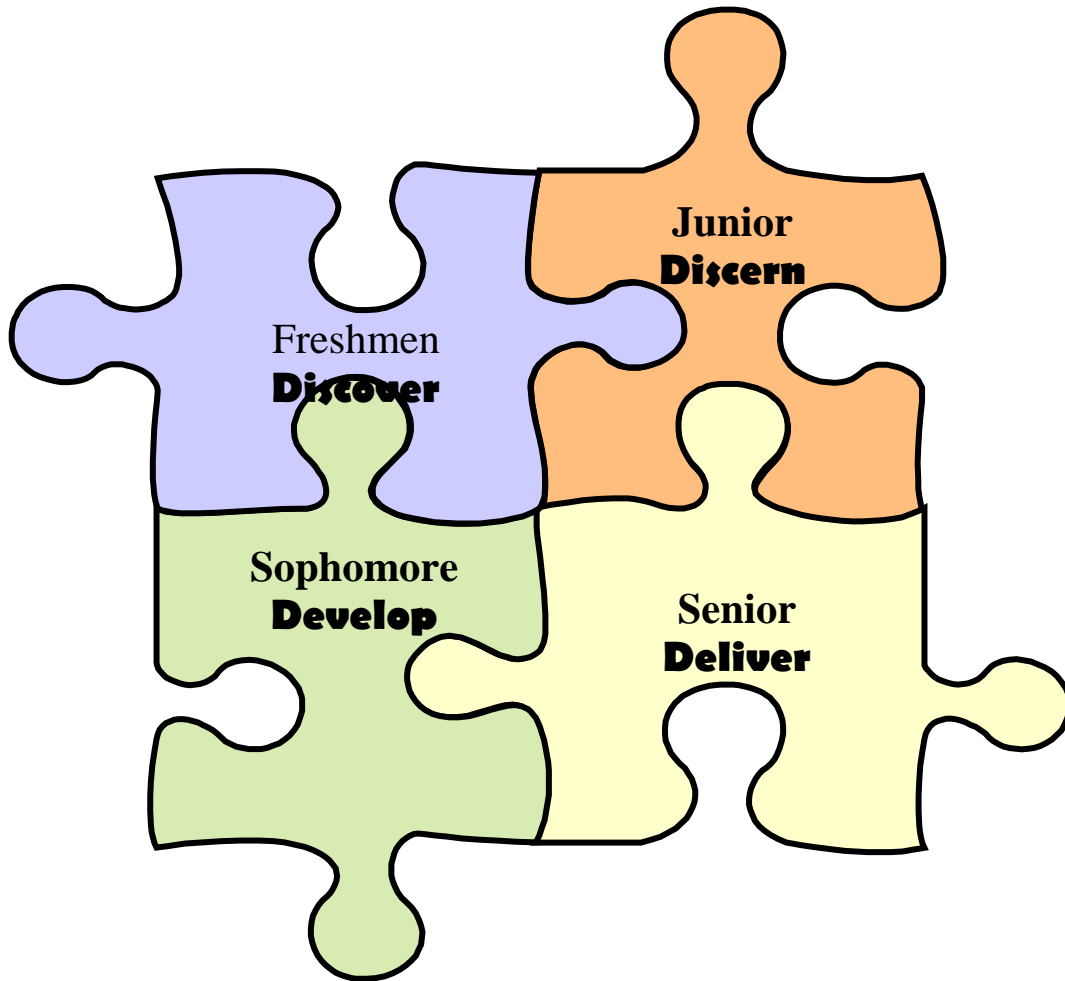


Ocean View Christian Academy

College and Career Counseling Guide

"Glorifying God by equipping students spiritually, academically, socially and physically"



PURPOSING HEARTS

PERCEIVE your worth ⇒ **UNLEASH** your faith ⇒ **RELISH** Godly discipline
⇒ **PURSUE** God's vision ⇒ **OPT** for peace ⇒ **STRIVE** for greatness ⇒
ENDURE the storms!



August 2, 2016

Dear Ocean View Christian Academy Student and Family,

I am pleased to share with you the College and Career Counseling Guide for your Ocean View Christian Academy experience. As the mission of Ocean View Christian Academy states we are a, “Christian, co-educational college preparatory school...to glorify God by equipping students spiritually, academically, socially and physically.” Therefore, the goal of your school guidance counselor is to provide students with the opportunities and information to help them reach their God given potential. My objective is to help students **discover, develop, discern** and finally **deliver** their God given talents to the world upon their graduation from Ocean View Christian Academy.

