



## ***Carroll Christian Schools***

550 Baltimore Blvd., Westminster, MD 21157

August 8, 2017

Dear Senior Parents,

### **Advisor and Room Mom**

Mr. Andrews and Miss Castañeda are the Senior class advisors this year. We are looking for a Senior class room mom this year. If you are interested, please let me know. Help will be needed. Please help out as you are able so this can be the best year possible for our students. Many hands make light work!

### **Service Hours**

Just a reminder that prior to graduation, all students are required to complete at least 75 Service Learning Hours and turn in the appropriate forms. The hours will be displayed on each student's transcript. Information is available at [www.carrollchristian.com/info](http://www.carrollchristian.com/info) under 'Forms'.

### **Internships**

Internships are March 5-9 this year. Miss Hahn has a list of businesses that are willing to take an intern. Students may meet with Miss Hahn to find out how to contact these businesses. Students are also welcome to find one that is not on the list and have it approved. Internships are valuable for helping students choose their career direction. Information is available at [www.carrollchristian.com/info](http://www.carrollchristian.com/info).

### **iPads/Internet**

iPads are costly, so please emphasize to your student the importance of taking care of it. I also encourage you to consider implementing parental guidelines for iPad use as well as internet protection at home.

### **Walk-a-Thon**

Parents and grandparents are encouraged to come out and join us on October 5 for our annual Walk-a-Thon, a fun-filled day for a good cause.

### **Yearbook**

Remember to order a yearbook. These are important memories. Don't forget that you can purchase a write-up/tribute in the yearbook to honor your senior.

### **Senior Fundraisers**

This year, the Seniors will be part of the following fundraisers:

- Weekly Donut Sale on Thursday mornings.
- Monthly Lunch Sale
- Pancake Breakfast

- Candy Cane Sale
- Spaghetti Dinner

### **Senior Lunches**

The Seniors will have senior lunches on December 7, February 23, and May 15. Once the officers decide on places for these lunches, emails will be sent out.

### **Retreat**

This year's retreat is September 12-14 at High Point Camp in Geigertown, PA. Please be praying for great weather and a great time of spiritual growth and bonding.

### **Senior Pictures**

The CCS yearbook Senior Pictures are November 14. Instructions will be given for the dress guidelines.

### **Cap and Gowns and Class Ring Orders**

Please order caps and gowns. A Balfour representative will be here at the end of the day on December 7 to take orders.

### **College Planning**

1. College Tours - Juniors should start making plans now to visit colleges and not wait until senior year. A *College Visit Form* must be submitted in advance to excuse the absence. Forms can be found at [www.carrollchristian.com](http://www.carrollchristian.com) under the "Info" tab.
2. SAT – It is wise to start the process of taking the SAT during junior year. You can register or find information at [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org). The site also offers practice tests, etc. that can be completed online.
3. College Applications – It is also not a bad idea to start narrowing down college choices and submitting applications. You will not be able to go far in the process until the SAT is taken for the first time.
4. College Scholarships – Most scholarship money that is available is never applied for, so start looking now! It is not too early to begin filling out scholarship applications, writing the essays, completing the FAFSA forms, googling "scholarships," etc.

Questions regarding college planning may be directed to Miss Hahn.

### **Fine Arts & Parade**

We ask that you encourage your child to participate in the annual Fine Arts competition and the Memorial Day Parade.

### **Lunches**

Please pay close attention to our adjusted lunch policy, which is outlined in the *2017-2018 Student & Parent Handbook*.

### **Student Drivers**

If your student will be driving to school, please complete the *Student Driver Registration Form*. Forms can be found at [www.carrollchristain.com](http://www.carrollchristain.com) under the "Info" tab.

### **Alumni Day**

On January 11, we are asking our Alumni to come back to spend time with our students. We will have Alumni doing the chapel service and sharing information about their careers, etc. in smaller groups.

### **Secondary Revival**

Please plan to join us for our secondary revival meetings in January.

### **Senior Trip**

The Seniors will be going with Pelican Missions to Puerto Rico May 18-25. The cost is uncertain until the flights are booked, but it will be approximately \$1,200. A passport is not needed. Puerto Rico is a country where the students will see poverty. We are hoping that they can minister in the local orphanages. We would like to see them participate in the local churches and maybe do something like a NBT (Neighborhood Bible Time). I hope they will have the opportunity to go into some local schools and minister to the children there. Sports are big in the region, so maybe the seniors can do some sports clinics for the kids. There should be plenty of opportunity for evangelism. There may also be some opportunity to do some construction and serve in other ways. More details will be given as things are finalized. Seniors should make two payments to prepare for the trip. A \$300 payment will be due by September 5, and another \$300 payment will be due by November 5. The final amount of payment/refund will be determined after all expenses are totaled from the trip.

