



College Readiness Plan

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College Counselor

Outline

- Mission Statement
- College-Going Culture
- Class Accomplishments
- Factors in the Admission Decision
- College Readiness Plan
- Student and Parent Resources
- Future Initiatives

College Counseling Mission

Facilitate the college admission process for R-MA students and families to find the best **academic, social and financial fit** for a post-secondary education.

What does college counseling look like at R-MA?

- **College-Going Culture: The Goal**
 - Develop a **comprehensive college readiness program for all students**
 - **Create aspirations about college** and understanding the doors it opens
 - **Advise on the appropriate curriculum and staying on track**
 - **Prepare for and take college entrance exams early**
 - **More deliberate planning and execution when applying to college(s)**

It is a team effort...the student, parent, mentor, faculty are all partners in preparing the student for college

Critical Components for a College Going Culture

- Family involvement - #1
- College talk
- Clear expectations
- Information and resources
- Comprehensive counseling model
- Curriculum and testing
- Faculty, mentor and CLS involvement
- College partnerships
- Articulation

Class of 2011 Accomplishments

- 74 graduated in the Class of 2011
- 73 admitted to a college or university
 - 1 enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard
- 64 admitted to a 4-year college/university
- 2 attending the USAF Academy
- 5 admitted to a military school
- 2 received ROTC scholarships
- \$5,418,887 in scholarships

Class of 2012 Accomplishments

- **81** graduated in the Class of 2012
- **81** admitted to a college or university
- **77** admitted to a 4-year college or university
- **1** attending the US Naval Academy
- **6** admitted to a military school/program
- **4** received ROTC scholarships
- **\$3,288,704** in scholarships

Class of 2013 Accomplishments

- **71 graduated in the Class of 2013**
- **2 Falcon Scholars; both appointed to USAFA**
- **100% accepted to a 4-year college or university**
 - **1 USAFA appointment**
 - **1 USNA appointment**
- **4 attending a military school/program**
- **6 received ROTC scholarships**
- Approximately **\$8.25 million** in scholarships

Class of 2014 Accomplishments

- **73 will graduate in the Class of 2014**
- **5 Falcon Scholars appointed to USAF Academy**
- **100% have one or more acceptances**
 - **2 USMA appointments**
 - **1 USCGA appointment**
 - **1 USAFA appointment**
 - **1 USNA appointment**
- **5 Air Force ROTC scholarship**
- **2 Army ROTC scholarships**
- **1 Navy ROTC scholarship**
- **\$8,906,332.00 in merit scholarships**

Class of 2015 Accomplishments

- **61 graduated in the Class of 2015**
- **5 Falcon Scholars appointed to USAF Academy**
- **100% have one or more acceptances**
 - **1 USNA Scholars Program**
 - **1 attending a military school/program**
- **1 Army ROTC scholarship**
- **\$6,679,324.00 merit scholarships**

Factors in the Admission Decision

Factor	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance
1. Grades in College Prep Courses	82.3%	11.6%
2. Strength of Curriculum	65	25.2
3. Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	56.1	31.3
4. Grades in All Courses	49.8	37.5
5. Essay or Writing Sample	19.7	38.1
6. Student's Demonstrated Interest	17.8	31.2
7. Counselor recommendation	15.6	42.9
8. Teacher recommendation	15.4	41.6
9. Class rank (decile)	13.3	36.2
10. Extracurricular activities	6.8	39.1

SOURCE: National Association for College Admission Counseling, Admissions Trends Survey, 2012

College Readiness Plan

College Readiness Topic	Student Deliverable	9	10	11	12
Intro to R-MA College Readiness, Milestones	Understand importance of time management, organization and adhering to deadlines in the College Admission Process	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intro to Naviance Family Connection	Use Naviance for the college admission process	✓			
Learning Style Inventory	Understand how they learn most effectively and reveal their optimal learning conditions to improve confidence and academic performance	✓			
Aptitudes & Orientation – “Do What You Are” – Personality Profile	Understand the role temperament plays in achieving their goals		✓		

