

## COLLEGE VISITS: A GOOD SUMMER PROJECT

Summer is the perfect time to see colleges for the first time. With few students in residence, you will still need to revisit to see the population while classes are in session. Here are some important things to look for:

Planning on an interview? Mrs. Hatcher has a list of questions to help you prepare.

Some criteria to help evaluate a college for you:

- How far is the trip from home?
- Is the cost within my budget?
- Characteristics of the college or university: size, religious affiliations, diversity of the student body, accreditation, and reputation are some of the points to consider.
- What % of students go home on the weekend?
- Are there academic programs in my area of interest?
- Review the admissions criteria. Look up the college on Fast Web or College Board to see the statistics of the incoming freshman class.
- What types of athletic programs are offered?
- What is the availability of financial aid and scholarships?

Each junior has had his/her final meeting for the year. Every student has a list of schools to visit. Meetings with coaches and counselors should be set up through guidance so that all areas of the program at any particular college are taken into consideration when dealing with each individual student.

Athletes must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at: [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net) . There is a form at the end of the registration process that must be signed by the family and brought into the Guidance Office.

Workshops were held after school by Mrs. Hatcher for students who want help brainstorming ideas for their college essays. Suggested topics were given out to each junior along with guidelines for writing the essay.

Each junior has a BRAG SHEET that must be turned in before the end of school.

Applying to more than five colleges? Consider the Common Application. To get all the information you could ever want to know about the common application go to [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) .

Remember the College Fair on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm and the Senior/Parent College Night on August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the school Library.

Additional questions about colleges, applications, essay writing, SATs or ACTs? Stop by or call the Guidance Office @ extension 123.

When in doubt, pick up the phone and ask. You can reach Mrs. Hatcher all summer through email at: [mjhatcher@morriscatholic.org](mailto:mjhatcher@morriscatholic.org).

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