

SENIOR PARENTS

WHAT DO WE **DO** NOW ???

Counseling Services

- Counselor's offices are located in the Guidance Center on the first floor of Villanova Hall
- Counselors are assigned to students based on their last name:
 - A-Ga: Mr. Golden tgolden@sahs.org, x5523
 - Gb-Pa: Ms. Colorado bcolorado@sahs.org x5578
 - Pb-Z: Dr. Rey jrey@sahs.org, x5531

College Search / Research Process

- "There is a college for everyone!"
- Over 3,000 4-Year Colleges in U.S.
- 125 Community Colleges in California
- The "Right-Fit" Colleges are the Goal
 - Selectivity
 - Major
 - Other programs
 - Environment...

St. Augustine High School

College Handbook

- Online at: www.sahs.org > Academics > College Handbook
 - Information on:
 - Naviance
 - Types of colleges
 - College search and visits
 - Applications
 - Testing
 - Financial Aid
 - NCAA Eligibility

The Final College List

- We recommend applying to 4 to 8 colleges:
 - 1 to 3 “Reaches”
 - 2 to 4 “Evens”
 - 1 to 3 “Pluses”
- Use the Graphs in Naviance to determine if a college is a Plus, Even, or Reach for your son.

Factors in College Admission

- **Top Factors of Considerable Importance**
 - HS Grades and Strength of curriculum
 - Admission test scores
 - Extracurricular activities
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Application Essay or Personal Statement
 - Demonstrated interest

TESTING



- Register for SAT (www.collegeboard.org) and/or ACT (www.act.org) Now!!!
- Refer to handout for Test Dates & registration deadlines.
- Every college will take either the SAT or ACT
- December is final test that can be used
- Highly selective schools require the SAT Subject tests. It is very likely your son does not need these tests. Some colleges may require three Subject Tests.
- For a list of test optional schools, visit www.fairtest.org

Testing Reminders

- If he did better on one test or the other—SAT or ACT—that is the test he repeats, and submits.
- Fee Waivers are available for low-income families.
- The earlier you register the more likely you will get a favorable testing location.

Applications



Applications

- California State Universities (CSU)

- Cal State Apply
- CSU applications will be “go live” on Oct. 1st
- Californiacolleges.edu to get a headstart.
- One application per campus
- Deadline is Nov 30th (but don't wait until then!)
- No essay required, just GPA and SAT/ACT test scores
- No letters of recommendation accepted



Applications

- University of California (UC)
 - admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu
 - UC application is available now, can be sent beginning Nov 1
 - Deadline is November 30th
 - One application for all campuses
 - Must answer 4 of 8 Personal Insight Questions
 - Application also includes space for activities & awards



Applications

THE COMMON APPLICATION

- The Common Application is used by over 600 colleges nationwide
- The majority of private schools, and select state universities use the Common App for their application
- The Common Application requires:
 - One teacher letter of recommendation (some need 2)
 - One counselor letter of recommendation
 - One essay (selected from choice of 7)
 - Some schools will have supplemental questions or essays specific to their school that must be written

Other Applications

- Applications for many state institutions will be completed directly on that school's website (i.e. Arizona State, New Mexico, Oregon State, etc.)
 - Coalition Application
 - University of Washington
 - University of Florida
 - University of Maryland-College Park
- *Use Common Application for schools when possible

Application notes

- Most students will apply between September and early January
- Beginning October 1st, counselors will be available to help students with their applications during lunch and after school
- When applying online, make sure to download a copy of the application, and the proof of payment for your records

Letters of Recommendation

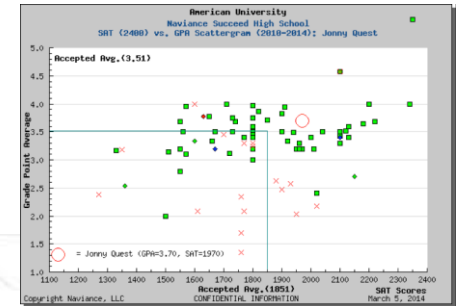
- Directions on handout. Students will receive handout in Naviance in-service next week
- Letters are not required for UC/CSU
- Letters must be requested through Naviance
- Give plenty of notice to teachers and counselor. Letters may go in before or after applications are sent
- Please use 11th or 12th grade teachers if at all possible.
- “Thank you” notes are important.



- College List



- Saints College App History Graph



- Researching Colleges



- College Visits



Create Calendar for Deadlines

- University of California – November 30th
- California State Universities – November 30th
- Common Application Schools – Dates vary
 - Ex 1: University of San Diego – December 15th
 - Ex 2: Villanova University – January 15th
 - Ex 3: Marquette University – Rolling Admissions (Dec 1st Priority)
 - Ex 4: University of Michigan – February 1st
- Out of State Schools not on Common App – Dates Vary
 - Ex 1: Arizona State University – Rolling Admissions
 - Ex 2: Washington State University – January 31st

* Don't forget Early Action/Early Decision deadlines!



MONEY



- The FAFSA is the key to all college financial aid
- FAFSAs are to be submitted after October 1st using the previous years tax return
- The CSS PROFILE is required by many private colleges and some public universities, check to see if they want this form, which should be filled out in October. www.collegeboard.com
- We will file the Cal Grant GPA Verification for all seniors automatically.

Scholarships

- A scholarship list is available in Naviance
- Use FASTWEB & Other FREE online services
- Check your workplace for scholarships.
- ROTC scholarships should be done ASAP.
- Check the colleges for merit money.
- Check online Financial Aid predictors

Now—last word

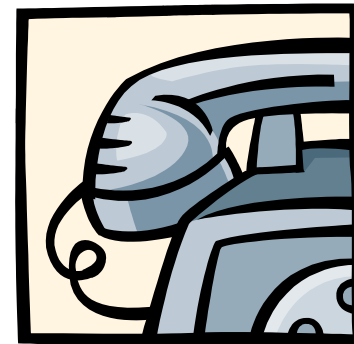
- Attend Financial Aid night on October 3rd
- Attend APA College Topics Night on October 24th
- Help your son stay on track by keeping a calendar of test dates, and due dates.
- Set limits and boundaries for talking about college
 - This process can be stressful, try to enjoy Senior Year
- Be good to each other
 - What is right for someone else's son may not be the best thing for your son!

LET US COMMUNICATE

- Please come in for appointments if you have questions or concerns.

- E-mail or phone

but e-mail often works better:



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