This document will help you understand the opportunities provided by Ocean View Christian Academy, the expectations of the student and the plan for the parents to help our students accomplish this goal and objectives. Like any document, it is only a plan. The ultimate success of your experience will be determined by your effort and execution of the plan. If done right and well, I believe it will result in the student’s admission and success at the college or career program of their choice. And I have many examples over the past nine years as evidence.

A Christian high school education is unique in that to be completed successfully; I must help lead students from their relative dependence on the adults in their lives to a more independent level of existence yet sustained by their personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It is with this reality in mind that I have planned a curriculum and experience to challenge our students to their fullest and invite them to reach beyond their usual comforts. In other words, I will intentionally and appropriately push students so that they can learn the skills, habits and advocacy to navigate to this desired level of independence. It will require us all working together to help this happen.

It is fitting that our mascot symbolizes the adventurous, *Patriot* who left the comforts of his homeland and traveled out into the unknown where he is forced to **discover, develop, discern** and finally **deliver** an experience that God masterfully orchestrated. I look forward to our work together.

Making A Difference for All Eternity: ONE DAY AT A TIME,

De Vita E. Andrews

DeVita E. Andrews, CAC, PPS, PCCi 2304
Educational and Clinical Counseling, M.A. Ed.
School Guidance Counselor

Discover – Freshmen Year

The freshmen year is one filled with new discoveries. It is important that students keep an open mind and seek out opportunities to discover the many different options available for them in their college and career choices. Most importantly, it is a critical year to discover the importance of a solid high school experience as it relates to opportunities and options for college and beyond. This will be done largely through learning the importance in and implementation of study skills and time management (aka *homework and studying*).



Objectives:

- Have students develop proper study habits and skills to reach their full potential
- Help students discover their interests, values and abilities and how they relate to career and college explorations as well as options
- Encourage students to be involved and engaged in school so they can develop as a person
- Educate students and parents about what colleges desire and require in admission decisions
- Prepare and inform students and parents about Standardized Testing (Terra Nova®, PSAT® 8/9, ACT Aspire® & ACT Engage®)
- Introduce the College and Career Counseling process and help families be actively involved

Expectations of Student:

- ☑ Study at least one hour every night five nights per week and utilize Headmaster and Naviance's Family Connection appropriately
- ☑ Use available resources:
 - Headmaster to be informed of assignments, grades and activities
<https://secure.headmasteronline.com>
 - Register an account on Naviance's Family Connection website and become familiar with this resource at <https://www.naviance.com/> (copy & paste link into your computer browser)
 - Use *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* (a copy is available in the counselor's office)
- ☑ Take standardized tests including the ACT Aspire®, ACT Engage® (which are pre ACT assessments) or the PSAT® 8/9 in October. Attend interpretation presentation when scheduled.
- ☑ Participate in the optional Fall Mini-School: *Introducing Study Skills Self-Help* and/or *Ten Skills You Really Need to Succeed in School*
- ☑ Meet with your counselor to discuss and update guidance portfolio (check-list) and follow through on setting/tracking goals
- ☑ Listen to announcements and read mailings (e-mails, *Constant Contacts*) regarding important information and scheduled presentations

Plan for Parent(s):

- Monitor and ensure student's proper study habits and grades
- Use resources to monitor and assist student
 - Headmaster to monitor student's assignments, progress and activities
<https://secure.headmasteronline.com>
 - Register a parent account on Naviance's Family Connection website and become familiar with this resource at <https://www.naviance.com/> (copy & paste link into your computer browser)
 - Purchase and Use *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College*
- Be aware of student's standardized test scores (Terra Nova®, ACT Aspire®, ACT Engage® and the PSAT® 8/9).
- Encourage your child to participate in the optional Fall Mini-School: *Introducing Study Skills Self-Help* and/or *Ten Skills You Really Need to Succeed in School*
- Look for summer opportunities to enhance student's interests or abilities
- Read mailings (e-mails, *Constant Contacts*) regarding important information and attend meetings including—Coffee with the Counselor, Open House, the Underclassman College, Career and Scholarship Information Night, and the Student-led College Fair.

