The 2020 Bellevue School District College Conference

Wednesday, February 5th at Sammamish High School and Thursday, February 6th at Bellevue High School

Welcome: Dr. Ivan Duran, Superintendent, Bellevue School District
Host Principals: Derrick Richardson, Principal, Sammamish High School
               Vic Anderson, Principal, Bellevue High School
Keynote Speaker: Derrick Wheeler Smith, Zero Youth Detention Program Director, Department of Public Health

College Application Process 101 for Parents - All Sessions
Sesión 1: Traductor De Español
Presenters: Big Picture, Newport High School and Sammamish High School Counselors – Feb. 5th
           Bellevue High School, Interlake High School and International School Counselors – Feb. 6th
Naviance, the college search process, your role in the process, and the timelines that are critical to ease the stress of the
college application season (October-January) will be discussed. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade families.

Public Universities in the State of Washington: Trends and Opportunities – All Sessions
Moderator: Feb 5: Eric Ferguson, Director of Instructional Technology, Bellevue School District
          Feb 6: Maria Friboes-Gee, Principal, Interlake High School
Presenters: Megan Cooley, Admissions Counselor, University of Washington Tacoma
           Carmen Garcia, Admissions Counselor, Washington State University
           Jacob Jones-Poulton, Admissions Counselor, Western Washington University
           Grace Nguyen, Admissions Counselor, Central Washington University
           Alishia Ruff, Admissions Counselor, University of Washington Seattle (Wednesday Only)
           Joseph Franco, Admissions Counselor, University of Washington Seattle (Thursday Only)
           Garick Sherburn, Admissions Counselor, UW Bothell
Public universities in Washington offer a wide variety of programs. In this session you will learn about
admissions practices, profiles of the average Freshman on campus this year and the unique characteristics of
each institution.

Canadian Colleges: Application Process and Opportunities in Canada – All Sessions
Moderator: Feb 5th: Tom Duenwald, Director, Instructional Technology, Bellevue School District
          Feb 6th: John Harrison, Executive Director of Schools, Bellevue School District
Presenters: Alex Riviere, Admissions Counselor, University of Victoria
           Badre Hassani, Admissions Counselor, University of British Columbia
Universities in Canada offer a wide variety of programs. In this session you will learn about the application process,
trends in admissions practices, new program offerings and some of the characteristics of the colleges presenting.

Fine and Performing Arts Colleges/Universities and DigiPen Institute of Technology – All Sessions
Moderators: Feb 5th: Chris Lindbergh, Manager of Data, Research & Testing, Bellevue School District
           Feb 6th: Tara Gray, Principal, International School
Presenters: Eloise Boyle, Undergraduate Advisor, University of Washington Seattle School of Drama
           Vincent Samudovsky, Admission Counselor, Cornish College of the Arts
           Jeff Hill, Director of Outreach, Digi Pen (Wednesday Only)
           Alec Leibsohn, Admissions Outreach Coordinator, Digi Pen (Thursday Only)
Learn about the different types of arts programs offered in the U.S. & Canada. Understand the process for admissions,
portfolios and auditions. Find out about the future outlook for careers in the arts. Are you interested in designing video
games and creating animated films? Learn about Computer Science, Game Design, Animation, and Computer Engineering programs at DigiPen Institute of Technology.

Admission Process at Private Colleges/Universities – All Sessions
Moderator:  
Feb 5th:  Myra Arnone, Assistant Principal, Sammamish High School  
Feb 6th:  Scott Powers, Director of Teaching and Learning, Bellevue School District

Presenters:  
Anna Aegerter, Admissions Counselor, University of Redlands  
Mark Howard, Admissions Counselor, University of Puget Sound (Thursday Only)  
Zucel Aguilar, Admissions Counselor, Gonzaga University  
Rachel Reaves, Admissions Counselor, Pacific Lutheran University  
Patrick McCarthy, Admissions Counselor, Seattle University

Representatives from various selective colleges will provide an overview of how their admissions teams evaluate applications and will also take questions from students and families regarding the application review process. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade students and families.

Transfer, Tech and Two-year programs – Sessions 1 and 2
Moderator:  
Feb 5th:  Anecia Grigsby, Assistant Principal, Sammamish High School  
Feb 6th:  Bret Cochrun, Assistant Principal, Bellevue High School

Presenters:  
Ithzel Moreno, Admissions Counselor, Bellevue College (Wednesday)  
Rosa Ramirez, Admissions Counselor, Bellevue College (Thursday Only)  
Gina Nakamura, Admissions Counselor, Seattle Community Colleges  
Meisha Wangerin, Admissions Counselor, Lake Washington Institute of Technology

Starting your college career at a community or technical college can be a great plan. Our community and technical colleges offer strong programs, several 4-year degrees and transferring to a four-year university can be done smoothly. Learn about the new 4-year bachelor’s degrees they now offer!

