

# SAS Counseling Enhancements for 2009-2010

Presented by  
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# Why Make Changes?

- Our student to counselor ratio is poor compared to peer international schools.
- We want a great, rather than good, program.
- Younger students deserve more services.
- We want to maximize the chances of each student being admitted to college.
- More specialized counseling services needed.



# Three Counselors for Grades 9 and 10

- More availability for students
- Grade appropriate seminars:
  - Developing a high school academic plan
  - Identifying and becoming involved in activities
  - Early college planning
  - Transitioning to high school
- Support for new Freshman Wellness course



# Grade 9 and 10 Counselors

- Dawn Betts



- Nathan Schelble



- Sue Nesbitt



# Five Counselors for Grades 11 and 12

- More time translates into:
  - More personal attention
  - Earlier college planning activities
  - Counselor recommendation letters
  - Essay assistance
- Workshops on such topics as essays and interviewing
- Better communication with students and parents



# Grade 11 and 12 Counselors



Frieda Dietrich



Beth Kramer



Mario Sylvander



Dale Ford



Trevor Sturgeon



# 2009-2010: A Transition Year

- Some will change counselors next year:
  - About 85 juniors out of 285
  - About 90 sophomores out of 285
  - About 170 freshmen out of 285 will have a different 9/10 counselor next year. These students will return to their previous counselor as juniors.
- You already received a letter if there will be a change next year.



# The Future is Good

- Younger students will have early access to counselors.
- More focused counseling services provided to all students.
- This change allows counselors to specialize in their areas of strength.
- A reduction in hearing, “I wanted to see my counselor but he/she was busy.”



# Questions You May Have

- How will information be passed from one counselor to the next?
- Can my child only speak to the assigned new counselor?
- What if a counselor resigns and my child gets yet another new counselor?



# More Questions

- Why can't my freshman keep counselor X if after the sophomore year he or she will return to counselor X?
- Will this strengthen students' college admission chances?



# Still More Questions

- Your questions...

