# TUESDAY TELEGRAPH
## NEWS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE
## October 20, 2026

# Seniors - Class of 2027

### GEORGIA MATCH

GEORGIA MATCH letters were sent out last week. GEORGIA MATCH is the state's Direct Admission program for high school students. Your letter will have a list of all the Georgia colleges and universities where you qualify for admission based on your HOPE GPA. GEORGIA MATCH information is also available in your www.gafutures.org account, so log-in to see your matches, request information, and "claim your spot" to up to 3 different colleges. **Then, in November, you can apply to many Georgia colleges for FREE during Apply to College Month. More details to follow, including a list of participating schools. And save the date, Tuesday, November 17th!** Counselors will be on hand during all lunch periods to assist seniors with the application process! More details to follow.

### KSU Presidential Fellows Cohort Program

Kennesaw State University is pleased to announce their new Presidential Fellows Cohort Program, launching officially in the Fall of 2027. This exclusive, four-year experience empowers future leaders to challenge themselves, grow with purpose, and make a meaningful impact. Through hands-on learning and mentorship, Fellows will build self-awareness, strengthen leadership skills, and put their values into action.

Who are they looking for?

Top scholars, preferably students who will be eligible for the Zell Miller scholarship, who have some leadership experience and a recommender who can champion their academic prowess. If you want to learn more, the Honors College is hosting five virtual information sessions over the next few weeks.

REGISTER HERE: https://campus.kennesaw.edu/colleges-departments/honors/events.php

DATES (all events start at 6:30 pm):

October 21
October 29
November 9

## Financial Aid Information

We had an excellent presentation last month from Anna Roberts O'Brien, our GSFC representative, who provided a wealth of information about the financial aid process, including federal aid, FAFSA, HOPE Programs, and so much more. She has graciously shared her presentation with us for those who weren't able to attend, as well as those who want to go back through the information. If you'd like additional assistance, Anna is available for consultations about financial aid, FAFSA, and more. You can reach out to her by email - aroberts@gsfc.org, phone/text 404.706.1550, or schedule a 30-minute appointment directly through her Bookings link, found here https://www.gafutures.org/about-us/outreach/meet-your-gsfc-outreach-representative/anna-obrien/. Anna's consultations are free as a service provided by the Georgia-sponsored higher education finance agency, the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). **The FAFSA has opened**, and you'll need to complete the **2027-2028 FAFSA** if your students will be starting college next fall!

## United States Presidential Scholar Program

Each year, the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program honors some of our nation's most exceptional high school seniors who shine through academic achievement, artistic talent, and career and technical excellence. Established by executive order in 1964, the program has grown to recognize up to 161 students annually, celebrating those whose accomplishments reflect the highest ideals of scholarship, creativity, and leadership.

**The 2027 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program application window closes on November 1st at 5 pm.** High school seniors may apply, provided they meet all program qualifications. The application, program criteria, and informational brochures are on the Excellence Recognitions PSP webpage at U.S. Presidential Scholar – Georgia Department of Education.

**Application Link:** 2027 PSP Application

**Verification Forms:** Click Here

**Student Application Guidance:** Click Here

## Scholarship Opportunities

Watch this space for important scholarship information! Various opportunities will be highlighted in the Tuesday Telegraph but thousands of scholarships are also posted in SchooLinks and can be found on the Pope School Counseling website. Later this semester we will be sharing scholarship opportunities where there are guaranteed to be Pope winners! Also, check out this great website to find out which colleges offer free tuition! A couple of scholarships to highlight this week:

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Scholarship is designed to support ambitious African-American female high school seniors who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. The application is due **December 11th.** Last year, 13 scholarships were awarded totaling over $55,000!

The Hagan Scholarship is a nationwide need-based merit scholarship, providing recipients with the opportunity to achieve their goals and graduate college debt-free! The scholarship provides $1,000 to help pay for essential items to attend college and up to $7,500 each semester for up to 8 consecutive semesters (that's **$60,000**!). Free workshops, Free Schwab Brokerage Accounts, and Free Study Abroad provide recipients with a practical understanding of important life skills not typically covered in the school curriculum. Students who meet the criteria can learn more here. Applications are due by **December 1st.**

