9th and 10th Grade College Night

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH AT 6:00 PM

NICOLE MIRAMONTES, DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING
Welcome and Introductions!

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The parent role in the process:

What can YOU do to help support your student?

- Talk about college at home
  - Decisions
  - Obstacles
  - Fears
  - Struggles
  - Excitement
  - Transition

- Frequently check on academic progress (PowerSchool/Moodle)

- Encourage exploration of colleges and majors (Naviance) (college tours)

- Give them responsibility in the process
  - Assist with issues/conflict, but allow students to solve on their own.
  - Pay attention, stay involved
  - After all, THEY are the ones going to college 😊
A-G Requirements

- HTLA is a college prep high school
- Every student will attend college after high school graduation
- A-G Requirements
  - Sequence of high school courses that students must complete (with a grade of C or better) to be minimally eligible for admission to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU).
  - All of HTLA’s core academic classes are A-G approved.
- HTLA graduation requirements EXCEED A-G requirements
- No “D” policy
  - Colleges do not accept D’s so neither does HTLA!
The Numbers . . . (final (sorta) at the end of Junior Year)

- **Community College**
  - Ex: Pierce College and Valley College
  - No minimum GPA required – only high school diploma

- **California State Universities (23)**
  - Ex: CSUN, Cal State Long Beach, Cal State San Diego, Cal Poly Pomona
  - Minimum GPA = 2.0 to apply

- **University of California (9)**
  - Ex: UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, UC Davis
  - Minimum GPA = 3.0 to apply

- **Private Colleges or Out of State Colleges**
  - Typically require a 3.0 GPA to apply
  - Varies per college
How to prepare for college . . .

- Get Good Grades
  - Cumulative GPA or Weighted GPA = all classes completed 9th – 11th grade
    - “Weighted” means includes honors classes
    - Used for private colleges and out of state colleges
  - UC/CSU GPA = all classes completed 10th – 11th grade
    - Used only for University of California (9) and California State Universities (23)
  - Students will use their GPA at the end of the JUNIOR year to apply to college.
  - Colleges CARE about your senior grades, but are not factored into GPA for admission.
How to prepare for college...

- Participate in Extra Curricular Activities
  - Can be inside school or within your community
  - Commit to 2-3 activities instead of trying to overwhelm yourself with multiple activities.

- Expand your thinking!
  - Students do awesome things! Does not have to be a member of student council or sports team.
    - Volunteer work, babysitting, part time job, club sports, musical/artistic talent, social activism, community college classes, etc.
  - Leadership, passion, and impact!
Summer Plans

- Summer plans are made in the winter!
  - Summer program workshops in February
- DO SOMETHING!
  - Participate, learn, volunteer, get a job, internship, babysit, etc.
- Search and apply for scholarships
  - Naviance
  - www.fastweb.com; www.goingmerry.com; www.collegexpress.com
  - “do nothing” scholarships
- Take community college courses
  - Take courses on college campuses
- Visit colleges
- Continue to research colleges
- Update your resume
What to do now!

- Attend school and be on time every day!
- Check Naviance on a regular basis
  - 9th graders will have access by the end of September
  - 10th graders already have access
  - Parents, do you need an account? Email Ms. Miramontes!
- College Visits / Tours / Research – Never too early!
  - Visit colleges on the weekends or on breaks/vacations
  - Attend College Tours sponsored by HTLA
    - Northern California College Tour in the Fall
- Communicate!
  - Have open and honest conversations about college
- Apply for scholarships!
  - www.fastweb.com; www.goingmerry.com; www.collegexpress.com
Looking Ahead . . .

- Practice SAT on Wednesday, October 16th
- Classroom check-ins 2 times per year
- Spring Semester of Junior Year
  - Individual College Planning Meeting
  - Prep for the SAT/ACT and take the test
- Fall Semester of Senior Year:
  - Submit college applications
  - Apply for financial aid
    - Can not be done before this
- Ask for help!
  - Ms. Nicole Miramontes, Director of College Counseling
  - Ms. Nikki Bender, School Counselor