

## Principal's Thoughts

January 2010 has arrived. The first semester of the present school year has concluded; the second semester is in its infancy stage. But we now are faced with the task of enrolling our students for the 2010-11 school year. An event I consider very critical to the success of students, Curriculum Night will be held on Wednesday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the commons. It is an opportunity for parents and students to meet with departmental representatives to secure information and make decisions that will have an impact on the direction students will take for the remainder of their lives. It is a process that should be approached with much seriousness and thought.

There will be a parent informational meeting for Sophomore parents to discuss their child's PLAN test results at 6:00 p.m. in the library on January 20 before Curriculum Night begins. Prior to arriving at Curriculum Night, parents and students should review your child's 4-year academic plan and do some study and research. For students in the classes of 2011 and 2012, begin by reviewing the data contained in your EXPLORE, PLAN or ACT tests. For parents of the class of 2013, refer to your child's EXPLORE results. This will give you the information to help you in selecting courses that will improve the ACT test results. ACT research has shown that it is the rigor of coursework rather than the number of core courses that has the greatest impact on ACT performance and college readiness. A high ACT or SAT score remains the students' best reference in the college application process.

For this year's registration process, I have included a few informational points:

- Infinite Campus is open for registration from January 22 at 7:00 a.m. to February 1 at 4:00 p.m.
- A student and parent signature is needed on both the Course Request Worksheet and the Infinite Campus On-Line Registration Print-Out.
- It is advisable to choose course selections that coincide with teacher recommendations.
- Our counselors will be in classrooms advising students on course selections from January 12 to January 21.
- Individual student advisement by counselors will begin in February after the Infinite Campus registration has closed. Individual student adjustments to their Course Requests will take place during this advisement period, and parents will be notified of any course changes.
- Students must bring their Course Request Worksheet and the Infinite Campus On-Line Registration Print-Out with them at the time of counselor individual academic advisement.
- Counselors will be available for appointments with parents beginning in mid March. Counselors will be working with students and adjusting schedules until that time. You may contact Counselors via e-mail with questions prior to March.

With this information now in hand, attend Curriculum Night. Determine the classes and appropriate level of difficulty your child should tackle. While Grade Point Average is important, select the classes that will result in the cognitive skill development your child will need.

For those new to Lafayette, the registration process for the 2010-11 school year will be handled through Infinite Campus, our student information system. Students will be inputting their course selections by using a computer, either at school or home. Students will be given written instructions by their counselors that will take them step by step through this process. We recommend that parents be a part of this process. If, as a parent, you have not registered for your own individual portal through Infinite Campus, please call our Registrar (636-733-4100 ext 34135). This will allow you to follow your child's academic progress throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

John A. Shaughnessy, Principal