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October 21, 2024

Hello Families of the Class of 2027!

It's hard to believe that we are already through Quarter 1! The excitement of the new school year has settled, and our 10th-grade students are fully embracing the experience. They are beginning to focus on their future, dedicating their energy to academic success and getting involved in activities and athletics. It's exciting to see this shift in their perspectives during this time.

As we continue this journey together, I want to share what to expect throughout this school year and how I can support all of you. Some key components of this school year include Sophomore Success Seminars, Sophomore Empowerment Meetings, and the PSAT 10.

I am here to support students with anything that may hinder their success. This includes help with academics and study skills, navigating friendship dynamics, providing social and emotional support and guidance, exploring ways to get involved, and discussing possibilities for their future. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns about your student. I am here to support students and families.

To ensure a balanced plan for graduation and post-secondary preparation, students and families are invited to participate in a personal Sophomore Empowerment Meeting. These meetings are designed to discuss a student's ICAP (Individualized Career and Academic Plan). Over the past year, I have been meeting with students to complete this document, outlining a plan for future coursework and ideas for the future. During our meeting, we will review this plan together, providing an opportunity for you to ask any questions or share additional information.

Educate. Inspire. Empower.



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Starting next week, I will be presenting the Sophomore Success Seminar to all students. During this meeting, we will cover various topics, including how to schedule the Sophomore Empowerment Meeting. I request that students schedule the meeting using my online calendar, coordinating their availability with yours to find a suitable time. We can meet in the Counseling Office or through Zoom during their Greyhound Time/Lunch, Learning Center/Study Skills, after a science lab, or any free period. The meeting will last approximately 30 minutes.

Please encourage your students to share information from the Sophomore Success Seminar. I will provide details about upcoming testing, summer opportunities, unique experiences available to 11th and 12th-grade students, and more. We will also cover some of this during our empowerment meeting.

Sophomores will be taking the PSAT 10 (a practice SAT) on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. More information regarding this test will be provided closer to the date. The PSAT 10 is a free test for all sophomores, offering valuable feedback for future standardized tests and providing school staff with important information to assist in placement and support.

I truly appreciate working with this incredible group of young people and welcome your questions, comments, or suggestions. I look forward to meeting with all of you at some point this school year!

Sincerely,

Tobie Smith
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Clayton High School
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