

## SCHOOL COUNSELOR NEWS - FEBRUARY

Most of our **seniors** are now done with their college application and I imagine it's a huge relief to be done with all the hard work. Now the seniors and their parents need to endure the suspense of waiting for the **letter of admission**. Remember that you have until **May 1<sup>st</sup>** to give your answer. That gives you time to consider all financial aid/scholarship offers.

**UAA applicants** – I recommend that you submit your application as soon as possible. They have a simple application process, but make sure to request a transcript sent to UAA. You request a transcript through the ASD website. UAA applicants have to take placement exams in English and Math (Accuplacer and ALEKS, respectively).

<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/registrar/registration/placement-exams.cshtml>

Students applying to the University of Alaska system need to fill out the **FAFSA** to be considered for the **Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS)** and financial aid.

We have scheduled **PEAKS** testing between **March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>**. There will be more information later. At Steller, we will be testing grades 7, 8 and 9 in Language Arts and Math, and grades 8 and 10 will be tested in Science.

**Juniors** – I hope you have started to think about life after Steller. I recommend that you take the **SAT or ACE** during spring or early summer (June). If you decide to retake the test, the SAT is offered in August and the ACT in September. In that way, you are done with college entrance exams before you start the main part of the college application process.

**College Night** – tentative date is **Thursday March 1<sup>st</sup>**. This event is designed for juniors and their parents but all students and parents are welcome. Depending on college plans and career goals, post-secondary planning may need to start earlier than 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Thank you

- To all students, parents and staff that participated and helped out with **Steller Freeze Up**. It takes a community to make an event like this happen.

- To all the students who shared their **Passages** project with the Steller community. I was impressed by the variety of interests, topics, creativity, and skills displayed by Steller students.

Marianne