



OFFICE OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Our Partnership with Students and Families

The College search process is a fundamental part of the Chadwick educational experience and, as such, aims to reflect the overall educational goals of the school in developing, in this new context, self-discovery through experience. We have great expectations for a partnership that includes teachers, administrators, students and parents. To be a member of the Chadwick community is to work toward a common goal to help move our students forward. It requires the shared commitment from our counselors, students and families that is expected in all Chadwick programs.

Chadwick School's Office of College Counseling guides students and families through the college admissions process, helping students select and gain admission to colleges and universities appropriate to their interests and demonstrated abilities. The more obvious and natural aim is for Chadwick to find the right collegiate home for our graduates and to make college exploration another powerful learning experience, developing in our graduates lasting and transferrable skills. We work to help students identify and discern opportunities, while cultivating self-presentation skills that may help advance the college admission process and, ultimately, careers.

Counselors engage students frequently in scheduled and unscheduled, formal and informal, individual conversations designed to help students reach a greater awareness of who they are and to help them focus on ideal learning environments. Parents have multiple opportunities to engage in group programs and in individual and family meetings with counselors throughout the transition.

It is critically important that we work as partners to the benefit of our students. In the spirit of Chadwick's student-centered approach to learning, we begin below with an articulation of student responsibilities, followed by counselor and parent commitments in this process.

Students are responsible for...

- Adhering to Chadwick's core values of honesty, respect, responsibility, fairness, and compassion
- Engaging in serious self-reflection to identify personal and educational goals
- Being honest, and aspiring to authenticity in all communications with the college counselors, colleges, and in applications
- Communicating regularly and often with their college counselor and their families
- Meeting all deadlines established by the Office of College Counseling and those set by colleges and universities
- Researching and adhering to specific admission requirements and deadlines (standardized testing, academics, interviews etc.) of each institution to which they apply
- Submitting all application materials and standardized testing (where appropriate) to colleges to which they ultimately apply
- Maintaining an accurate college application list on Naviance/Family Connection
- Maintaining a healthy approach to grades, commitments, and responsibilities throughout the senior year both application-related and beyond
- Considering the possibility of experiential learning opportunities, including a gap year, that could complement their college education
- Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of their classmates

Counselors are responsible for...

- Advising with the highest ethical and professional standards consistent with Chadwick's core values of honesty, respect, responsibility, fairness, and compassion
- Being supportive of the school, the class, and each student
- Staying abreast of current trends within college admission
- Providing access to information, scholarships, financial aid, and educational opportunities to all students
- Encouraging and challenging both students and families to explore the broad range of educational opportunities
- Working closely with students and families to critically examine the "why" of colleges they consider, including programs and their own learning styles
- Encouraging students to be thoughtful and careful in their research of admission requirements, policies, and procedures of individual colleges and universities
- Providing appropriate support of applications and essays while encouraging students to build upon their core competencies of critical and creative thinking, and writing
- To appropriately advocate for students to colleges throughout the admission process
- Submitting transcripts, Chadwick recommendations, and secondary school materials to each college or university reflected on a student's final list on Naviance/Family Connection
- Communicating with and being accessible to students and parents throughout the college search and application process

Parents are responsible for...

- Upholding Chadwick's core values of honesty, respect, responsibility, fairness, and compassion throughout the college process
- Exploring and recognizing the value of the broad educational opportunities
- Acknowledging that students are still developing into young adults and that they will continue to evolve as they learn more about themselves, including through the college exploration process
- Encouraging independence, personal responsibility and individual growth in their child toward the goal of preparation for independent life in college
- Allowing and urging students to take the lead and own the college process while providing appropriate support
- Being aware of deadlines for students established by colleges and universities, standardized testing organizations, and the Office of College Counseling. Be aware of financial aid form deadlines
- Providing the Office of College Counseling with relevant information, context, and insights about their children and remaining engaged in communications from college counselors through the process
- Helping students accept outcomes by modeling and encouraging resilience
- Respecting the privacy of their child as well as those of other students and their families