

## **PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE CENTER SERVICES**

The College Center is a student-centered office. We are open (almost) all the time; before school, during the day, after school, sometimes in the evening and during the summer. We help students prepare and plan for college (college search, testing, essays, applications, recommendations, transcripts, etc.); if it's college-related, the College Center is the place to come. We are here to help students through the high points—and the low points—of the college application process, dispensing advice, hugs, high fives, sometimes a shoulder to cry on.

### **ONLINE SERVICES**

- College Center page on school website; go to [www.palihigh.org](http://www.palihigh.org) and click on “Students”
- College Center events and college visits posted to school calendar at [www.palihigh.org](http://www.palihigh.org) and on Family Connection (see below)
- For student athletes, [www.corecoursegpa.com](http://www.corecoursegpa.com), see College Center for access code.
- Email: You can reach us at [palicollege@aol.com](mailto:palicollege@aol.com); we answer email daily.

### **SERVICES FOR SENIORS**

- Family Connection – web-based college planning and application management system, free online SAT/ACT prep course
- Summer college planning appointments available one-on-one with College Center staff (contingent on availability of funding)
- Fall college planning appointments available one-on-one with volunteer counselors
- Fall senior college planning workshops (day and evening) for seniors and parents
- Writing coach available for help with college essays and SAT Writing section
- University of California and Cal State outreach representatives available every week
- Santa Monica College representative visits twice a month during lunch
- College visits; dozens of college reps visit in the fall semester during the school day
- UC and CSU application workshops
- Senior and parent questionnaires distributed to facilitate recommendation writing
- Counselor recommendation letters and forms prepared and sent to colleges
- Midyear grades sent to colleges
- Information about national and local scholarships posted to Family Connection
- Financial aid workshops presented in November and February by financial aid advisor
- One-on-one appointments available for students and parents with financial aid advisor
- Senior Awards Program in June

### **SERVICES FOR JUNIORS**

- PSAT registration and administration in October
- Spring college planning appointments available one-on-one with volunteer counselors
- Spring junior college planning workshops (day and evening) for juniors and parents
- Junior parents invited to senior financial aid workshop
- Spring visits by College Center staff to all U.S. History classes for college advising
- Family Connection – web-based college planning and application management system
- Free on-line SAT/ACT prep course available through Family Connection
- SAT prep course (scholarships for students in lunch program, fee-based for others)

## **SERVICES FOR SOPHOMORES**

- PSAT registration and administration in October
- Spring sophomore college planning workshops for sophomores and parents
- Spring visits by College Center staff to all World History classes for college advising
- Family Connection – web-based college planning and application management system
- Free on-line SAT/ACT prep course available through Family Connection

## **GENERAL COLLEGE CENTER SERVICES**

- Athletic recruiting advisor – one-on-one appointments and workshops
- College Fair – October – representatives from about 100 colleges attend
- Library of college catalogs, general college guides, test prep and financial aid books
- Use of computers, photocopier, fax and telephone for college-related matters
- Registration materials and fee waivers for SAT and ACT
- Advising regarding testing schedule and registration procedures
- Grade-appropriate mailings about College Center events and services
- College planning workshop presented in Spanish
- Bulletin boards in A Building with information about testing and college events
- Information about summer programs (academic, community service, internship, etc.)
- Scholarship and program nominations (Posse Foundation, Links, HOBY, Gates, etc.)
- AP examination registration and administration

## **COLLEGE CENTER STAFF**

- Helene Kunkel, B.S., Georgetown U; UCLA College Counseling Certificate Program
- Aileen Scibetta, B.A., UCLA; M.A., Counseling, LMU; Pupil Personnel Credential; College Counseling Certificate issued jointly by College Board, WACAC, LAUSD
- Ruth Grubb, B.A., Sheffield University; UCSD College Counseling Certificate Program
- Mary Ann Doll, B.B.A., U of Wisconsin; UCLA College Counseling Certificate Program
- All volunteer counselors have completed UCLA College Counseling Certificate Program

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

- Memberships: National Association of College Admissions Counselors (NACAC), Western Association of College Admissions Counselors (WACAC)
- Annual attendance at conferences for above organizations
- Regular attendance at counselor programs hosted by colleges and universities
- Annual attendance at UC, CSU, College Board, ACT conferences
- Have visited all UC campuses, and 18 of 23 Cal State campuses
- Total number of campuses visited by staff: close to 500
- Participation in counselor tours (HOOT, Peachtree, Crab Crawl, Best of the Bay, COWS, DecemberFest, DIG, Metroplex, CRUSSH, U of Arizona, UC Davis)
- Annual self-tour of regional colleges (DC/VA; WA/OR; SF Bay Area; Central PA/CT/MA; TN/GA/NC/SC; Chicago/Milwaukee; OH/IN/Western PA; Central California; Colorado; Dallas; Philadelphia/New York; Arizona, New Orleans)