

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

A service of Wylie Preparatory Academy's High School Counseling Office

December 3, 2015

## Upcoming Activities

- **JANUARY SAT: There's Still Time** - There's still time for students planning on going to college next fall to boost their applications. Encourage your seniors to take the SAT® on Jan. 23, 2016. **The deadline to register is Dec. 28, 2015.** Please note this is the last time to take the old format for the SAT. The new format begins in March of 2016.
- **January 18th** - Pre-approval forms and Transfer Credit forms for transfer classes will be submitted to the academic committee for review on this date. **(Seniors, pay close attention to this one. It is the last date to hand in transfer stuff to Ms. Hawkins before your planned graduation).**
- **January 25th** - Collin College will be speaking to the College Prep class (9:40-10:40) and having one-on-one visits with any interested parents. You are welcome to come to the class and listen and/or schedule a one-on-one. Just email Mrs. Beem at lbeem@wylieprep.com
- **February 25th**– Collin College will be hosting a 1 hour presentation at Wylie Preparatory Academy about what they offer and how to transfer what a student obtains at Collin to a 4 year university plan.
- **April 4th**- Pre-Approval Forms and Transfer Credit Material Deadline for submission of approval to the academic team.

---

*<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.  
- Colossians 3:23-24*

---



Please visit the Counselor's Corner office in building 15 if we can help you in any way.

## In This Issue

- Praises & Prayers...2
- FAFSA.....3
- Grade Level Facts...4
- Pre-Approval & Transfer Credits & Fees...5

# Praises and Prayers for our Seniors

Wow, this year is flying past! One of the great benefits of being at a private Christian school is the fact we can praise and pray together. I wanted to share some praises and prayers from the Counselor's office.

College admissions has changed so much since back in the 80's when I applied. Our Seniors (and parents) are navigating a more complicated process than we navigated and they are facing a more competitive process than what we faced. Our kids, here at Wylie Prep, based on the guidance of this great school, shine among their peers on other campuses for a number of reasons. Some key elements in college admissions that cause our students to shine among others students is the fact we have rigorous academics that they learn to be responsible for with our model. We strive to have our kids do well on testing (and they do), and we have our kids serve (it is required). Based on all that, I have the easy job of presenting our kids to colleges. By the time our students are seniors, they have built a package that sells them as students to colleges. THAT IS A MAJOR PRAISE!

Please join me in praising the large number of college acceptances our Seniors have already received based on Early Action applications. Please know that an acceptance does not mean the student will attend that school, just that they applied and were accepted. Many of our seniors have even been invited to Honor's Colleges within these schools based on GPAs, standardized test scores, and a strong work ethics in the community over their high school years. Just as a side note... IT IS NOT TOO LATE TOO APPLY, if you are thinking about a 4 year university!

Prayers...I would ask that you cover our Seniors and their parents in prayer. That God would lead their paths to becoming the men and women He created them to be for His glory. That God would provide the funding they need for their college endeavors. That God would protect them as they step off our campus onto much larger campuses. That God would be real to them and their guide in all their trials and needs as they walk onto these campuses. That Wylie Prep would always be a place they would come home to and celebrate their High School years.

## College Acceptances for our Seniors based on Early Action Applications

### **Emily Black**

Baylor University

Oklahoma City University

Texas State University

Texas Tech

University of Oklahoma

University of North Texas

University of Arkansas

### **Mackenna Coull**

University of Arkansas

### **Claudia Cruz**

Southwestern Assemblies of God University

### **Haylee Fields**

Dallas Baptist University

### **Alan Hankins**

Baylor University

Texas Tech

University of North Texas

### **Samuel Hankins**

Texas Tech

University of North Texas

### **Cadyn Jarrett**

Southwestern Assemblies of God University

### **Mikah Joyce**

Texas Tech

### **Parker Killian**

Texas Tech

### **Patrick McElyea**

Mary-Hardin Baylor

### **Alli Reuthinger**

Texas A&M

### **Sophie Rhodes**

University of Oklahoma

Oklahoma State University

Abilene Christian University

Baylor

### **Lindsay Spitaletto**

University of Arkansas

### **Abby Williams**

University of Mary Hardin Baylor

Dallas Baptist University

*Matthew 6:31-32  
(NIV)*

*<sup>31</sup> So do not worry,  
saying, 'What  
shall we eat?' or  
'What shall we  
drink?' or 'What  
shall we  
wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the  
pagans run after  
all these things,  
and your heavenly  
Father knows that  
you need them.*



**My student is accepted to a college.....HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR THAT?!?! ALWAYS START WITH FAFSA.** For our current Seniors, FAFSA will open up January 1st, 2016. But prior to that you can use the [FAFSA worksheet](#) to gather important needed information for the application process and utilize the website for the [FAFSA forecaster](#).

FAFSA-Most college financial aid, of any type, requires the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and many college and states require your FAFSA information to award their own grants and scholarships.