Survival Tips for Student:

- Electives like Physical Education are easy A's. Don't mess up your grade and ultimately your grade point average (GPA) by skipping or by not dressing for P.E.
- Grades are important, but don't let them become your *WHOLE* life, or you will be stressed out all the time.
- Get involved in after school activities or service projects.
- Don't stay up into the morning hours; it's harder to get up in the morning (and to stay awake in the classes you were just studying so hard for)!
- Stay on top of your work, because the road to success is even longer than freshman year.
- Make the next few years' count. You will never have another opportunity like this.
- Be yourself; if you feel as if everyone is looking at you, you just feel the same way everyone else does. Look back and *smile!*

Survival Tips for Parents:

- Electives like Physical Education are easy A's. Don't allow your student to mess up his/her grade and ultimately his/her grade point average (GPA) by--(1) skipping or by not dressing for P.E. or (2) participating in class discussions.
- Grades are important, but don't let them become you or your child's *WHOLE* life, or you and your child will be stressed out all the time. Living for grades has negative repercussions later in high school and college.
- Allow your student to get involved in after school activities or service projects. Building a college application resume starts in 9th grade.

Supplemental Material for Student and Parents

Websites—

- ☑ College is Possible— www.collegeispossible.org
American Council on Education (ACE) offers students assistance in using their ACE credit recommendations and transcripts, information about prior learning assessment options, and resources ...
- ☑ GEAR UP— <http://mapping-your-future.org>
Helps students plan for higher education by offering reliable and unbiased money management advice and counseling. Online and offline resources include [college preparation](#), school selection, [career exploration](#), and counseling aimed at helping students and families better understand [student loan](#) obligations and learn about practical [money management](#) solutions to ensure healthy finances while in school and beyond.

Reading—

- ☑ *Colleges That Change Lives* by Loren Pope
- ☑ *Queen Bee Moms & Kingpin Dads: Dealing with the Parents, Teachers, Coaches, and Counselors Who Can Make –or–Break Your Child’s Future* by Rosalind Wiseman & Elizabeth Rapoport
- ☑ *Countdown to College: 21 To Do Lists for High School: Step-By-Step Strategies for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders* (2nd Edition) by Valerie Pierce

Final Advice for Student

I encourage you to read, READ, **READ!** This is the one consistent word of advice I hear in test prep sessions, as well as in talks with college admissions personnel. Start with reading the newspaper, because it offers a variety of subjects and thus exposes you to a more extensive vocabulary.

OVCA College & Career Counseling Bible Verse: *Jeremiah 29:11-13* ^{AMP}

For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,’ says the LORD, ‘plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you. Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.



E-mail: dandrews@ovcapatriots.com
Telephone: (619) 424-7875
Office hours: Monday – Thursday (8:50 am – 1:00 pm)
Monday – Thursday (2:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

Develop – Sophomore



The sophomore year is an important one for the students to really push themselves to develop their full God-given potential. Also, it is an important year to develop a comprehensive understanding of your post-secondary options. This is the year to really begin developing and broadening your understanding of college and career options, scholarship opportunities and choices.

Objectives:

- Require more independent and efficient study habits
- Stress success in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum
- Provide information about the different college characteristics and choices
- Teach how to effectively and meaningfully research college options
- Explain proper test taking strategies for college entrance tests
- Foster involvement in extracurricular area, especially one of passion

Expectations for Student:

- Study at least 1.5 hours every night five nights per week and build up your endurance for reading.
- Continue using Headmaster, Naviance's Family Connection, counselor recommended websites and *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* to monitor progress as it relates to goals.
- Do your best on the Pre-ACT® (Fall) and Terra Nova® (Spring).
- Attend Pre-ACT® interpretation presentation when scheduled.
- Schedule permitting, come listen to college representatives visiting to develop understanding of different college characteristics.
- Read assigned library textbook, *Learning for the Love of God* and answers chapter questions in Family Connection.
- Participate in the optional Fall small group studies and Spring Mini-School *So What Am I Gonna Do With My LIFE?*
- Meet with your counselor to discuss and update guidance portfolio (check-list) and follow through on setting/tracking goals
- Decide what summer enrichment activity you will do to best learn and prepare for college
- Consider and prepare for the Honors and AP offerings for next year
- Schedule in the Spring to take one SAT II (subject test)

Plan for Parent:

