College Bound
The Low Down on the College Process at Great Oaks Legacy

Similar to college, high schools differ from one another. Each one offers something unique for their student body. Our uniqueness lies in our schools’ ability to provide one on one support academically and personally. Our College Office prides itself on doing just that for our GOLCS students. In your 9th grade year, you will have the opportunity to jump start the college process by researching colleges and scholarship opportunities. Last year, we were relentless in helping our first graduating class of seniors obtain acceptances from over 460 colleges and universities and obtain over $3.2 million dollars in 1st-year college scholarships. Additionally, we will help you gain access into highly selective programs such as the MIT MathRoots program and diversity fly-in programs:

- Amherst College's Diversity Open House (DIVOH)
- Carleton College's Taste of Carleton
- Grinnell College's Diversity Travel Opportunity
- Providence College's Pathways to PC
- Tulane University's PreviewTU Multicultural Fly-in

The College Office's focus is helping you gain acceptance into competitive higher education institutions that provide you academic and financial support, while meeting your unique needs as a growing student.

Alum Letter
Nisly Baez (Great Oaks Legacy Charter School ’17, Caldwell University 21)

I started at Great Oaks Legacy Charter School in the 7th grade. Now that I am almost done with my first semester at Caldwell University I strongly believe that Great Oaks Legacy was a pivotal part of my successful transition into college. My high school classes were very rigorous and are similar to the college courses I am enrolled in now. With every assignment, I was expected to take my time and truly understand the material. Now when I need help, I am not afraid to advocate for myself because I am comfortable working closely with a tutor since Great Oaks Legacy has provided me with one every school year.

In high school, along with my core classes we are required to take College Action. In this class, I learned college terminology, practiced study and time management skills, created a plan for after graduation, and gathered all documents to support my college applications—including standardized test preparation, drafting my personal statement and resume, and preparing a college list. Also in this class, we had presentations from admissions representatives from colleges across the country. These presentations exposed me to other schools that I did not consider when creating my college lists. When talking to my college peers, I have realized that I received a lot of support throughout the college application process. During my senior year I had weekly meetings with my college counselor to talk about my college list, upcoming deadlines, work on my applications, supplemental essays and any other documents that were needed.

The hardest part about this whole process was understanding the financial terms, documents and forms that are needed to receive financial aid to pay for college. Even though I have graduated from Great Oaks Legacy, I know the relationships that I built with my teachers and tutors are genuine. I am still in contact with them, and

Important Dates

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<th>DEC</th>
<th>Homecoming Dance</th>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>7:00 - 10:00 PM @ Great Oaks Legacy</td>
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<tr>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>HS Open House for GOLCS 8th Graders and Families</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAN</th>
<th>8th Grade Basketball Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>4:30 PM - Eagles Girl’s Team 6:00 PM - Eagles Boy’s Team @ Great Oaks Legacy High School</td>
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I have even reached out to them for help with various college projects. I talk to the alumni counselor almost weekly about how I am doing in my classes, creating a study schedule, filling out financial paperwork and they even visit me on campus.

A few weeks ago, the Great Oaks Legacy seniors went on a college trip to Caldwell University and I was able to give them a tour and talk to them from a student’s perspective on college life. As I showed the new cohort of Great Oaks Legacy students the Caldwell University campus, I realized that my experience at Great Oaks Legacy has come full circle. I am happy to have given back to the school that has given so much to me!
CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

Caitlin Turner, AP Calculus Teacher

I connect with my students by getting to know more about who they are -- what they like, don't like, do after school, etc. I use those relationships to engage with them in class. When we build a community, we feel safe to take risks and learn more! In AP Calculus, we're learning about particle motion - how objects move, the relationship between velocity and acceleration, and the total distance an object travels compared to its displacement. In Precalculus, we just finished a mini project where we created our own polynomials and stated all the different features of its graph. I truly believe all my students will be prepared for college math due to the preparation they're receiving in my classes. For example, students receive longer homework assignments that are not due every morning. This teaches them how to manage their time and reach out for assistance proactively. I also hold my students to high expectations with their vocabulary so they will be able to communicate with the common mathematical language with their peers on their college campus. I don't want to ruin the surprise, but there are a lot of really cool math dances and songs we learn in Precalculus and AP Calculus.

SPORTS & ENRICHMENT

At GOLCHS, we offer a variety of different enrichments and sports. This newsletter features our fall and winter sports with updates from our Athletic Department.

8TH GRADE NIGHT  On Friday, January 12th at 4:30 pm, the Eagles Basketball teams are inviting all current DMS & LMS 8th grade students to be guests at our girls' home game against Academy Charter School. All 8th grade students who attend the game will receive a t-shirt giveaway prize at the door.

SOCCER  Congratulations to the 2017-2018 Great Oaks Legacy Eagles High School Soccer Teams for completing their season. A special thanks to all of the coaching staff: Coach Kankam, Coach Eugene and Coach Saint-Pierre for the completion of their fall season. While not finishing with the best record, the boys and girls really grew together as a team and developed strong friendships. The team plans to do some friendly and intramural games in the off-season with hopes of adding more student athletes to the team for next season.

BASKETBALL  The Eagles Basketball team have been gearing up for their upcoming Basketball season 2017-2018, and have finalized their team. Congratulations to the new Eagles Basketball team members! Also, congratulations to our returning coaches for the girls team, Mrs. Stinson and Ms. Smith. Moreover, a warm welcome to our new staff for the boys team, Mr. Brooks and Mr. Babs. Please come out and support our Eagles basketball team on their first game on December 15th at 4:30pm Girls and 6:00pm Boys at Great Oaks Legacy High School.

CHEER  The Eagles Cheer team has been prepping for the Basketball Season 2017-2018, and have finalized their lineup. Congratulations to the new Cheer Team members and coaches! They encourage all of their fans to come and watch all home games to help support our Eagles Basketball teams starting on December 15th at 4:30pm Girls and 6:00pm Boys.

STEP  This year Great Oaks Legacy High School is very excited to bring back Step to our high school community. Congratulations to our first inaugural Step Team members and a huge thank you to our coaches. Our Eagle Steppers are looking forward to making a presence known throughout their community. Eagles Step team will perform at home basketball games and community events and they will participate in local step competitions. Please come check out the Eagle Steppers at their first performance on December 15th at 6pm.

DID YOU KNOW

- The national HS graduation rate is 83% (National Center for Education Statistics 14-15), but the GOLCHS 2017 graduation rate was 100%. Every senior in 2017 graduated and was accepted to college.
- DMS & LMS 8th graders do not have to apply to GOLCHS. As current Great Oaks Legacy 8th graders, you are automatically matched to our HS.
- Our seniors are getting excited for their end of year trip to San Francisco, California. Last year, the senior class visited Alcatraz Prison, the Golden Gate Bridge, and ate a lot of In and Out burger!
- We recently renovated our science lab, and are excited to offer AP Chemistry in this new facility.
- The HS is hosting our first ever home basketball game in our brand new gym on Friday, December 15th.
- The High School is excited to host our first ever Homecoming Dance on Saturday, December 16th.