



# SHADY SIDE

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## ACADEMY

SENIOR SCHOOL  
423 Fox Chapel Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238  
412-968-3000

October 31, 2012

Dear Form II Parents,

With the first quarter of the year behind us, we know that some of you are already starting to make plans for next year. To make the transition from the Middle to the Senior School as seamless as possible, we have several informational events planned throughout the winter and early spring.

Your son or daughter will visit the Senior School with other Form II students on December 3, 4, or 5. They will shadow a current Form III student, attend classes, eat lunch, and experience high school. We hope that you will talk with your son or daughter afterwards about their day. If you have questions about the logistics of the day, please contact Bob Grandizio, Director of Admissions.

On January 10, you are invited to Rowe Hall on the Senior School Campus for our Form II Parent Information Night. Wendy Skinner, Dean of Student Life, and other administrators, will talk with you about the Senior School experience and give you an overview of the curricular opportunities. We will have a panel of students and faculty available to answer questions, and you will meet with academic Department Chairs and Student Associates in breakout rooms.

On January 13, our Math Department is hosting the Senior School Math Night. Rick Tony, Department Chair, and members of our Math faculty will present the Phillips Exeter Academy Math Curriculum and answer questions. We have been thrilled with this program. Our students' problem-solving and risk-taking skills in Mathematics have improved, and the transition from Math 1 and Math 2 into more "traditional" upper level courses has been smooth.

Finally, on April 18, in conjunction with the meeting about the Washington, D.C. trip, current Senior School parents will host round table discussions at the Middle School to talk about the nuts and bolts of the Senior School, from dress code to absence policies, etc. Throughout the spring, you are most welcome to tour the Senior School campus and visit classes. Please contact Bob Grandizio if you are interested in visiting.

In the meantime, should you have questions about Student Life, please contact Wendy Skinner, Dean of Student Life, or Michele Greene, Form III Dean. If you have questions about academic policies or curriculum, contact Dave Szlachetka, Dean of Academic Affairs, or the individual academic Department Chair (list enclosed). Please feel free to contact either Amy or me at any time, as well.

We hope that this transition will be smooth for you and your student.

Sincerely,

Kate Vavpetic  
Head of Senior School

Amy Nixon  
Head of Middle School

Encl.

### **Senior School Academic Department Chairs**

Arts	Dr. Dan Brill
Athletics	Gene Deal
Computer Science	John Wizzard
English	Linda McDonald Joseph
History	Kyle Smith
Mathematics	Rick Tony
Science	Derek Wagler
World Languages	Dr. Carol-Jean McGreevey-Morales

### **Senior School Administrators**

Associate Head	Richard Gable
Dean of Student Life	Wendy Skinner
Form III Dean	Michele Greene
Dean of Academic Affairs	Dave Szlachetka
Director of Learning Support	Jonathan Johnson
Counselor	Creighton Runnette