Need based financial aid, such as government funded Pell Grants, which you don't have to repay.

Merit aid, such as grants and scholarships from colleges, which you don't have to repay

State-sponsored financial aid

Students loans, such as Perkins and Stafford Loans, and PLUS Loans for parent borrowers

Work-study programs (a job on campus while you attend)

If you are interested in any of the above, you should definitely fill out the FAFSA.

Use the FAFSA4caster to estimate your eligibility for federal student aid.

The FAFSA is available every year starting January 1st. You should start the application during your senior year as early as possible. The FAFSA takes time and many colleges and states have their own varying deadlines, some as early as February 15. Check your state's deadline at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

Some private colleges also require the CSS Profile, found at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com), which is a separate financial aid form.

## Psalm 139:13-16

For you created  
my inmost being;  
you knit me to-  
gether in my  
mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise  
you because I am  
fearfully and won-  
derfully made;

your works are  
wonderful,

I know that full  
well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was  
not hidden from  
you

when I was  
made in the secret  
place,

when I was wo-  
ven together in  
the depths of the  
earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw  
my unformed  
body;

all the days or-  
dained for me  
were written in  
your book

before one of  
them came to be.



**9th-12th Practice Made Easy**—Did you know that students can now practice for the new SAT on their mobile devices? Check out the new [daily SAT practice app](#). With a different question every day, students can prepare for the test even when they're crunched for time.

**9th & 10th** —Now is a great time to make sure you are aware of the real [cost of college](#) and define your role in financing your children's education.

Two of my favorite websites for early in high school when you are just starting to think college are below. Start the research process early so you have time to pray and consider your options. [Department of Education Financial Aid Shopping Sheet](#) and [College Scorecard](#).

**11th & 12th**—Helpful websites

[College Goal Sunday](#)

[Texas FAFSA events](#)

Don't forget to search for scholarships...[search for scholarships](#).

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search#>

Complete the [FAFSA worksheet](#) before filling out the online form; it will make the process much easier.

Learn the basics about student financial aid by checking out the [Financial Aid Toolkit](#), recently launched by Federal Student Aid.

**JUST SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE SAT/ACT**....This year, as our Seniors have been applying for colleges, I have seen numerous cases where the student is anywhere from 10 to 100 points off of scholarship funds based on their test scores. I am seeing kids miss out on \$3,000 annually in scholarship money due to test scores. Statistically speaking, the greatest jump in test scores is between the first time taking the test and the second. Parents, I would encourage you to make sure your child takes the ACT or SAT more than one time. It can truly benefit you financially if they are planning on a 4 year school.



## SUBMISSION OF PRE-APPROVAL AND COMPLETED TRANSFER CREDIT

To transfer a credit into Wylie Prep for your diploma requirements, you must have the course PRE-APPROVED by Ms. Hawkins. The first step to doing this is to visit with Ms. Hawkins for a Preapproval form (these forms can not be emailed, you must visit Ms. Hawkins to receive one). This form, and the attachments it requires, will then be submitted to a committee for review for approval.

The final application for approval form (once the course is complete) can be sent to you in an email from Ms. Hawkins once the work is complete.

Both of these forms, the Pre-approval form and the Transfer Credit form will only be accepted for review on the following dates:

September 11, 2015

January 18th, 2016

April 4th, 2016

You may submit your forms to Ms. Hawkins at anytime, but forms will only be reviewed by the committee on the above dates.

## TRANSFER CREDIT FEE INCREASE

There will be a fee increase for all transfer credit that is received after April 4, 2016. The current fee of \$75 per course will be raised to \$150 per course. If you have already submitted a Pre-Approval form (the form that must be completed before beginning a course) and it has been approved for transfer credit, please make every attempt to complete that course by April 4, 2016 in order to pay the current fee of \$75. All transfer credit (the completed coursework) that is submitted after April 4, 2016 will be subject to the \$150 fee.



## OSU ups scholarship for Texas students

Texas high school students can now benefit from an increase in Oklahoma State University's Out of State Achievement Scholarship. OSU has increased the scholarship by \$1,000 in nearly every category, starting with students in the freshman class of 1016. Texas students will most benefit from the increase as 22 percent of OSU's current freshman class are from the state. OSU's out-of-state assured scholarships are generous ranging from \$12,500 per year from a student with a 30+ ACT (1330+ SAT) to \$8,000 per year for a student with a 24 ACT (1090 SAT). All out of state achievement scholarships requires a 3.0 unweighted GPA. The award allows many out of state students to attend OSU for a cost similar or less that what they could attend an in-state-institution. To be considered for all scholarships at OSU, students should apply online at [admissions.okstate.edu](http://admissions.okstate.edu). The priority scholarship application deadline is February 1, but students are encouraged to apply earlier as select scholarships are awarded prior to that date. The OSU application from admission also serves as the application for scholarships, so students do not need to complete multiple forms or applications.