

Hello, Class of 2020!

If you are a college-bound senior still trying to make a decision about what school to attend, the counselors of OPRF would like to invite you to utilize our new ***College Connections*** resource. We reached out to OPRF alumni and asked them if they would be willing to connect with a current senior to fill them in a little more on their prospective college choices. We had an amazing response from our alumni and to date, over 1,000 people have responded! We have cross-referenced the list of colleges from our alumni with the list of colleges the members of the class of 2020 are applying to. We have hundreds of colleges covered and are working to find alumni for the remaining colleges. The counselors are hopeful that allowing you to connect with an alum will help you make a more informed college decision, especially if you were not able to visit campuses or attend admitted student events due to the COVID-19 crisis.

A couple of things to keep in mind:

- We are not providing any of the volunteers with YOUR email address. If requested, we will give YOU the email address for the volunteers. OPRF encourages you to limit your communication with the volunteer to an email "conversation." Due to the current shelter-in-place guidelines, you should not be meeting in person with any of the volunteers.
- The vast majority of the ***College Connections*** volunteers are OPRF alumni. But know that we also invited OPRF faculty and staff to volunteer, and they definitely took us up on that!
- ***Making the connection is really up to you!*** The people on this list are eager to help you so we encourage you to send off that email to make a connection!

How to receive volunteer information from *College Connections*:

- Send an email to: CollegeConnection@oprfs.org.
- Let us know which colleges you need more information about.
- We will send you an email within 24 hours with the College Connections database information for each college you are interested in knowing more about. Some colleges have more than one volunteer in the database. We will send you the contact information from *all* volunteers for each of your schools with their major and areas of interest/participation!

- When we email you back with the information, we will copy your parent or guardian and your counselor. The responsibility, though, is on you to reach out and connect with the volunteer.
- Once you have that email address, you are good to ask any of the questions you have about that particular college. We suggest that you put "OPRF College Connections" in the subject line of your email. Be sure to identify who you are and what information you are looking for about the college. We also ask that you limit your questions to college-related topics and do not engage in personal conversations with the alumni. We want to be mindful of their time commitment!

That's it! It's pretty simple. The counselors hope that the College Connection is a way for you to bridge a gap and drill down on some missing information that you might need to make a more informed college decision. If you have additional questions about your specific college choices, reach out directly to your counselor. If you have questions or concerns about the College Connection program, reach out to CollegeConnection@oprfs.org.

Feel free to begin sending us your requests!

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