



SEATTLE ACADEMY

COLLEGE ADVISING

UNSOLICITED FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS,
FAMILIES, AND COLLEGES FROM THE
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

- From a senior: "Melanie, oh my god, you deserve, like, a dessert named after you. Thank you so much for being as ebullient as you are!"
- From a senior: "Thank you so much for everything you have done for me the past year and a half. It has truly been an amazing experience I will never forget. What an amazing person and college advisor you have been. Saying "thank you" is not nearly enough but I hope you know how grateful I am and how grateful my entire grade is."
- From a senior: "Thank you, thank you, thank you! What else I can I say? Your commitment, guidance, support, and unfailing kindness has made both getting through the college process and getting to know you as a person an absolute pleasure. You're a blast, and I have loved bonding with you this year. If you're ever in [college city] next year for a college tour or on a spontaneous road trip (love it) please hit me up and we can hang/catch up!"
- From a senior: "Thank you so much for all your help with everything COLLEGE! I seriously could not have done any of the work without your guidance and motivation. Thanks especially for helping me with my essay; that was really hard for me to write/talk about and you made me feel so much better. I'll be thinking of you and your awesome-ness at [college] in the fall!"
- From a senior: "[College] sent me two emails today about joining, and I have you to thank."
- From a senior: "Thank you for your undying support and your quick emailing skills."
- From a senior: "Thank you so much for dedicating so much of your time to help us with college! It was so helpful having you as a counselor. You made us all your top priority and always made yourself accessible when I needed help. The process was much more enjoyable because of your help and positive attitude. Thanks so much!"
- From a senior: "I also just want to say a HUGE thank you for such an amazingly smooth college application process. People at other school have told me what a snarl applying to colleges always is, but at no point have I ever felt overwhelmed or completely in the dark about what I should be doing. You've kept us informed, on track, and the results have been wonderful. I know I speak for my parents as well when I say I can't thank you enough."
- From a senior: "Thanks for everything – beyond being an excellent college counselor, you have been my buddy the whole way. They should rename you 'thanks-a-million' Melanie for all you do!!"
- From a parent of a recent alumna: "I enjoyed joining other parents for coffee this morning where there was a Melanie Lovefest Happening! Everyone was full of praise for the great job you do and how well you know your stuff. Thank you! A couple of parents who have younger kids at other high schools were lamenting the lack of you in their current college advising."
- From a parent of a recent alumna: "Now and then I come across one of [alumna's] spreadsheets and I am amazed all over again. You did a fabulous job of supporting and encouraging, plotting and planning, and keeping us from having a complete meltdown."
- From a parent of a recent alumna: "We think we are the lucky ones to have had the chance to work with you."
- From a parent of a recent alumnus: "Can I just say how much I love how on-the-ball you are? There are very, very few people on this planet who meet my expectations on response time, and you are the only one who consistently exceeds them."
- From a parent of a recent alumna: "We were thinking about the college search for our younger daughter [name] (and really wishing we could partner with you again, believe me!)."
- From a parent of a recent alumna: "We just wanted to say how grateful we continue to be for your sensitive and effective handling of our family's journey last year. We recently visited [student] where she is well settled – loves her classes, making friends, and glad she picked that school over all she considered. Brava! Your good work resonates and I believe will continue to bear fruit far into [student's] (and our) future. Hope you are well."
- From parents of a senior: "You did it again! A big thank you for all your help, enthusiasm, positive attitude, and support."
- From a parent of a senior: "Thanks for the opportunity [to attend a special evening presentation] and the support that SAAS continues to give its families about college!!"
- From a parent of a senior: "You have made the entire college selection process so smooth. We are so grateful to have your guidance and sensitivity through the process."
- From parents of a senior: "[Student] is very happy, and thanks to you this was a fabulous process. Thank you so much for all that you do every day. You are just amazing about how you care for all of us. We are delighted with the outcome, pleased to have this crazy process over, but very impressed with the route to get here."

- From a parent of a senior: "There are a few shining lights that stand out at SAAS... For this family, you are one of them. You were always so positive, never blinked an eye, and supportive. It was, and is, much appreciated."
- From a parent of a senior: "Okay, once again you worked your magic! [Student] is thrilled. Thank you, thank you and thank you! You are the goddess of college admissions!"
- From a parent of a senior: "If continuing to work college placement at Seattle Academy does not work for you, you can become my therapist."
- From a parent of a senior: "I hope you know this would never have happened without you. Thank you for making the year so smooth, cheerful, and effective."
- From a parent of a senior: "I want you to know that we are in awe of your skills and hard work and are very thankful."
- From a parent of a senior: "Thank you and thank you for all your help and enthusiasm in the college application process. You really made the whole process so organized and painless! You are amazing at your job!"
- From a parent of a senior: "Thank you so much for your care and expertise... you are a marvel."
- From a parent of a senior: "Thanks for all that you do in this process – you are really amazing."
- From a parent of a senior: "Wow! Congrats! I don't know how you do it. Seriously. I thought I was organized... and on such a large scale! SAAS is lucky to have you. Us too."
- From a parent of a senior: "Many, many thanks for everything you do at SAAS. But mostly for being who you are and giving each of these kids such fantastic, unbiased guidance, lots of positive encouragement, with just the right amount of TLC thrown in. You're a gem, Melanie... SAAS is so lucky to have you."
- From a parent of a senior: "Many, many thanks to you for your hard work and great guidance of [student] as he went through the application process. He holds his emotions in pretty tightly, but last night when he opened the letter from [college] he was sooo excited."
- From a parent of a junior to Stacie after Junior College Night: "Thanks for the exceptional organization of materials!! We are so grateful to launch into this process with great support."
- From a parent of a sophomore: "I just want to say how much I enjoyed listening to your comments last night. You were very practical, informative, and easy to listen to. Thanks."
- From a parent of a freshman: "Wow! Thanks for giving me the scoop – you clearly do a fantastic job which comes as no surprise. At every turn I am amazed by the support, strategic planning and guidance the faculty and staff at Seattle Academy provide their students and families."
- From a college representative at a selective research institution: "Thank you for your support of this year's Seattle Academy applicants. I love your recommendations, and [student] was admitted. :)"
- From a college representative at a selective liberal arts college: "Thank you for your continued support of [college]. It's been a great year for us, and I really appreciate all that you do!"
- From a college representative at a selective liberal arts college: "Also, thanks for the great rec letter in [student's] application. I really enjoyed reading about [insert funny story]."
- From the vice-provost of a public flagship university: "I enjoyed meeting you, learning more about Seattle Academy and visiting the facilities. You are part of something very special – I really had a great time at your high school! Thank you for the hospitality and the information! Take care and please stay in touch!"
- From a college representative at a selective Jesuit institution: "I just had to take a second to tell you what an outstanding recommendation you wrote for [student]. Thank you – well done."
- From an alumna, once off to college: "I find myself reflecting on my application process. Thank you so much for all your support, kindness, and help. I feel so lucky and appreciative to have had you as an advocate for me when I was applying to college."
- From an alumna, once off to college: "I just wanted to thank you again for everything you did for me, because I couldn't possibly be happier at [college]."
- From an alumna, once off to college: "Melanie!! How are you? I'm writing to tell you a little bit about my college experience so far... you were ABSOLUTELY RIGHT!!! I love [college], and I'm not just saying that because it's early in the semester (I waited until I'd gone to a couple of weeks of classes and acquired a heavy load of essays and work, and I still love it), and even though I haven't had any teachers who are quite at Alison's level, I love all my teachers... anyway, I haven't been so happy in a long long time... thanks for helping me with the college process and getting me here!!!"