- Monitor and ensure student's proper study habits and grades.
- Use counselor's recommended resources to monitor and assist student (i.e., Headmaster®, Naviance's Family Connection).
- Be aware of student's standardized test scores (Terra Nova® and Pre-ACT®)

- ☑ Assist student in finding appropriate summer activity to best learn and prepare for college
- ☑ Encourage your student to attend counselor's various small group studies that are designed to enhance student learning in academics (college/career readiness), social (emotional intelligence and peer interaction) and spiritual (growth and development)
- ☑ Read mailings (e-mails, *Constant Contacts*) regarding important information and attend meetings including—Coffee with the Counselor, Open House, the Underclassman College, Career and Scholarship Information Night, and the Student-led College Fair.

Supplemental Material for Student and Parents

Websites—

- ☑ Unbiased reviews from real students on the topics they really care about—
www.collegeprowler.com or copy & paste into your web browser
<https://colleges.niche.com/>
- ☑ College Search Engines—www.collegeboard.com or copy & paste into your web browser
<https://www.collegeboard.org>, www.petersons.com, www.usnews.com
- ☑ Testing— www.asvabprogram.com, www.act.org, www.fairtest.org,
<http://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-psat-test-preparation.aspx> and
<https://www.march2success.com/>
- ☑ California State System's— www.csumentor.edu
- ☑ GEAR UP— <http://mapping-your-future.org>

Reading—

- ☑ *Less Stress, More Success* by Marilee Jones & Kenneth Ginsburg
- ☑ *College Unranked* by Lloyd Thacker
- ☑ *Countdown to College: 21 To Do Lists for High School: Step-By-Step Strategies for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders* (2nd Edition) by Valerie Pierce
- ☑ *The College Admissions Mystique* by Jacques Steinberg

Final Advice for Student

I encourage you to read, READ, **READ!** This is the one consistent word of advice I hear in test prep sessions, as well as in talks with college admissions personnel. Start with reading the newspaper, because it offers a variety of subjects and thus exposes you to a more extensive vocabulary.

OVCA College & Career Counseling Bible Verse: *Jeremiah 29:11-13* ^{AMP}



E-mail: dandrews@ovcapatriots.com
 Telephone: (619) 424-7875
 Office hours: Monday – Thursday (8:50 am – 1:00 pm)
 Monday – Thursday (2:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

Discern - Junior



During the junior year it is important for the student to be deeply involved in the discernment process for what they will do with their future. Students should be discerning which colleges will be a “good fit” for them by actively seeking out information on schools and developing a list of schools for which they plan to apply. They should know their academic standing and how that relates to their college admission chances. They should also know their character strengths, weaknesses, and blind spots and how they fit into career selection.

Objectives:

- Encourage commitment to rigorous and appropriate college preparatory curriculum
- Provide resources, information and recommendations on college and career choices, enrichment opportunities (service, internships) and scholarships
- Have student complete a minimum list of 10 “good fit” colleges, universities and/or vocational institutions
- Give individual explanation and recommendation for college entrance exams
- Explain importance and value of campus visits and provide information about scheduling and planning meaningful visits (on-campus and virtual)

Expectations for Student:

- Study at least two hours every night five nights per week and continue to build up your endurance for reading.
- Continue using Headmaster, Naviance's Family Connection, counselor recommended websites and *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* to monitor progress as it relates to goals.
- Attend Scheduled College Information Night (Spring).
- Complete *The Road to College Survey* on Family Connection website.
- Participate in the optional test prep workshops and small group studies in the Fall. And Mini-School in the Spring, *College Awareness and Planning*.
- Take the PSAT® (pre SAT) in October and attend interpretation presentation when scheduled (this is the year that qualifies for National Merit competition).
- Take two SAT II® (subject tests), one SAT® and/or one ACT by end of junior year.
- Come listen to college representatives visiting, attend the San Diego Christian College Fair in October, the NACAC San Diego College Fair in April as well as visit college campuses to help discern “fit”.
- Read assigned library textbook, *Beating the College Debt Trap* and review *The Checklist For Getting A Degree Without Going Broke* in the bulletin on Family Connection.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss and update guidance portfolio (check-list) and follow through on setting/tracking goals
- Look for resume building, "right fit" summer enrichment opportunities that leverage chances for acceptance to colleges, universities, and scholarships.

