

# ***Forget the Students: Counseling Parents Through The University Application Process***

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**REGIONAL INSTITUTE**  
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# Questions

- *How many of you have a specific parent program already in place?*
- *How many of you have a parent program in place that needs expansion, revitalising or improvement?*
- *How many of you don't have any program in place but would like to think about this?*



# ***Why is Parent Counseling important?***

- Collaboration & teamwork is important - unified message for the student
- Opportunity to clarify roles in this process
- Opportunity to educate parents about the process
- Opportunity to message / dispel myths: we are the experts
- Addressing parent fears
- Opportunity to be proactive



# ***Benefits (and Limitations) of Parent Involvement in a Day School***

- Easy access to parents - *benefits*
  - Importance of partnering
  - education
- Easy access to parents - *limitations*
  - Empowering students
  - Turning parents away from meetings
  - Staying in their lane
- Communication - *benefits & limitations*
  - Prioritizing programming & messaging
    - Being all things to all parents
    - Equity
  - Myth-busting/limiting chatter - *benefits*



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# ***Parent/Guardian Programming in a Day School (ASL)***

- When to start
  - University advising needs to start earlier for parents than students
- What we do
  - A college counselor for parents - a go-to person
    - Encouraging engagement with university advising - easy link to book a meeting (15 minutes)
  - Cup of College - monthly (for middle school 1xyr) - in person or virtual
  - After hours discussion groups on topics - bi-monthly - involving deans and counselors as well, often targeted to pressure points in the year
  - Summer reads for parents - most recently *Never Enough*, by Jennifer Breheny Wallace, followed by discussions
  - Parent Questionnaire: *Next year: parent “compact” regarding roles*
  - Including parents in student programming where appropriate
  - Senior Transition: “Letting Go” for parents
  - Communications:
    - Parent newsletter
    - Weekly Bulletin for students and parents
      - Articles to read
    - Emails



# ***The Boarding School Experience***

## **Our Community**

*Institut Le Rosey is a international independent co-educational boarding school in Switzerland that was established in 1880. Our student population is global both by passport and cultural experiences with over 60 nationalities on campus.*



### **Limitations**

- Dispersed parent community, globally
- Limited in-person contact
- Low participation in parent programming and events
- Reduced parent, unless issues arise
- Language and cultural barriers
- Dependency on technology for communicating
- Timing of parental input in the process

### **Benefits**

- Consistent access to students
- Whole picture view of the students
- Focused student engagement
- Strong culture around post-secondary planning
- Global perspective
- Intermediary between student and parents

# Overcoming and Leveraging our Limitations

## Capitalizing on our relationship with our students to build relationship

- Knowing the students outside of the classroom
- Connecting with students on a more personal level
- Reassuring parents of our intentions to support their child.

## Optimizing facetime with parents

- When visiting campus
- Connecting with them while in town
- End of first term parent meetings
- “Rosey Races” week

## Program Development and Engagement

- Horizons Program
- University Summit
- Parent Newsletter
- Parent Webpage



# ***Brainstorming in groups***

***What are your ideas?***

***Please get together in small groups to share your ideas***

***Add your ideas to this padlet - scan the QR Code and add your ideas (and find some too!)***

