10th Grade College Search Workshop

November 9, 2016
Purpose of CSW

- Beginning the College Process
- Minimize Anxiety
- Identify Resources
- College Planning Timeline
- Standardized Testing
College Admissions Process

- It is a process
- One step at a time
- Sophomore “Exploration”
- There is a school for everyone
Guidance Support Programs

- College Search Workshops (Grades 10-11)
- Sophomore Planning Meeting (Spring)
- Junior Planning Meeting (Spring Junior Yr)
- 12th Grade Application Processing Night
- Financial Aid Night (Spring)
- Mini-College Days (Grade 11)
- Career Exploration Program (Grades 10-11)
- College Rep Visits to Guidance Department (Grades 11 and 12 only)
- Naviance Guidance Program
- Your School Counselor
- Guidance Department Website
School Counselors

- Marisa Raptis A-D
- Meghan Gallo E-K
- John Scherer L-P
- Jane Chiappone Q-Z

Greatest Resource
College Planning Timetable
Sophomore Focus

- Explore options
- Exposure to different types of schools
- Begin research on different colleges that offer areas of interest (majors)
- Be cautious of rumors
- Do not limit exploration only to schools you have heard of
- Visit colleges if possible
Importance of Academic Program

- Choose appropriate courses
- Challenge but not overwhelm
- Regents, Honors/Advanced Placement
- Importance of Course Selection in the College Process
- Importance of electives and full schedule
College Search Checklist

- Public or Private
- Admissions Criteria (GPA, SAT, ACT)
- Location (state, region)
- Major/ Program of Study
- Size of School
- Cost
- Student Activities, Athletics
- Social Experience
- Honors Programs
- Specialized Programs
College Visits

- Importance of
- Meet with Reps
- Demonstrated Interest
- Feel for college community
- Schedule while college in session
How Colleges Choose Students

- Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Strength of Academic Program
- Standardized Test Scores (unless test optional)
- Strength of Essay
- Letters of Recommendation
- Extracurricular Involvement
- Special Talents
- Demonstrated Interest
Sophomore Year

- Maintain strong academic standing
- Choose appropriate courses that match interests and college planning goals
- Exposure to colleges & universities & open dialogue with your child
- PSAT
- Take SAT Subject Tests (if appropriate)
Sophomore Cont’d

☐ Continue to be involved in extracurricular activities (meaningful)
☐ Maintain a resume reflecting these activities
☐ 10th Grade Career Exploration
☐ National Honor Society
  – 90 or better cumulative average, at least 2 activities, community service focus, & additional requirements
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Students with Special Needs (Classified & 504)
- Music/Art Auditions/Portfolios
- College Bound Student/Athletes
College Bound Athlete

- Interested in playing Division I, II, III
- NCAA Eligibility Center
- Academic first; athlete second
- Speak with your coach & counselor
Junior Year

- Take PSAT, SAT Reasoning Test, ACT, and SAT Subject tests (where applicable)
- Research and visit colleges
- Think about teachers for recommendations
- Attend College Fairs & MP Mini-College Fairs
- Schedule individual appointment with your guidance counselor (March)
- Attend Financial Aid Night (Spring)
Senior Year

- Be aware of deadlines:
  - (Early Decision/Action, Rolling Admissions)
- Narrow list of schools
- KEEP IN TOUCH WITH COUNSELOR.
- Applications due in the fall
- Retake SAT, ACT & take SAT Subject Tests if needed
- Attend local college fairs & Rep Visits
- Obtain scholarship information
Senior Year Continued

☐ Complete FAFSA form (October)
☐ Wait for decisions from colleges
☐ Commit to college by May 1 and inform counselor of decisions
Standardized Testing
PSAT, SAT, ACT

- PSAT
- SAT Reasoning Test with or w/o writing - Score Choice
- SAT Subject Tests – Score Choice
- ACT with Writing
- Preparation is essential
- Khan Academy (Free online prep linked with exam)
- Check with individual colleges for testing requirements
- Accommodations need to be applied for with both the CollegeBoard and ACT

- Collegeboard.com & ACT.org for information
- Information & links on Guidance Website
Testing Calendar

**PSAT Exam – Fall of Soph. & Junior Year**

**SAT with or without writing and/or ACT with Writing**
- Spring of Junior Year
- Register Early

**SAT Subject Tests**
June if necessary
SAT Subject Tests?

- Selective colleges require them
- Demonstrate **mastery** in subject area
- Most colleges use for placement purposes
- Take up to 3 one-hour tests during one test date
Coalition for Access, Affordability & Success

- Projected to be an online academic/college advisement website
- Ability to start storing information as early as 9th grade
- Concept created by Ivy League Schools
- Coalition website is currently open
- http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/
An unprecedented coalition of diverse public and private colleges and universities, the Coalition is dedicated to making college affordable and accessible for all high school students.

CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT / START AN APPLICATION
Get started with the Coalition’s free tools.
Elimination of Numerical Rank

- Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, numerical rank will not appear on student transcripts.
- Importance of this change in practice & benefit to students when applying.
- Forces a closer read of applications.
- Minimizes impact with slight differences in averages having a dire effect.
Rank Elimination (Cont’d)

- Allows students to potentially select more rigorous courses without possible impact on rank
- Has become a trend across LI & the US to eliminate numerical rank for students benefit
- Val/Sal still being selected for each graduating class
Grade Distribution

- Indicates where a student places in their class more generally which benefits the application process

- Will still allow colleges to review for admission and scholarships more easily
Sample Grade Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of the Class</th>
<th>Cumulative Averages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Top 10 %</strong></td>
<td>96 - 101.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>93 - 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>91 – 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>89 – 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>87 – 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>86 – 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81 – 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>75 – 81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Final Thoughts

- Competitive Schedule throughout
- Continue school activities
- Maintain strong academic standing
- Good attendance
Questions