Putting Yourself on Paper: Writing the College Essay – All Sessions
Presenters:  
Feb 5th – Anne Fillmore, Avid and English Teacher, Sammamish High School  
Feb 6th – Jennifer Weitman, English Teacher, Bellevue High School

The college essay can be a critical part of the college application. Strategies to respond to essay prompts will be reviewed as well as ways to avoid mistakes and how to choose a topic that is appropriate for the essay. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade students.

Presenter:  
Feb 5th, Ari Howard, Independent College Counselor, Paragon Test Prep  
Feb 6th, Molly Metz, Independent College Counselor, Prep Northwest

Both the ACT and the SAT are used in the college admissions process. You will learn about their differences, as well as which tests are required or recommended and strategies to prepare for these high-stakes exams.

Pay Less For College! – Don’t Pay Full Price - All Sessions
Presenter:  
Peg Keough, College Financial Planning Consultant, Way to the Quad

Come learn about how the colleges assess your eligibility for aid and how they discount the cost of college for many families. Peg will discuss the sources of these discounts and the financial aid forms as well as the planning strategies you can implement to get these discounts. Come learn how to create a comprehensive college funding plan to maximize financial aid, minimize taxes, and save for a comfortable retirement at the same time. Up until now you have probably saved FOR the cost of college. Now learn how to save ON the cost of college. Recommended for parents/guardians of 9th through 11th graders.

Paying for College Without Going Broke – All Sessions
Presenter:  
Paula Bishop, Certified Public Accountant, Financial Aid for College Advisor

Typical questions that will be addressed include: How to complete the FAFSA and CSS Profile to qualify for the most aid? How can we afford private colleges? How does the financial aid system work? Do we qualify for financial aid? How to find the colleges that give the most aid? How can we get scholarships? How do 529 plans work? We haven’t saved enough, what do we do?
Financial Aid from the College/University Perspective – FAFSA/WASFA – All Sessions
Sesión 3: Traductor De Español
Presenters:  
Feb 5th: Kimberly Sheppard, Financial Aid Counselor, Seattle U Private Schools  
Feb 6th: James Flowers, Associate Director - Financial Aid Office, University of Washington Seattle
This session will include information about financial planning for college, the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), scholarships, and grants which can also be part of a financial aid package for qualifying students. Recommended for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students and families.

College Success for Students with Learning Differences - Special Needs Admissions – 1st session only
Presenter:  
Feb 5th: Vanessa Lopez-Kopp, College and Career Specialist, Newport High School  
Feb 6th: Amy Stay, Special Education Teacher, Bellevue High School
If your student has a 504 Plan or an IEP, then this session is a must. You will learn what support is available in college, the documentation you will need to provide, and examples of college services and programs available. Recommended for students in all grades who have special needs.

Finding the Right Fit – Sessions 1 and 2 only
Sesión 2: Traductor De Español
Presenter: Claire Nold-Glaser, Independent College Counselor, College Planning Help
Strategies to find colleges that match a student’s profile and interests will be discussed. Defining student priorities and interests is an essential first step in finding colleges that “fit.”

Starting the College Search: Where to Begin – All Sessions
Presenter: Mike Willis, Independent College Counselor, Mike Willis and Associates
Want to start the college search? Don’t know how? Attend this session and learn how to start your college search through networking, on-line search engines and programs, and college fairs.

Military Options in College Education: ROTC scholarships, Academy applications – Sessions 1 and 2 only
Presenter: Troy Niehaus, Counselor, Varsity Student Institute
Learn about scholarship opportunities for college via ROTC or one of the prestigious Service Academies. Earn your college degree and be commissioned an officer in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, or Coast Guard. The information session is for high school students grades 9-11, who want to learn more about this college scholarship opportunity.
The five Federal Services Academies include: US Air Force Academy; US Military Academy (West Point); US Naval Academy; US Coast Guard Academy; US Merchant Marine Academy

Navigating the NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER — College For the Athlete – Session 1 and 2 only
Presenter: Scott Brayton, College Advisor/Mentor, Varsity Student Institute
The NCAA process for student athletic eligibility will be covered. Advanced planning is essential. The speaker will also cover ACT and SAT test scores as they pertain to eligibility.