Plan for Parent:

- ☑ Monitor student's study habits and grades and encourage continued effort.
- ☑ Use counselor's recommended resources and websites to monitor and assist student (i.e., Headmaster®, Naviance's Family Connection).
- ☑ Continue to use *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* to help student discern how this matches with his/her future goals.
- ☑ Be aware of student's PSAT® and Pre-ACT® score results and see that he/she takes a minimum of two SAT II® (subject tests), one SAT® and/or one ACT® by end of junior year. Monitor student progress in Method Test Prep (test prep course).
- ☑ Encourage your student to attend counselor's various small group studies that are designed to enhance student learning in academics (college/career readiness), social (emotional intelligence and peer interaction) and spiritual (growth and development)
- ☑ Read mailings (e-mails, *Constant Contacts*) regarding important information and attend meetings including—Coffee with the Counselor; Open House; College, Career, Financial Aid and Scholarship Information Night; the Student-led College Fair.
- ☑ If you have a student athlete, read NCAA College Bound Student Athlete Guide <http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA17.pdf/>
- ☑ Assist student in finding appropriate summer enrichment activity to best increase chances for acceptance to colleges, universities, and vocational institutions

Supplemental Material for Student and Parents

Websites—

- ☑ GEAR UP— <http://mapping-your-future.org>
- ☑ National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center— copy & paste into your web browser http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp
- ☑ National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)— copy & paste into your web browser <http://www.naia.org/>
- ☑ The Common Application— www.commonapp.org/
- ☑ Independent Scholarships— www.fastweb.com,
- ☑ Additional Scholarships— <http://www.scholarshipnetwork.com/> (Scholarship Resource Network),
- ☑ Unbiased reviews from real students on the topics they really care about— www.collegeprowler.com or copy & paste into your web browser <https://colleges.niche.com/>
- ☑ College Search Engines— www.collegeboard.com, or copy & paste into your web browser <https://www.collegeboard.org>, www.petersons.com, www.usnews.com
- ☑ Testing— www.asvabprogram.com, www.act.org, www.fairtest.org, <http://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-psat-test-preparation.aspx> and <https://www.march2success.com/>
- ☑ California State System's— www.csumentor.edu

Reading—

- ☑ *Limbo* by Alfred Lubrano
- ☑ *Countdown to College: 21 To Do Lists for High School: Step-By-Step Strategies for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders* (2nd Edition) by Valerie Pierce
- ☑ *College Countdown: The Parent's and Student's Survival Kit for The College Admissions Process* by Jill Von
- ☑ *Less Stress, More Success* by Marilee Jones & Kenneth Ginsburg

Final Advice for Student—

I encourage you to read, READ, **READ!** This is the one consistent word of advice I hear in test prep sessions, as well as in talks with college admissions personnel. Start with reading the newspaper, because it offers a variety of subjects and thus exposes you to a more extensive vocabulary.

OVCA College & Career Counseling Bible Verse: *Jeremiah 29:11-13* ^{AMP}

For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the LORD, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you. Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.



E-mail: dandrews@ovcapatriots.com
Telephone: (619) 424-7875
Office hours: Monday – Thursday (8:50 am – 1:00 pm)
Monday – Thursday (2:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

Deliver - Senior

The senior year is where the student gets to deliver all that they have discovered, developed and discerned over the past three years. It is important to have a good sense of what your options are and where you can best achieve your goals. The time, effort and quality of your delivery will have a significant impact on your successes. Enjoy and trust in God to guide you to your next step on your journey.



Objectives:

- Help students complete commitment to rigorous and appropriate college preparatory curriculum
- Assist students in completing and delivering their best application possible
- Guide and support students and families in final requirements and decisions
- Assist students and parents in finding and getting best grants, scholarships and financial aid packages possible
- Leave students with all the skills, knowledge and faith to go and serve the Lord wherever HE leads

Expectations for Student:

