

GREAT NECK NORTH GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR COLLEGE PLANNING

The college search & application process is stressful, but anxiety can be minimized with thorough work & research, organization and clear communication with counselor & parents.

Timeline for remainder of school year and into summer:

- On **January 4th at 7pm** an **Intro to College Planning Night** will be held with junior parents to discuss post-high school planning.
- In January, counselors meet with juniors in groups to kick off the college search & application process. We discuss transcripts (students need to verify info & grades) and graduation requirements. Students should already be registered with Naviance and continue to plan their standardized testing.
- Complete the **College Planning Questionnaire** (assignment in *Guidance Google Classroom*) and then schedule a full period appointment with your counselor to review responses.
- After an individual meeting, the student's prospective college list will be posted on Naviance (under "*Colleges I'm Thinking About*").
- **College Panel Night, April 4th at 7pm** – for students and parents. More details to follow.
- College planning continues through the spring. *Upon request*, conferences with parents will take place after the prospective list is posted on Naviance.
- **Rising Senior College Night, June 4th at 7pm** – to discuss college application preparation. More details to follow.
- *Goals for September* include: compile list of desired schools, complete **Autobiographical Character Sketch**, draft an essay & resume, and begin working on the Common Application.

Planning for life after high school:

- Formulate what you are looking to do after graduating from high school.
- Get information - guidance website, Naviance, college websites, college fairs and college visits.
- *College List:*
 - Target
 - Reach
 - Likely
 - Gap Year; work, military, etc.

Naviance Student:

- Tasks have been assigned to all juniors in efforts to assist with the organization of the college search process.
- Web based program that is used to search for colleges, GNN college admissions results and send transcripts/letters of recommendation. Students and parents need to register and log-in separately.

What Do Colleges Look For?

- Transcript: grades, type of classes, we do not rank, both unweighted and weighted GPAs are provided.
- Extracurricular Activities: sports, clubs, community service, work, summer activities/programs.
- Recommendations: counselor (utilizing **Autobiographical Character Sketch**) and two academic teachers – preferably junior teachers. Supplementary letters from *other recommenders*, such as: employers, supervisors, coaches, etc are permissible by some schools, but are **never** in lieu of teacher letters.
- Essays: Student's "voice" of his/her application. English teacher/counselor available for help.
- SAT and/or ACT scores

Application Options:

- Early: Early Decision, Early Action, Priority, Restrictive EA – Accept / Deny / Defer / Waitlist
- Regular – Accept / Deny / Waitlist
- Rolling – Accept / Deny / Waitlist
- Common Application, Coalition Application, School's Direct Application

SAT /ACT Info:

- It is strongly recommended that you take the SATs &/or ACTs at least once by the end of junior year, despite many colleges offering test optional choice.
- *Map out your testing schedule and then register online for the exams you want to take.*
- Students approved for accommodations should contact counselor before registering
- Check individual colleges for testing deadlines and submission requirements.

TOEFL/Duolingo English Test: If English is not your first language, and you have been in the United States for less than five years some colleges require that you also take the TOEFL or Duolingo English Test. You need to check the admissions requirements for these schools.

To register visit: www.toefl.org or www.englishtest.duolingo.com/edu

*As soon as you know the date(s) you plan to test, we strongly suggest that you register, as there is limited seating available for each test date. **YOU are responsible for registering online.***

<i>SAT – To register visit: www.collegeboard.org</i>		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline *Additional fee
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	April 23, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 16, 2024	May 21, 2024
<i>August 24, 2024*</i>	TBD	TBD
<i>October 5, 2024*</i>	TBD	TBD

**These are anticipated test dates and are not yet confirmed.*

<i>ACT- To register visit: www.actstudent.org</i>		
Test Date	Register Deadline	Late Deadline *Additional Fee
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
*July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024
September 2024	TBD	TBD
October 2024	TBD	TBD

**No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.*

Senior Year Courses:

- Courses in Progress (CIP) are listed on transcripts sent to colleges.
- First quarter grades are sent to schools as requested.
- Most schools require mid-year (1st & 2nd quarter) grades.
- Final transcript sent to the school that student will be attending.