



# **College Readiness Plan**

**MARY A. GAMACHE, CMSgt, USAF (Ret.)**

**College Counselor**

# Outline

- Mission Statement
- College-Going Culture
- Class Accomplishments
- Factors in the Admission Decision
- College Readiness Plan
- Student and Parent Resources
- Future Initiatives

# College Counseling Mission

Facilitate the college admission process for R-MA students and families to find the best **academic, social and financial fit** for a post-secondary education.

# What does college counseling look like at R-MA?

- **College-Going Culture: The Goal**

- Develop a **comprehensive college readiness program for all students**
- **Create aspirations about college** and understanding the doors it opens
- **Advise on the appropriate curriculum and staying on track**
- **Prepare for and take college entrance exams early**
- **Deliberate planning and execution when applying to college(s)**

**It is a team effort...the student, parent, mentor, faculty are all partner in preparing the student for college**

# Critical Components for a College Going Culture

- Family involvement - #1
- College talk
- Clear expectations
- Information and resources
- Comprehensive counseling model
- Curriculum and testing
- Faculty, mentor and CLS involvement
- College partnerships
- Articulation

# Factors in the Admission Decision

Factor	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance
1. Grades in College Prep Courses	79.2%	13.0%
2. Grades in All Courses	60.3	31.0
3. Strength of Curriculum	60.2	26.8
4. Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	55.7	32.5
5. Essay or Writing Sample	22.1	39.0
6. Counselor Recommendation	17.3	42.4
7. Demonstrated Interest	16.9	33.3
8. Teacher Recommendation	15.2	43.5
9. Class Rank	14.0	37.7
10. Subject Test Scores	7.0	35.2

**SOURCE:** National Association for College Admission Counseling, Admissions Trends Survey, 2014

# College Readiness Plan

College Readiness Topic	Student Deliverable	9	10	11	12
<b>Intro to R-MA College Readiness, Milestones</b> (1 period, classroom)	<b>Understand importance of time management, organization and adhering to deadlines</b> in the College Admission Process	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Intro to Naviance Family Connection</b> (block period/computer lab)	<b>Use Naviance</b> for the college admission process	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Learning Style Inventory with time management and organizational skills</b> (With Intro to NFC)	<b>Understand how they learn most effectively</b> and reveal their optimal learning conditions to improve confidence and academic performance	✓			
<b>Aptitudes &amp; Orientation – “Do What You Are” – Personality Profile</b> (Computer lab. Demo suggested careers and Road Trip Nation)	<b>Understand the role temperament plays in achieving their goals</b>		✓		

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<b>StrengthsExplorer®</b> (Computer lab. Demo Suggested careers and majors. F/U in Mentoring)	<b>Identify their three strongest emerging talents.</b> Students will be provided with explanations of their top three themes and learn how to capitalize on their success and discover what they need to do next to continue building their talents into strengths			✓	
<b>Career Opportunities</b> (Computer lab.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Complete <i>Career Interest Profiler</i> in <b>Naviance</b></li> <li>•Identify how careers, programs and majors relate to their personal interests and desires</li> </ul>		✓	✓	
<b>“Rigor vs. Grades” secondary course planning to achieve post-secondary goals</b> (Classroom)	<b>Identify</b> the intentional sequence of <b>coursework to meet postsecondary goals</b>	✓	✓	✓	
<b>GPA, the High School Transcript, Reporting Behavior and Importance of Junior Year</b> (1/2 period, classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Calculate GPA and understand how colleges view GPA</b> in the admission process.</li> <li>•<b>Validate their transcript</b></li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	



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<b>Navigating the Testing Maze</b>  (1 period, classroom, with PSAT prep)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Understand the <b>importance of standardized testing</b> in the college admission process</li> <li>•Register for the SAT and/or ACT</li> <li>•Register for TOEFL (International)</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Preparing Your Resume</b>  (1 period, computer lab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Understand the <b>noncognitive variables</b> that make students <b>standout</b> from their competitors</li> <li>•Develop <b>“My Resume”</b> in Naviance</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Selecting a College</b>  (1 period, computer lab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Define their <b>requirements</b> for a college or university</li> <li>•Complete the <b>“Game Plan”</b> survey in Naviance</li> </ul>		✓	✓	

