

# 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Information Evening

- The Big Picture - Overview of the Senior Year
  - Independent Senior Projects
  - Community Service
- Leadership Opportunities
- Current Junior Culture / School Climate –
- Alcohol & Drug Awareness Issues
- **Academic choices**
- On Balance and On breadth
- Q & A



# The Senior Landscape

- The Unique Rhythm of the Senior Year
- Capstone Experience –
- Pitfalls & Trials –
- The purpose of tonight's talk



# The Senior Landscape

- The Pasternack Field House / DeYoung Math/ Science Center
  - Refocusing our Campus
- Retreat in September
- Right Course Selections & Strong Academic Performance
- Completing “Meaningful” Community Service Obligations
- College Counseling Process Intensifies
  - College Visits – Please don’t use school days
- Keeping Seniors Focused in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
  - Independent Senior Projects



# Community Service/ Student Activities

## Mrs. Lora Allison

- Service expectations, observations about student life,
- Help students plan now for meaningful service opportunities and help them reflect on them.
- ISPs



# ISP Philosophy

## **Self-designed educational experience**

- Transition to independent environment
- Application of classroom learning to real-life situations
- Constructive use of time after AP exams/ worthy of ceasing instruction in other classes
- Opportunity for all divisions to see the outcome of the high school experience essentially giving them a direction to aspire to.
- St. Margaret's wishes to strengthen the "Bridge" between our school and the surrounding community. By reaching out to different groups in our community (parents, alumni, local businesses) we will secure meaningful projects for our seniors.
- Many other Independent Schools culminate school year this way.

# Types of Projects

- Internship/ Apprenticeship
- Community Service Project
- Creative Project

# How Parents Can Help

- Discuss ideas with your child
- Feel free to make an initial contact with a friend or colleague who might be able to be a sponsor. "Open the door" for a project, but don't feel responsible for creating your child's goals.
- Offer your own opportunities to our "bank" of ideas for other seniors.
- Encourage your child to "reach" beyond something that is comfortable for them.
- Support the goals of this project and encourage your child to grow through this experience!
- Discuss ideas with your child
- Feel free to make an initial contact with a friend or colleague who might be able to be a sponsor. "Open the door" for a project, but don't feel responsible for creating your child's goals.
- Offer your own opportunities to our "bank" of ideas for other seniors.
- Support the goals of this project and encourage your child to grow through this experience!

# Student Participation in the Life of our School

- Mr. Walt Linaweaver
- Leadership Roles in the Senior Year

# Junior Off Campus Privileges

– 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester



# Current Junior Culture / School Climate –Mr. Green

- Atmosphere, Attitudes
- Introduction of Senior Dean – Mr. Steve Sherman

# Alcohol & Drug Awareness Issues

## Our Drug & Alcohol Policy

- Our Ancillary Policy
- What you can do.
  - Know where your child is
  - Greet them when they come in at night
  - Do Not serve alcohol to minors or tolerate it in your presence
- Alcohol.edu – new program at SMES

# Senior Year Schedule at a Glance

All students must enroll in  
5 academic courses each  
semester as a minimum.

\*AP ENGLISH

or

ENGLISH IV

Two semester electives

# MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA II / Honors

ALGEBRA III

PRECALCULUS / Honors

ADVANCED MATH

INTRO TO CALCULUS

AP CALCULUS AB / BC

# SCIENCE

Yearlong:

ASTRONOMY

CHEMISTRY

PHYSICS

PHYSIOLOGY

Advanced Placement:

AP CHEMISTRY

AP BIOLOGY

AP ENVIRON SCIENCE

AP PHYSICS B OR C

# HISTORY

## FALL SEMESTER

CONSTITUTIONAL  
LAW

CONTEMPORARY  
HISTORY

PSYCHOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

## SPRING SEMESTER

ANTHROPOLOGY

ECONOMICS

PSYCHOLOGY

MILITARY HISTORY

# HISTORY

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES:

AP AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

AP GEOGRAPHY

AP WORLD HISTORY

# LANGUAGE

CHINESE

FRENCH

JAPANESE

LATIN

SPANISH

# RELIGION and PHILOSOPHY

STUDENTS NEED THREE SEMESTERS BEYOND FRESHMAN  
YEAR TO GRADUATE – \*ONE SCRIPTURE COURSE

BIBLE I /II\*

(OLD/NEW TESTAMENT)

WORLD RELIGIONS

PHILOSOPHY

# FINE ART

Performing Arts:

CHOIR

DANCE

MUSICIANSHIP

THEATRE

Visual Arts:

CLAY

HANDBUILDING

STUDIO ART

PHOTOGRAPHY\*

# FINE ART

## Performing Arts:

AP MUSIC  
THEORY

## Visual Arts:

AP ART HISTORY  
AP STUDIO ART:  
DRAWING  
2D DESIGN  
3D DESIGN

# AP/Honors Application Process

March 9 – March 21

**REGISTRATION:**

Friday, April 20

# Honors Level

## (Honors and Advanced Placement)

### Courses

- Some qualities we might want to see in prospective AP/Honors students
- Is it better to earn a B in a honors course rather than an A in a “regular” course?
- Students should limit themselves and enroll in only those honors courses that they can complete successfully and without undue stress.
- Is there a potential downside to a student staying in and taking on the challenge of an honors level course?

# FAQ re: Honors level courses

- Will the school offer two honors or Advanced Placement sections/courses when enough students meet the qualifications?
- Are there opportunities for students to enroll in honors and Advanced Placement courses even when they have not started out in the honors or accelerated track?
- Are changes made to honors level classes after the students complete and submit their honors applications?

# Dropping or withdrawing from an honors level course

- Dropping an honors level course
  - Moving into the general course
  - Master schedule issues - possible alternative elections may be closed
  - Withdrawing after the first quarter – WP/WF grades
  - Must have five other academic courses; you cannot add elective courses after the second week of the semester.
- The only valid reasons for your dropping year-long honors courses include but are not limited to:
  - (1) medical excuses confirmed by a physician,
  - (2) your receiving grades below C-
  - (3) the teacher of the course recommends the drop.
- Withdrawing from an honors level course does affect “strength of program”.
- The unadjusted numerical average grade at the time of the change will be transferred. The extra grade point for an AP/honors is *only* awarded if the student completes the semester with a grade of C- or above.

# Pass / Fail Option

- Only juniors and seniors will be allowed to elect pass/fail
- Only one pass/fail grade option is allowed per student per year.
- Course must not be a requirement for graduation
- No AP or honors courses will be allowed pass/fail grades.
- Student must declare pass/fail by Thanksgiving
- Students must complete all course work and tests, including the final exam in order to receive a passing grade.
- Be aware that the University of California will allow students to take classes for pass/fail as an elective, but that a pass/fail class will not meet a core A-G requirement. Students considering the pass/fail option need to be apprised of the impact of their decision on their UC eligibility.

# SUMMER SESSION at SMES

LITERATURE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

CHEMISTRY

JAPANESE I

SPANISH III

INTRO TO COMP PROGRAMMING

BIBLE AS LITERATURE II

WORLD RELIGIONS

PHILOSOPHY

# OTHER SUMMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Q & A

