



**Academic Magnet High School**

**Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Karolyn Belcher**  
Chief Academic Officer

**Joseph Williams, Ph.D.**  
Associate Superintendent of  
Secondary Learning Community

**Jacob Perlmutter**  
Principal

November 5, 2021

Dear Academic Magnet High School Families,

I am writing along with our Interim Director of School Counseling, Ms. Vallejo, to communicate a few updates regarding our Academic Magnet High School counseling department.

- In order to continue to prioritize college preparation and admissions, we have requested, received, and will soon post an additional allocation for a fourth school counselor at Academic Magnet High School. That position will be specifically tailored to either working with students in their college preparation or alleviating the responsibilities of our existing counselors so that they can make college preparation and admission a more dedicated focus.
- For the coming weeks, Ms. Fronde Stille, the Charleston County School District Director of School Counseling will be working on site at AMHS to support our counseling department. Ms. Stille has decades of experience and a deep familiarity with the college and scholarship application processes.
- This Spring 2022, our counselors will connect with the top ten to fifteen most applied-to colleges from AMHS and create personal networks with the admissions offices at those schools. Because there are thousands of colleges and universities, we know that having an intimate knowledge of each one is not a realistic goal, but we will work to expand our relationship footprint each year in the future and not limit our reach by state lines or regional affinities.
- Thank you Senior families for your participation and responsiveness with IGPs! All Senior Individual Graduation Plan meetings were completed ahead of our school district's schedule.
- There will be a Junior class information night for parents by zoom on Monday, 11/15/2021 and all of our Junior students Individual Graduation Plan meetings will be complete by mid-December (again, ahead of our school district schedule).
- Our counseling department continues to maintain and update the "Class Of..." canvas pages and also post information to the school webpage under the "School Counseling" tab on the top menu bar. We have re-organized that information and included the application deadline in each title so the design is much more intuitive. We also share new scholarship opportunities almost daily through our school Facebook and Instagram.

I want to be clear about my unequivocal support of our counselors at Academic Magnet High School. Ms. Vallejo, Ms. Krupilis, and Ms. Chrysler are three dedicated professionals who agreed to undertake an enormous challenge in stepping into their current roles. They sort through grade and scheduling changes in a place with complex grading and scheduling, they are responsible for test training and administration in a school where all students take multiple high stakes assessments, and they are on the front lines of all student issues from time-consumingly small to heart-wrenchingly large. In the face of this pressure, our counselors handle themselves with inspired composure as they pivot from one substantial responsibility to the next.

In this season of gratitude, I am extremely grateful that we have them on our Magnet team and in the lives of your children.

Thank you for your continued support of Academic Magnet High School!

Sincerely,  
  
Jacob B. Perlmutter, Principal