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<b>College Exploration</b> (Block period, computer lab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Use several search engines to develop a list of schools to investigate</li> <li>•Identify and list “Colleges That I’m Thinking About” in Naviance</li> </ul>		✓	✓	
<b>Campus Visit &amp; College Fairs</b> (1 period, classroom)	Attend either a college fair or campus visit		✓	✓	
<b>Famous first lines...The personal Statement and Essay Writing Requirements</b> (1 period)	Complete a “draft” college narrative and essay (graded assignment for English 11)		✓	✓	
<b>The College Application</b> (block period; computer lab)	Begin the Common Application			✓	
<b>What’s a FERPA? Letters of Recommendation (LOR)</b> (1 period, classroom)	Complete (1) the senior brag sheet, (2) write their own LOR, (3) request their LOR(s)			✓	

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<b><i>The Admission Game</i></b> (1 period, classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Guest speaker – College Admissions Counselor</li> <li>•Participate in a Mock Admissions Board</li> </ul>	✓		✓	✓
<b>Paying for College</b> (1 period, classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Demonstrate scholarship search</b></li> <li>•<b>Complete the CAPPEX worksheet</b> “Can you afford your college choices?”</li> <li>•<b>Demonstrate using the “Net Price Calculator”</b></li> </ul>			✓	✓
<b>What are you doing this Summer?</b> (1 period, classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Explore enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom to enhance the student’s “stand out” factor</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	

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<b>College Application Process in Naviance</b>  (Block period, computer lab)	Utilize Naviance to (1) Identify “Colleges I’m Applying To” (2) Update when they apply, (3) Request transcripts, (4) Update application status, and (5) Identify the college they will attend.				✓
<b>Interview with College Counselor</b>	Demonstrate interviewing skills, discuss post-secondary game plan and validate understanding of R-MA’s college planning and readiness process			✓	✓

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<b>Words of Wisdom Young Alumni Day</b>	Converse with a panel of alumni/graduating seniors	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Military Careers – Service Academies &amp; ROTC Application Process</b>	Meet with service academy and ROTC representatives when they visit	✓	✓	✓	
<b>International Student Admission Process</b>	<b>Understand the unique admission requirements</b> for international students			✓	✓

# I Want to Attend a Service Academy...

1. **Academics** – curriculum, grades, standardized testing
2. **Athletics** – participate and must exceed “standard” for the candidate fitness assessment
3. **Leadership** – AFJROTC, clubs, sports, community service
4. **Enrichment**
5. **Extracurricular Activities**
6. **Visit** – summer programs
7. **Secure a nomination** – Presidential, VP, Senators, Congressman
8. **Pass the DODMERB physical** with no disorders or diseases
9. Demonstrate excellent **interviewing skills**.
10. **Show passion and a desire to serve.**

# Future Initiatives

- **Increase knowledge of and establish partnerships with U.S. Colleges and Universities**
- **Increase Naviance Family Connection use by parents, mentors and R-MA faculty/staff**
- **Improve and increase communication of information to students and parents**
- **Improve deliberate application process**
- **Provide more opportunities for students to attend college tours and visits**
- ✓ **Establish and execute yearly themes for college readiness**

# R-MA College Readiness

## Student & Parent Resources

- R-MA web site/College Counseling Page

<http://www.rma.edu/college-counseling>

- Naviance Family Connection

<http://connection.naviance.com/rmava>

- *R-MA College Handbook*

<http://www.rma.edu/college-counseling>

- *Facebook – “Like” R-MA College Counseling*



# Student & Parent Resources

- *ECMC – Opportunities, Preparing for College Guide and Workbook*
- ❖ *Prepare – Compete – Win! Peter Van Buskirk*
- ❖ *College Match, Steven R. Antonoff, Ph.D.*
- ❖ *Colleges That Change Lives, Loren Pope*
- *College is Yours 2.0, Patrick J. O’Conner*
- *Crazy U, Andrew Ferguson*
- *Sending Your Child to College, Prepared Parent’s Operational Manual , Marie Pinak Carr*

Mary A. Gamache, CMSgt, USAF (Ret.)

mgamache@rma.edu

540-636-5491