**SCHOOL COUNSELOR NEWS – September 2018**

Welcome to a new school year at Steller and a special welcome to our new families. We have had a good start of the new school year and we believe it’s going to be a great year for students and staff**. Back-to-school night** is tonight. This is a great opportunity for parents to get an idea what the academic school day at Steller looks like and meet teachers and staff.

**COLLEGE FAIR**

The annual Anchorage Alaska College Fair is **Sunday October 14 and Monday October 15** at the **Alaska Airlines Center at UAA**, 3550 Providence Drive. Steller staff has decided to not take students out of classes to take them to the college fair this year. Our semester is short and we have several interruptions during the semester due to mandatory testing. We encourage families to go together on Sunday October 14. This is a good time for students to connect with college admission counselors and also to learn about colleges they may not have heard about before. Many of the colleges present offer WUE tuition. Private colleges are also present. Remember to ask about scholarships and financial aid.

**SENIORS**

**I would like to** **meet with all seniors** to discuss their college applications and other post-secondary plans. Students can stop by any time to set up a time. I will provide more information about the college application later. If you are applying to universities outside Alaska, please check the application requirements and process for each college. If any of the colleges on your list is a member of the Common Application, please get started on the application as soon as possible.

**FINANCIAL AID NIGHT AT STELLER BY THE ALASKA COMMISSION OF POST-SECONDARY EDUDATON (ACPE)**

Seniors and parents – **mark your calendar**! I have invited ACPE to do a **financial aid presentation** this fall. They will be at Steller on **Wednesday October 17th at 6 pm.** The presentation will cover cost of attendance, federal aid, state aid, scholarships, important financial deadlines, financial literacy, and FAFSA overview. I hope that seniors and their parents take advantage of this opportunity.

**SCHOOL COUNSELOR OFFICE HOURS**

My hours have increased this year but I am still part time. This is my schedule:

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 – 2:30**

**Tuesday: 11:30 – 3:30**

Marianne