# Information for All Grades

## Sign up for your Junior Advisement Appointment!

During Junior year, families and students are invited to meet with their counselor for an individual 30-minute advisement session regarding remaining graduation requirements and post-secondary plans. Please click on the link next to your assigned alpha counselor to take you directly to a Bookings page and follow the instructions. **We encourage you to book a time that coincides with your student's lunch or maybe an elective period if possible.** Students will be responsible for making up any work that is missed. We look forward to meeting with you. If you missed the Junior Parent Meeting, you can find the presentation at **www.popeschoolcounseling.com/11th-grade/**. **As a reminder, please bring a copy of your student's Social Security card to the meeting. This will be helpful in allowing you and your student to gain access to their personal HOPE Scholarship information. Additionally, please be sure to park in a VISITOR parking spot or there is a risk that you will get a ticket if you park in a student/teacher parking spot.**

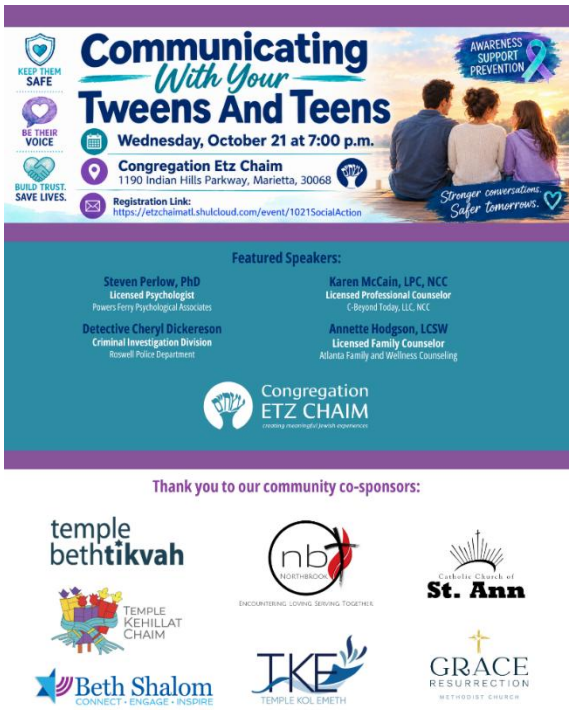
**Anna Leathers (A – D):**
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**Jamie Hamrick (R – Z):**
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## Parent Workshop – Communicating with Your Tweens and Teens