### **Letters**

When students are sent on a mission's trip, I ask parents, family, friends, teachers, and pastors to consider taking a few moments to write a letter to them. I would encourage you to please consider doing the same by writing a letter (or several letters) to your Senior to send while they are on the trip. Feel free to ask siblings, grandparents, friends, or loved ones to also write letters. This trip can be life changing.

If you plan to send letters, please turn them in to me by May 10. Each day, the group will meet for devotions. At the end of devotions, they will be given letters from home. Feel free to write one for each day or just one for the week. Hopefully I can get the staff, pastors, and some others to write, as well. It would be nice if they had one for each day.

Have you ever been away from home? Have you ever been sleeping on the floor and tired from working? Have you ever just wanted a home-cooked meal? How often do you tell your child what you think about them, that you love them, and that you are proud of them? Graduation is approaching. Time is getting close. Don't waste a moment. There is an opportunity for encouragement and mentoring. They will be away and missing the finer things in life. They will be tired and discouraged, and then they get a letter of encouragement from you. Many times, they will even cry. I know of students who kept the letters from their senior trip by their bed at college. I have students tell me all the time what a great difference the missions trip and the letters made in their lives. I encourage you to not miss the opportunity and the blessing. I know you are busy, but the most important investment you will ever make is in your children's lives.

## Pictures

I am going to try to put together a couple of slide shows for graduation and will need your help to accomplish this. Please try to send in the following types of pictures:

1. A picture (school picture types are usually best) for each of the major stages in your child's life labeled as follows:
  - a. Baby
  - b. Kindergarten
  - c. Late Elementary/Early Middle School (5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - d. Entering High School (8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - e. Senior picture
2. Pictures of your child serving, participating in activities they enjoy, or sharing a moment or an accomplishment with those who are special to them (i.e. grandparents or parents).

Please send them by April 1. They should be dropped off to school on a flash drive in an envelope to Dave Wright. Please separate your photos into 2 folders, one folder with the required 5 (item #1 above) and one with the rest of the pictures (item #2 above).

## Next Senior Parent Meeting

The next Senior Parent meeting is April 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. This meeting is important because we will be selecting seats for your family based on the number of years in this ministry. You must have someone from your family present to select. We will also be laying out a plan for graduation.

## Junior-Senior Banquet

The Juniors will be hosting the Junior-Senior banquet for the Seniors. The Junior class officers and room moms will be working on a location, speaker, catering, decorations, etc.

The Junior-Senior Banquet is April 20. On that day the Juniors and Seniors will be dismissed at 12:00.

Please see the *2017-2018 Student & Parent Handbook* for the banquet dress code. All girls, whether a CCS student or a date of a CCS student, **must** have their dresses pre-approved. The date for preapproval will be announced. The dates will be set so that the dresses will be approved at least two weeks prior to the banquet.

Juniors and Seniors will be allowed to bring a date at the approval of their parents. All dates, including non-CCS students, must follow school standards of dress and conduct. All students bringing a date from outside of CCS will be required to submit a *Guest Permission Form*, which will be available at [www.carrollchristian/info](http://www.carrollchristian/info). A photographer will be at the banquet to take pictures if you are interested in purchasing them.

The Juniors will be giving out invitations in early spring. The location will remain a surprise to the Seniors until that time. A price for the banquet will be given as soon as possible.

We will also be looking for your help as chaperones for an after-the-banquet get together.

### **Achievement Testing and Senior Photo Shoot**

Grades K-11 will have Achievement testing April 10-13. When the others are testing, the seniors will have a 2-hour delay schedule. That will likely be April 10-12. On those days, seniors must be in homeroom by 10 a.m. On one of those days (TBA based on weather), the seniors will be expected to come in for the annual senior photo shoot.

### **Last Day**

The last day of classes for seniors will be May 14.

### **Senior Exams**

Senior Exams will be:

May 15 (periods 1 and 2 exams)

May 16 (periods 3 and 4 Exams)

May 17 (periods 5 and 6 exams)

Exams will be given in the Library. Only two exams may be taken on a given day.