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StrengthsExplorer®	Identify their three strongest emerging talents. Students will be provided with explanations of their top three themes and learn how to capitalize on their success and discover what they need to do next to continue building on their strengths		✓		
Career Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Complete <i>Career Interest Profiler</i> in Naviance •Identify how careers, programs and majors relate to their personal interests and desires 		✓		
“Rigor vs. Grades” secondary course planning to achieve post-secondary goals	Identify the intentional sequence of coursework to meet postsecondary goals	✓	✓	✓	
GPA, the High School Transcript, Reporting Behavior and Importance of Junior Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Calculate GPA and understand how colleges view GPA in the admission process. •Validate their transcript 	✓	✓	✓	

College Readiness Plan

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Navigating the Testing Maze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the importance of standardized testing in the college admission process • Register for the SAT and/or ACT • Register for TOEFL (International) 		✓	✓	
Preparing Your Resume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the noncognitive variables that make them standout from their competitors • Develop “My Resume” in Naviance 	✓	✓	✓	
Selecting a College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define their requirements for a college or university • Complete the “Game Plan” survey in Naviance 		✓	✓	

College Readiness Plan

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College Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use several search engines to develop a list of schools to investigate •Identify and list 6 “Colleges That I’m Thinking About” in Naviance 		✓	✓	
Campus Visit & College Fairs	Attend either a college fair or campus visit		✓	✓	
What’s your story? Famous first lines...The personal Statement and Essay Writing Requirements	Complete a “draft” essay (graded assignment for English 11)		✓	✓	
The College Application	Complete pages 1-5 of the “Preview Common Application”			✓	
What’s a FERPA? Letters of Recommendation (LOR)	Complete (1) the senior brag sheet , (2) write their own LOR , (3) request their LOR			✓	

College Readiness Plan

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Myths in the College Admission Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Participate in a Mock Admissions Board •Guest speaker – College Admissions Counselor 	✓		✓	✓
Paying for College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Demonstrate scholarship search features in Naviance •Complete the CAPPEX worksheet “Can you afford your college choices?” •Demonstrate using the “Net Price Calculator” 			✓	✓
What are you doing this Summer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Explore enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom to enhance the student’s “stand out” factor 	✓	✓	✓	

College Readiness Plan

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College Application Process in Naviance	Utilize Naviance to (1) Identify “Colleges I’m Applying To” (2) Update when they apply, (3) Request transcripts, (4) Update application status, and (5) Identify the college they will attend.				✓
Interview with College Counselor	Demonstrate interviewing skills, discuss post-secondary game plan and validate understanding of R-MA’s college planning and readiness process			✓	✓

College Readiness Plan

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Words of Wisdom	Converse with a panel of alumni/graduating seniors	✓	✓	✓	
Military Careers – Service Academies & ROTC Application Process	Meet with service academy and ROTC representatives	✓	✓	✓	
International Student Admission Process	Understand the unique admission requirements for international students			✓	✓

I Want to Attend a Service Academy...

1. **Academics** – curriculum, grades, standardized testing
2. **Athletics** – participate and must exceed “standard” for the candidate fitness assessment
3. **Leadership** – AFJROTC, clubs, sports, community service
4. **Enrichment**
5. **Extracurricular Activities**
6. **Visit** – summer programs
7. **Secure a nomination** – Presidential, VP, Senators, Congressman
8. **Pass the DODMERB physical** with no disorders or diseases
9. Demonstrate excellent **interviewing skills**.
10. **Show passion and a desire to serve.**

Future Initiatives

- **Increase knowledge of and establish partnerships with U.S. Colleges and Universities**
- **Increase Naviance Family Connection use by parents, mentors and R-MA faculty/staff**
- **Improve and increase communication of information to students and parents**
- **Improve deliberate application process**
- **Provide more opportunities for students to attend college tours and visits**
- ✓ **Establish and execute yearly themes for college readiness**

R-MA College Readiness

Student & Parent Resources

- R-MA web site/College Counseling Page

<http://www.rma.edu/college-counseling>

- Naviance Family Connection

<http://connection.naviance.com/rmava>

- *R-MA College Handbook*

<http://www.rma.edu/college-counseling>

- *Facebook* – “*Like*” R-MA College Counseling

Student & Parent Resources

- *ECMC – Opportunities, Preparing for College Guide and Workbook*
- ❖ *Winning the College Admission Game, Peter Van Buskirk*
- *College is Yours 2.0, Patrick J. O’Conner*
- ❖ *Colleges That Change Lives, Loren Pope*
- *Crazy U, Andrew Ferguson*
- *Sending Your Child to College, Prepared Parent’s Operational Manual , Marie Pinak Carr*

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