- Study at least 2.5 hours every night five nights per week and continue to build up your endurance for reading
- Be organized
- Have contact information (phone #, e-mail) for classmates so that you can contact them if you are absent, have a question about an assignment, or an upcoming test.
- Continue using Headmaster, Naviance's Family Connection, counselor recommended websites and *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* to complete your college and scholarship applications.
- Attend scheduled *College Test Prep and Application Lock-in* events.
- Attend Seniors Only: College and Financial Aid Night programs to help complete the process
- Complete on time at least 3-5 applications to “good fit” institutions (1-2: safety, 2: likely, 1: possible, and 1-2: reach or far reach schools).
- Complete Senior Survey on Family Connection website.
- Take appropriate SAT II ®(subject tests) and AP Exam(s)®
- Take additional SAT I® and ACT® if needed
- Visit any remaining schools to help make informed college choice
- Fully investigate and complete forms for all opportunities for grants, scholarships and financial aid
- Complete Senior Portfolio Project (graduation requirement)
- Complete a minimum of 50 hours of service (graduation requirement)
- Read assigned textbook, *Thriving at College* and answer chapter questions in Family Connection.
- Make college choice with confidence in God’s plan for you in mind.

Plan for Parent:

- Monitor student's study habits, grades, and credit recovery (if necessary).
- Encourage continued effort both in the classroom and in extracurricular activities.
- Continue using Headmaster®, Naviance's Family Connection®, counselor recommended websites and *Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know about Getting Into College* to complete your college and scholarship applications.
- Be aware of SAT®, SAT II® and ACT® scores and determine if higher scores can or need to be achieved. Student may be advised to attend test prep classes when offered.
- Encourage your student to attend counselor's various small group studies that are designed to enhance student learning in academics (college/career readiness), social (emotional intelligence and peer interaction) and spiritual (growth and development)
- Assist student in finding all opportunities for scholarships and financial aid including filing of the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Attend (Fall) *College and Financial Aid Night* programming to gain confidence in completing the application process.
- Be aware of graduation requirements—Senior Portfolio Project, minimum community service hours (50), minimum GPA (2.0), and coursework.
- Attend Academic Signing Night (Spring).
- Help make college choice with confidence in God's plan for your child

Supplemental Material for Student and Parents

Websites—

- College Videos & Virtual Campus Tours (on-line college reviews by students)—
<http://www.collegeclicktv.com/>
- Unbiased reviews from real students on the topics they really care about—
www.collegeprowler.com or copy & paste into your web browser
<https://colleges.niche.com/>
- Rate my professor— <http://www.ratemyprofessors.com/>
- The Common Application— www.commonapp.org/
- California State System's— www.csumentor.edu
- Independent Scholarships— www.fastweb.com,
- Additional Scholarships— <http://www.scholarshipnetwork.com/> (Scholarship Resource Network),
- College Search Engines— www.collegeboard.com, or copy & paste into your web browser <https://www.collegeboard.org>, www.petersons.com, www.usnews.com
- Testing— www.asvabprogram.com, www.act.org, www.fairtest.org,
<http://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-psat-test-preparation.aspx> and
<https://www.march2success.com/>
- National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center— copy & paste into your web browser http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp
- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)— copy & paste into your web browser <http://www.naia.org/>

Reading—

- ☑ *Countdown to College: 21 To Do Lists for High School: Step-By-Step Strategies for 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders* (2nd Edition) by Valerie Pierce
- ☑ *College Countdown: The Parent's and Student's Survival Kit for The College Admissions Process* by Jill Von
- ☑ *The Gatekeepers* by Jacques Steinberg
- ☑ *Less Stress, More Success* by Marilee Jones & Kenneth Ginsburg

Final Advice for Student—

I encourage you to read, READ, **READ!** This is the one consistent word of advice I hear in test prep sessions, as well as in talks with college admissions personnel. Start with reading the newspaper, because it offers a variety of subjects and thus exposes you to a more extensive vocabulary.

Model OVCA Senioritis—

*A powerful change agent that strikes seniors. Symptoms include: motivated, productive, focused, and fully in place stress coping skills. Giving 110 percent to all papers, homework assignments, tests, exams and projects. It also means a willingness to complete any and all extra credit (or bonus) offered, no matter how time consuming it may be. Being excited about the future and willing to do what's necessary to own it. Lastly, taking the gifts, talents and abilities God has given and using them to bring Him glory. **OVCA graduation is just the beginning!***

OVCA College & Career Counseling Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11-13 ^{AMP}

For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the LORD, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you. Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.



E-mail: dandrews@ovcapatriots.com
Telephone: (619) 424-7875
Office hours: Monday – Thursday (8:50 am – 1:00 pm)
Monday – Thursday (2:00 pm - 4:00 pm)