It is up to the teachers whether the exam is cumulative or just covers second semester. Please check with your teacher to know how to prepare.

If a senior does not have an exam on a particular day, they do not need to come in on that day. The first exam will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day, and the second exam will begin at 10:00 a.m. If a student needs to take an exam on a different schedule, they can ask if they can make arrangements with the teacher. For instance, if they have to take the period 1 exam and the period 4 exam but are exempt from the rest and didn't want to come in on two different days, they can try to make arrangements to take them both exams on May 15. It is up to the teacher.

Seniors cannot hang out in the halls or around the building on those days. We do not want to disturb other classes, which will still be in session. Seniors are expected to be in school uniform dress code when they come to take an exam.

All books, etc. should be returned by the end of exams. Senior lockers should be cleaned out by the end of their last exam.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Banquet**

I will be looking for 2 or 3 Seniors to give a brief (5 minute) speech to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders at their banquet about lessons learned or advice for high school. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade banquet is May 25 at 6:00 p.m.

### **Senior Thesis**

Students will sign up for a Senior Thesis presentation to take place on May 29-31. Parents are encouraged to attend. Students should dress up for the presentation (i.e. boys should wear a suit and tie).

### **Speeches/Testimonies**

If your senior is giving a testimony or a speech for graduation, a copy should be submitted to Mr. Reisberg before May 28. It will be printed out and left on the podium for use during the ceremony. A time will be set up to work on and practice speeches.

### **Graduation Practice**

Graduation practice will be June 1 from 1:00-2:15 p.m. in the auditorium. Please be on time. We will try to go as quickly as we can to try to keep the practice brief. All seniors must attend. Seniors should be working on memorizing their life verse if they haven't already. As stated above, a copy will be on the podium, but it would be best to have it memorized. Seniors should also be working on the class song. We will practice it at the close of the walk-through.

### **Graduation Pictures**

For pictures, all Seniors should bring their cap, gown, tassel, and outfit that they will be wearing underneath. Individual and class pictures will be taken from 12:30-1:00 on June 1. All Seniors should be ready for pictures at 12:20.

### **Awards Assembly**

Seniors are expected to attend the High School Awards ceremony on June 1.

### **Graduation**

Graduation will be June 1 at 6:30 p.m. Each family will be given one row. The order for the seating will be based on the number of years the seniors have been here in this ministry. These seats will be chosen at the parent meeting April 17. There will be a row (prime seats in the front) that will be up for auction at the school auction on May 5. The proceeds will benefit the school. Additional seating will be available in the back. Graduation will actually start with a prelude at about 6:20, so plan to be early.

Boys should wear dress shoes and dress socks, dress pants, a white dress shirt, and a matching tie underneath their gown.

Girls should wear dress shoes and a dress or skirt with matching blouse underneath their gown. Please follow the school standards.

Senior Parents will be invited to the front to greet their senior after they receive their diploma. Please feel free to take pictures and enjoy the moment. Please feel free to come forward at any time and take pictures. This is a special night that you and the students have worked hard for, so please take your time on this special evening.

Seniors should be in cap and gown in the Music Room and ready to enter the auditorium by 6:00 p.m. It is important to be on time.

Just a reminder that all school bills must be paid in full and all books, etc. turned in before diplomas will be issued.

## **Decorations**

Senior parents are in charge of the decorations for the gym for graduation and for taking down the decorations. We are asking each senior to contribute \$50 to help with the cost of food and serving supplies. Please submit payment to Mrs. Reisberg in the reception center by May 1.

Each senior is given a four-foot section of the bleachers for their parents to decorate with their memorabilia. The personal display of each senior student graduating should include an 8x10 stand-up, framed, senior portrait or recent portrait, other photos, awards, special keepsakes, etc. There is a meeting on Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. If you are able, please plan to attend.

Parents, please make sure that all photos and items on the display are appropriate and of modest attire. Please note that Carroll Christian Schools administration reserves the right to remove from the display any item that does not uphold the school's policy.

You will be able to begin decorating the display and the gym on the mornings of Thursday, May 31 and Friday, June 1. Unfortunately, the gym will not be available before then. Please be sure to make sure the gym is cleaned up and returned to its normal condition. All cleanup and breakdown should be completed before leaving that night.

All parents are expected to help. Parents who do not help with set up/take down will be billed \$150.

I hope these will be memorable events for our students, and we will see them grow closer to each other and develop a closer walk with the Lord.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

In Christ,

Matthew Reisberg