

Here at Sarasota Christian School we take pride in offering a Christ-centered education while providing a high-level of education for our students. In order to continue offering the highest level of education and support, we are proud to announce we will be implementing a new program within our school - the College and Career Readiness Program. Within this program we will be introducing the *Blazer Honors Diploma*, a new advanced educational track that will give students the opportunity to push their learning to the next level and graduate with an honors diploma. By implementing this new program, students will have the freedom to choose the educational track that best suits them and their goals for the future, and they will be working with an experienced guidance counselor to explore many different career options so they can confidently take those next big steps and be successful in their post-graduation endeavors.

The College and Career Readiness Program will be an addition to the already successful Capstone Program which students take part in during their Senior year. Our goal with this program is to assist the students in discovering their interests, talents, and spiritual gifts so that they can use that knowledge about themselves to explore different career options that will best suit them. Guided by Dr. Susan Hedgcock, students will participate in an array of assessments and workshops to determine those characteristics about themselves and give them the chance to explore different careers in a hands-on environment. Dr. Hedgcock has previously worked in college and career placement and her portfolio has amassed over \$28 million in scholarships to some of the most exclusive schools in the world. With her leadership, our students will be fully prepared to venture out into their post-graduation plans.

As part of the College and Career Readiness Program, we are excited to introduce the Blazer Honors Diploma, a new educational-track designed for those academically-driven students who opt for more challenging courses. Students deciding to complete the Blazers Honors Diploma track will have greater chances of receiving scholarships and National Merit recognition, increasing their SAT and ACT scores, and earning a higher GPA through AP

courses. We know that these higher-level classes can be challenging, so special math, science, and English labs will be readily available to provide students with the support they need to be successful. Our high school principal, Mr. Jim Hill, will oversee both the traditional and Blazers Honors diploma track programs, as he has experience working with similar programs in multiple schools. With Mr. Hill and Dr. Hedgcock's experience and leadership, we are excited to have this program fully accessible to students in Fall 2021.