



## ***College Tours and Admission Visits***

Nothing can help get a student more excited about applying to college or help them choose the right college than visiting a university or meeting with an admissions officer. All SJNA students have the opportunity to meet with prospective colleges when admissions officers come and conduct high school visits on our campus. Each college representative brings various handouts and booklets, usually accompanied by a virtual tour and presentation, designed to better inform students on what campus life is like, the admissions process, and highlight academic programs that are offered. On average, approximately 30 different college representatives visit SJNA each year.



*Students attend a campus tour of Carroll University in downtown Waukesha, Wisconsin*

Along with college rep visits that happen on campus, SJNA students also have opportunities to sign up for various college tours throughout the year. Setting foot on a college campus allows students to see firsthand what the school has to offer, and while researching online or looking at brochures can be helpful, they can only show so much. This is also their opportunity to try out campus food, see the size of dorm rooms, speak with current students, see what the classroom facilities are like, and more.

In this *College and Career Corner*, we will take a look at the benefits of attending a college rep visit at SJNA and going on a campus tour, and the steps necessary to attend either a school-organized event or setting up one on your own!

## ***College Tours and Admission Visits***

**College Rep Visits** – A college representative visits SJNA approximately once every two weeks, and sometimes even more frequently than that! On average, our students have the ability to connect with their regional admissions officer either every week or every other. By signing up to attend one of these events, students are excused from their regular classes and can meet in the College and Career Planning room to speak with the individual from each college that will be reviewing their application and making the admission decision. Why should your student attend one of these events? First, students will be exposed to dozens of colleges throughout the year and can begin discovering what they like (or don't like) in various colleges and universities.

They will also learn about what majors each school offers, the financial aid available, what campus life is like, what to expect in the application process, and more. Second, students will be able to demonstrate real interest in colleges – this can be a large advantage especially if the college has a competitive acceptance rate – and speak with the actual admissions rep that will be overlooking their application. This is directly beneficial because they are forging a personal connection and making their application stand out, instead of being just another unknown online applicant.



*Admissions Counselor from Hillsdale College visits students in College and Career Planning*



## ***College Tours and Admission Visits***

**Campus Tour** – On tours, SJNA students not only have the ability to meet with their admissions counselor, but they are also walked through the campus, dining halls, dorm rooms, library, recreational facility, student union/campus store, and classrooms by a designated guide (typically a current student). On tours, students are able to establish the overall look and feel of an institution, as well as determine if they like the size of the campus. In most cases, campus tours will include a session led by an admissions officer and will go over details similar to those shared in a college rep visit. One major benefit of being on the college campus is that students may be able to meet professors to discuss specific academic courses, speak with current students about campus life and opportunities for community engagement, and eat on campus to see how they like the food included with meal plans.



*Students attend a campus tour of the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh*

**How to Sign Up** – Students have opportunities to sign up for college rep visits at SJNA and will be excused from class by Ms. Lewis so they can attend presentations in room 116. All they have to do is respond via email to college rep visit announcements or talk to Ms. Lewis directly. The same goes for signing up for college campus tours that SJNA organizes. However, campus tours are typically restricted to juniors and seniors first, as space and transportation are always limited. Students can also organize their own individual campus tours or attend open houses by contacting their college reps or signing up online through school websites – the ideal time to plan these tours are on weekends, holiday breaks, or over the summer. [Click here to see our upcoming college rep visits and planned campus tours.](#)

If you have any questions, please visit the College and Career Counselor, Ms. Catherine Lewis, in room 116 or reach out via email at [clewis@sjnacademies.org](mailto:clewis@sjnacademies.org) or call 262-646-7283.