



P.O. Box 141146
Spokane, WA 99214
Phone 509.536.5955
Fax 509.536.7877
www.theoakssca.org

Charlie Dowers
Headmaster
Charlie.Dowers@theoakssca.org

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Greetings Oaks Secondary Parents:

If you are new to The Oaks Secondary Program, I would like to introduce myself as the Director of College and Career Counseling. Beginning my 13th year in this role, I am eager to work with your family to make your life a little easier when pondering your student's options after high school. Whether you are considering a college or university close to home or far away, a community college or vocational school, a military academy or a military enlistment, I am here to help you navigate the process and make it not only less intimidating, but hopefully memorable.

My job is enviable: I get to work with our impressive students as they complete the final stages of the Trivium, demonstrating that they are prepared to move beyond The Oaks to accomplish whatever God has prepared for them. And when it comes time to don cap and gown at graduation, you can be confident they will be ready in accordance with The Oaks' mission statement, which says in part: "We aim to graduate young men and women who think clearly and listen carefully with discernment and understanding; who reason persuasively and articulate precisely; who are capable of evaluating their entire range of experience in the light of the Scriptures; and who do so with eagerness in joyful submission to God."

My office hours are Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 to 5:30 p.m. and by appointment. You'll find my office in the portables; just look for the college pennants on the walls! I am available for consultations with you (student, parents, or both) during office hours and on weekends.

Fall Brown Bag College Visits

Attached you will find a schedule of our Fall Brown Bag College Visits. This is an annual event each fall where our school hosts admission officers from various colleges on our campus during lunch to meet with students. Parents are welcome too. Whether your student is a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior interested in exploring prospective schools, I invite them (and you) to join us in Room 4 from 12:35-1:05 p.m. on the dates specified.

College Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop

Attached you will find the flyer for our annual College Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop to be held on Monday, Oct. 7, 7-9 p.m. in Room 8. RSVP's are requested.

Career Exploration

You will find (attached) some links to various workshops held after school this fall to allow students to explore different careers. Be mindful of early registration deadlines.

Student Services

Seniors, you are my highest priority and I am ready to help you finalize your school selections and help you with your college applications.

Juniors, you are next on my priority list and I can help you investigate the colleges or programs that interest you and strengthen your high school resume. I also offer a career assessment test (Myers Briggs) that students have found helpful.

Sophomores and Freshmen, my goal is to meet you and hear your interests and help assess your strengths, not only to assist you in eventually investigating a college or vocational program that is a “fit” for you, but also to steer you toward potential scholarship opportunities.

Here are a few more important items for your consideration:

- The ***PSAT test is Wednesday, Oct. 16*** at The Oaks (this is an early dismissal day on The Oaks schedule). The PSAT test is mandatory at The Oaks for juniors. We also welcome sophomores and freshmen to take it for practice. Details will go out next week; registration is due Friday, Oct. 11.
- ***AP Exams:*** Beginning this year, The Oaks will be the host school for all AP exams and I will serve as the AP Coordinator and exam proctor. Registration and payment for AP exams will be in the fall (a change from the spring registration in previous years). Details will go out next week; registration opens ***Oct. 4 through Nov. 15.***
- My office is stocked with college catalogs and viewbooks, financial aid information, and many more resources. Please stop by and take advantage of this information.
- A ***national college fair is coming to Spokane on Tuesday, Nov. 5.*** This is an opportunity to visit with college admissions representatives from over 100 colleges and universities. Details will be forthcoming.
- Finally, remember to tell your students... when it comes to preparing for college, ***high school grades matter.*** Whether you are a freshman, senior, or in between, your high school grades are an important component of your college application package. Beginning freshman year, you only get one shot at a “Cumulative GPA.” If you do your best to God’s glory, you will ensure yourself a host of opportunities in the future.

I’m here to help. Please stop by and say hello.

Regards,

Lynn Gibson
Director of College and Career Counseling
The Oaks Classical Christian Academy
Email: lynn.gibson@theoakscga.org