Senior Fall: What You Need to Know Now  
(From the College Counseling Office)

1. INITIAL FALL MEETING WITH YOUR COLLEGE COUNSELOR
   If you have not done so already, please turn in your Senior Fall Update form and email your college counselor to schedule an initial meeting.

2. TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM (Pink form enclosed in Senior College folder)
   This form allows us to track requests for transcripts/counselor recommendations and to submit them to colleges in a timely manner. You will be able to add colleges and/or scholarships to this form, as needed, throughout the year. Be sure to give the required one month notice for any transcript request.
   **Please complete the form, providing signatures and initials where indicated, and return to Mrs. Wani by Wednesday, September 5, 2018.**

3. TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS
   The College Counseling Office uses Naviance eDocs to electronically submit students’ transcripts, counselor reports, and teacher recommendations. The counselors addressed how to ask for recommendations (and how many are appropriate) at a recent class meeting.

   Two reminders:
   • Form for Teacher Recommenders: Have your teacher sign the orange Teacher Recommendation Agreement Form (available in the College Office) at least one month before your earliest deadline.
   • Thanking your Teacher Recommenders: Be sure to thank your teachers when your applications are completed. A hand-written thank you note is always appreciated.

4. STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES: REPORTING & SENDING
   Cary Academy does NOT send students’ test scores with the transcript. Most colleges require that you send official copies of your SAT/ACT scores directly from the testing agency.
   • SAT (to send scores, go to www.collegeboard.com): Some colleges allow students to choose which scores (by test date for the SAT and by individual test for the SAT Subject Tests) they send to colleges; however, some colleges require students to report all scores. For more information, please see https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/scores/sending-scores/score-choice
   • ACT (to send scores, go to www.actstudent.org): The ACT provides score reports by single test administration.
   • AP: We recommend that students self-report AP Scores on their applications. There is no need to pay the College Board to send the AP score report; colleges will accept self-reported AP scores because they are not required for admission. We will mention them in our letter of recommendation where appropriate.

   **Please talk to your college counselor about which scores to report/send where.**
5. DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY
The following is reprinted from the Student Handbook. Please especially note the bold type below regarding senior year!

School policy requires that suspension and other serious breaches of school discipline or general codes of conduct (such as violations of academic honesty and incidents involving violence or substance use or abuse) become a part of that student’s school record while enrolled at Cary Academy. Many colleges and universities ask schools to report serious student infractions, including suspensions and/or dismissals that occur after the submission of an application for admission or acceptance by a college or university.

Cary Academy’s policy is that when asked, the School will only report suspensions and/or dismissals from Cary Academy that occur during high school. In accordance with our Statement of Community Values, we expect our students to do the same. The College Counseling Office will assist students in preparing a forthright and thoughtful statement.

6. VISITS TO COLLEGE CAMPUSES
Possible days for a Fall College Visit (no classes on these days):
- Wednesday, September 19: Professional Day; no classes
- Thursday, October 11: Conference Day; no classes
- Friday, October 12: Fall Break; no classes

Seniors are also allowed three college visit days in the academic year, in addition to the Honor Study Days. The Student Absence Request Form must be signed and returned to the Upper School Office two (2) academic days prior to the day(s) you will be absent.

7. INFORMATION AND ADVICE REGARDING EARLY PLANS

Early Action (EA) = a NON-BINDING application. A student receives a decision typically in December or January, but has until May 1 (the National Candidate’s Reply Date) to make a decision about attending.
- Most CA seniors will apply EA to at least one college.
- We strongly encourage students considering UNC system colleges to apply by their earliest deadline.

Early Decision (ED) = a BINDING application. If admitted ED to a college, a student must attend and withdraw all other applications. The student, parent and college counselor all sign an agreement to that effect.
- Families intending to apply for Financial Aid should complete the college’s Net Price Calculator (found on the colleges’ admissions/financial aid sites) before applying ED.
- Be sure to check the college’s policies and deadlines for applying for financial aid as part of an ED application.
- It is important to understand that applying ED precludes the ability to compare scholarship and aid packages.

8. FINANCIAL AID & MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS
Please see the enclosed reference sheet. As a reminder, we strongly encourage all families to complete the Net-Price Calculators for the colleges to which the student has decided to apply. These provide estimates only, but they give a sense of how colleges will likely interpret your financial information.

Parents: Please also pay attention to financial aid deadlines and the forms required by the colleges to which your child is applying.

9. WE ARE HERE TO HELP! Any time you have questions, please let us know.