



CAPE FEAR ACADEMY

COLLEGE PLANNING PROGRAM

Cape Fear Academy provides a comprehensive college placement program for all Upper School students. The array of college planning opportunities provides assistance to students and parents as they navigate the screening and application process.

Scheduling Meetings

In February-March of each year, each student in the Upper School meets individually with the Director of College Planning to plan their upcoming year's schedule, update their 4-year plan, and discuss the PSAT/ReadiStep scores and college/career goals.

8th Grade Class Selection Seminar

Each spring during advisory, eighth grade students are guided in Upper School course selection. They learn all about the curriculum options and expectations of CFA Upper School from the Director of College Planning.

READISTEP / PSAT / SAT Preparation and Score Interpretations

In October of each year, 9th grade students take the Readistep examination and the 10th and 11th grade students take the PSAT. Individual meetings may be scheduled with parents and students to discuss the scores and the implications for future course selection and SAT success.

Freshman Introduction to College Night

The Director of College Planning reviews the college admissions process and how 9th graders can begin to prepare. Our web-based, college and career search program, Naviance, is fully explained along with a demonstration of the many tools offered within this program for students and parents.

Sophomore / Junior College Night

College night for sophomores and juniors is hosted by the Director of College Planning and a college admissions representative. Students and parents are informed of the college's acceptance criteria and are given recommendations from CFA regarding how to enhance a student's transcript and résumé.

Junior College Trip

In October, a 3-day college trip for the junior class highlights 5-6 colleges of diverse environments. The trip helps juniors identify several different types of colleges – large, small, private, public, large city/urban campuses, and small town campuses. The trip assists students in determining their best fit as they begin to consider college selections. The trip in 2014 included visits to Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Richmond, University of Virginia, Washington & Lee University, and Virginia Tech.

Individual Junior Meetings

In late spring and throughout the summer, all juniors and their parents meet individually with the Director of College Planning to discuss their plans for college searches.

College Application Process

Each senior is given a college admissions folder that contains the following: Program Overview, Timeline and Testing Information, College Search Process, Application and Admissions Process, Financial Aid/Scholarships, Writing the College Essay, Glossary of Terms, and websites of interest. Students and parents are also asked to complete a College Planning Information questionnaire that is used for the letters of recommendation.

Senior College Night

This evening is an opportunity for students and parents to hear college admissions representatives offer their perspectives on admission practices and policies. The Director of College Planning also reviews the college visit, terms and definitions, standardized tests, and what colleges seek in their applicants. Nuts and bolts of the application process are discussed.

Financial Aid Night

Parents are invited to an evening program to receive information on navigating the financial aid process for college. The Director of College Planning as well as the representative from College Foundation of North Carolina share information on filing the FAFSA, CSS Profile, deadlines, and other important aspects related to scholarships and financial aid.

College / Scholarship / Opportunities Newsletter

A bi-weekly newsletter is provided electronically to inform seniors and parents of scholarship opportunities as well as information in regards to college visits, SAT / ACT dates, and other information about the college application process.

Included CFA's weekly newsletter to all parents and students is information on summer opportunities such as science and math programs, specialty programs such as marine biology, instrumental music, sports camps, and college simulation experiences. Material is also available for academic opportunities throughout the school year.

Additional College Resources

- College Resource Room (catalogs, view books, videos, applications, scholarship information, resource books) which may be checked out to students and parents
- Several private visits from various colleges are coordinated for 10th, 11th, and 12th graders
- Naviance - the web-based college and career search program to which CFA subscribes each year. Every student and parent has a personal account and access to the myriad capabilities of this robust program. Throughout the year, workshops are given to students in order to encourage them to utilize this valuable resource.