late registration deadline is one week earlier if you are registering by mail.*

***Regular SAT only.*

ACT test dates and deadlines and anticipated score release

Test Date	Deadline	Late Deadline	Score Release*
Dec 9, 2017	Nov 3, 2017	Nov 17, 2017	Dec 19; Jan 2, 2018
Feb 10, 2018	Jan 12, 2018	Jan 19, 2018	Feb 2; Mar 6, 2018
Apr 14, 2018	Mar 9, 2018	Mar 23, 2018	Apr 24; May 8, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 18, 2018	June 19; July 3, 2018
July 14, 2018	June 15, 2018	June 22, 2018	July 24; Aug 7, 2018

*= Refers to online score release. The first date is when multiple choice scores come out, and the second one is when complete scores are available.