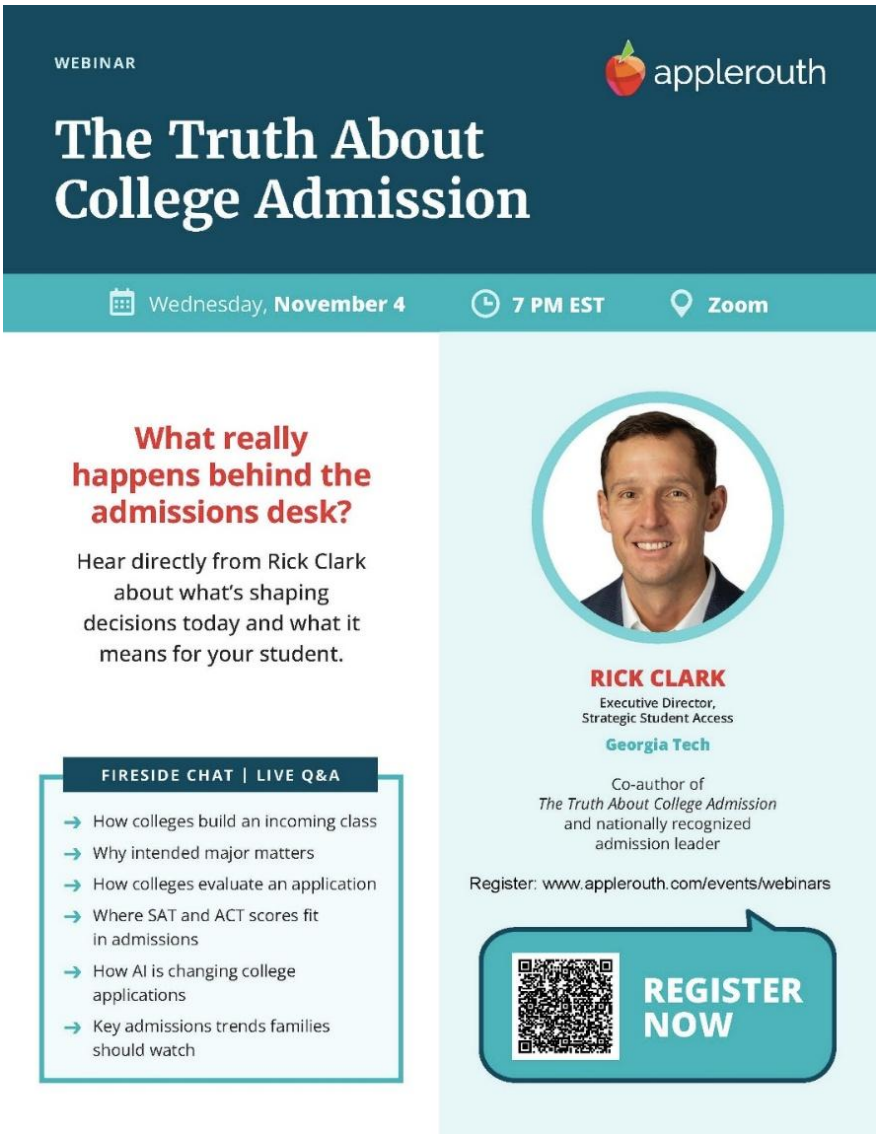

Several Community Organizations have gathered expert speakers to help parents and caregivers learn how to communicate (more effectively) with our tweens and teens. The panel will be giving great information about how to handle the trials and tribulations that parents, guardians and tweens/teens face. Register to reserve your FREE spot for this event taking place **TOMORROW, October 21st.** See the flyer for further information.

# The Truth about College Admission

On **November 4th at 7** pm, Applerouth is hosting their annual webinar with Rick Clark, Executive Director of Strategic Student Access from Georgia Tech, entitled “The Truth about College Admission”. Get honest, insider insight into what colleges really look for in applicants, plus practical tips to help stand out in a competitive admissions landscape.

Topics include:
- The evolving role of SAT and ACT scores
- The use of AI in the admissions process
- Building a strong and balanced college list
- What colleges value inside and outside the classroom
- Essays, extracurriculars, and other key application components
- Emerging trends and predictions in admissions

Whether you’re a student, parent, counselor, or educator, this session is packed with valuable information, and ends with a live Q&A to get your questions answered. Register online. If you can’t attend live, register anyway and a recording will be sent to you.



## PSAT Information Meeting and Sophomore Family Meeting – November 9th

**On Monday, November 9th starting at 7:00 pm in the PAC** we will have a PSAT/NMSQT Information Meeting for any grade level parents/students interested in learning more about their **PSAT Score Report** and how to get the most out of their results. Following this will be an additional informational meeting for our Sophomore Families. Topics to be covered include:

- PSAT Results and college readiness
- SAT and ACT updates
- SchooLinks – Career and College planning tool for students and parents
- Post-Secondary options/admissions requirements/funding programs (HOPE Scholarship)
- Dual Enrollment
- Striving for balance during high school
- Upcoming Advisement Opportunities

## Georgia Gwinnett College Preview Day

On **Saturday November 14th** from 9 am to 1 pm, high schoolers will have the opportunity to explore Georgia Gwinnett's beautiful campus, talk to Financial Aid, eat in the dining hall, and learn about different majors. This is the perfect chance to get all your questions answered and see how GGC can help you reach your goals. If interested, register at https://www.ggc.edu/preview.



## Engineering Day at University of Alabama

The University of Alabama Lee J. Styslinger Jr. College of Engineering is hosting E-Day on **Friday, March 12, 2027**, **from 8 am to 1 pm**. This open house event provides middle and high school students with the chance to learn more about majors and career opportunities available in engineering and computer science. Students will also receive information about admissions, housing, financial aid and other college readiness topics. Students should register by visiting eng.ua.edu/e-day. **The priority registration deadline is December 15th**. For questions or more information, please contact the Engineering Welcome Center at welcome@eng.ua.edu or 205-348-1596.

## Pope's Dual Enrollment Information Night – Presentation Posted

If you missed the Dual Enrollment meeting last month, the presentation has been posted on our website. REMEMBER, parent AND student must complete the test and attendance log found at the end of the presentation if you plan to take dual enrollment classes next school year (or over the summer!). If you have any questions, please reach out to your counselor!

## Pope's HOSA Mentor Program




HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America, now known as HOSA-Future Health Professionals) helps students build leadership skills, learn about medical fields, and prepare for careers in healthcare. If you are a healthcare professional and would be willing to connect with students interested in healthcare, please see the flyer to understand how you can "Adopt a Greyhound" and help a student learn more about this important career.

## Pope School Counseling Website

Have you visited the Pope School Counseling website? You can find lots of useful information including grade specific presentations, tutoring help, personal support, ACT/SAT/CLT testing information, scholarship and financial aid resources, the weekly Tuesday Telegraphs from this school year, and so much more!




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**Facebook at Pope High School Counseling Department**