



Falcon's Front Page

The School Counseling Department releases quarterly newsletters to better assist students and families on staying up to date with the latest information.

September 23, 2021

Charles W. Flanagan High School - School Counseling Department

In This Issue: Quarter 1



Welcome back to the 2021-2022 school year! We are so happy to have everyone back on campus again, and can't wait to meet you all!

In this issue:

- **Counselor Introductions**
- **BRACE Introduction**
- **Contact Us**

Welcome to Our 1st Quarter Newsletter!



Greetings Falcon Families!

My name is Emily Coombs and this is my second year here at Flanagan as Director of School Counseling and I would like to personally welcome all of our Falcons back to campus! We have a lot of catching up to do this year, socially and academically, and the School Counseling Department is here to assist. After everything we all experienced for the past year and a half, we all need to be sensitive to each other and support one another on the road back to familiarity.

"Make the Connection: Care, Communicate, Contribute, Compassion"

Our theme for this year was created with the thought in mind that we all need a little extra connection given the current scenario our world is in, and the past experiences that we have been through. Many of us have been isolated for quite some time now, and don't remember what it is like being a part of a classroom, or a team, or a club. We want to be sure that at Flanagan we still show that we **care**, about ourselves and others. We want to remember how to **communicate** with one another, that we are pausing and listening to the deeper meaning. As a member of this Flanagan community we want to **contribute**, to our own success and to others, leaving your mark. And last but not least, we want to make sure that the **compassion** is not lost, that we are still relating and developing relationships with one another.

"Keep Learning! Embrace new experiences. See opportunities. Surprise yourself!"

We recognize that this year is hard. It is hard from going to learning by yourself on a computer for a year and a half and suddenly you're back on a school campus with 2,700 other students. Many students (and staff) have admitted to the overwhelming nature of it all. We want you to know that you are not alone, and we are in this together! Any time it starts to feel like too much, our doors are open for you, to support you, and to give you the strategies where you will learn how to support yourself in future scenarios. We want our students to be prepared with coping strategies to become the most successful students, even after the unimaginable we have been experiencing. **We're in this together!**

Ms. Coombs



1 - Ms. Coombs - Director of School Counseling

SENIORS

Welcome to all the new, and returning students this school year. Now that we are settled into classes it is time to get busy.

Along with academic responsibilities, sports, clubs, and possibly employment, students are also expected to focus their efforts on determining their post high school plans. In the coming months each senior will have a one-on-one meeting to ensure that all requirements for graduation will be met on time and to discuss post-secondary plans. Please be patient as there are over 600 seniors!

In the meantime, review your Virtual Counselor, where all of your graduation requirements are outlined. If you have specific questions about colleges and scholarships, ask our BRACE adviser, Ms. Raff. I am looking forward to meeting all of you this year!

Ms. Erie



2 - Ms. Erie - 12th Grade School Counselor

JUNIORS

Hello Class of 2023, and welcome back to campus! Soon we will begin School Counseling Presentations in your Study Hall classes to discuss graduation requirements, Naviance, Dual Enrollment opportunities, Scholarship Resources, Bright Futures and other important topics.

So since you're here, ever wonder what types of things you should be focused on during the first quarter of your Junior year? Here are a few suggestions!

- Be sure to review your Unweighted GPA on virtual counselor (remember it is important to maintain a 2.0 Unweighted GPA in order to be considered on track for graduation).
- Be sure to update/verify that your Naviance account has the correct contact information, this is important for communication and any future activities we'll be completing throughout this school year.
- Keep your grades up to the best of your ability!
- Seek assistance from your teachers and me (your counselor).

Know that I think you all are **terrific**, keep up the good work, and I'm rooting for you to have an exceptional school year. Stay safe!

Ms. Pierre-Jullot

3 - Ms. Pierre-Jullot - 11th Grade School



Counselor

SOPHOMORES

Hi Sophomores and welcome to Quarter 1 of the 2021-2022 School Year! As your counselor, I want to make sure that you are all prepared to work and learn how to navigate your way through your 10th grade academic year, knowing that many of you missed out on a typical 9th grade year. In order to ensure that you all are up to date on your Sophomore year requirements and anything that you missed out on last year, each semester I will visit classes to talk to Sophomores about graduation requirements, curriculum options, and post-secondary planning.

In the meantime, make sure to log into your Virtual Counselor and check out the Graduation Information tab to familiarize yourself with the requirements. Also make sure to log into Naviance and make sure your contact information is correct, as this is where you will receive quite a bit of information regarding post-secondary options!

I look forward to meeting you all over the year, all 716 of you! (Our largest class this year at Flanagan!)

Ms. DiBenedetto



4 - Ms. DiBenedetto - 10th Grade School Counselor

FRESHMEN

Hello Class of 2025! My name is Mr. Diaz and I will be your 9th grade counselor this year and I want to welcome you to Flanagan High School! My goal is to ensure each of you have a successful year academically, socially and emotionally. During the 1st semester, I will be visiting your study halls to introduce myself and I will also be sharing some valuable information pertaining to 9th grade requirements for graduation and resources that you may need throughout your time here at Flanagan. Any time you need me, you can visit the Guidance Office before school, or during your lunch. Make sure you stay safe and see you soon!

Mr. Diaz



5 - Mr. Diaz - 9th Grade School Counselor

BRACE



A BIG Hello and welcome from your Brace Advisor, Mrs. Meryl Raff. I would personally like to welcome the class of 2025 and wish all of you the very best over the next four years. As you progress through high school, you will be amazed at how quickly your senior year arrives. And to this year's class of 2022, I can't wait to see where you all end up at the end of this year and I look forward to helping you along the way!

Choosing a college that is a good “fit” for you can be an exciting adventure, but it can also seem intimidating and overwhelming at times. I will provide students with information on post-secondary options, such as college, university, technical school and military service as well as information on scholarships, college admission testing (SAT/ACT), financial aid and the college application process. I promise you, I am committed to help make sure your college dreams and plans come true.

There is a world of opportunities available to you - plan now...work hard and follow your dreams.

I am available if you have any questions at meryl.raff@browardschools.com Have an amazing year!!!!



6 - Ms. Raff - BRACE Advisor

Contact Us!

Flanagan School Counseling Department

Ms. Emily Coombs, School Counseling Director

Ms. Brenda Erie, 12th Grade Counselor

Ms. Sherley Pierre-Jullot, 10th Grade Counselor

Ms. Jennifer DiBenedetto, 10th Grade Counselor

Mr. Juan Diaz, 9th Grade Counselor

Ms. Meryl Raff, BRACE Advisor

Mr. Robert Johnson, Testing Coordinator

Ms. Tadarria Cotton, School Counseling Secretary

Ms. Ana Salazar, Registrar

Ms. Emma Rockensies, Social Worker

Ms. Simone Sertorio, Family Counselor

Ms. Emily Driggers, ESE Specialist

Ms. Joann Andrews, ESE Secretary

