

## 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 5th at 7pm an Intro to College Planning Night will be held virtually with junior parents to discuss post high school planning.
- In January, counselors meet with juniors in groups to discuss 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. They should begin to complete the “Tasks” assigned to them in Naviance.
- Complete the ***College Planning Questionnaire*** (assignment in *Guidance Google Classroom*) and then make a full period appointment with your counselor.
- After individual meeting, student’s prospective college list will be posted on Naviance (under “*Colleges I’m Thinking About*”).
- **College Panel Night, March 23rd 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 prospective list is posted on Naviance.
- **Rising Senior College Night, June 1st at 7pm** – for students and parents to review summer packet of items to be completed for college application process. *Goals for September* include: compile list of schools they are applying to, complete ***Autobiographical Character Sketch***, rough draft of 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, internet search engines, 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, GPAs are unweighted.
- Extracurricular Activities: sports, clubs (are still running this year just virtually), community service, work, summer activities/programs.
- Recommendations: counselor (utilizing ***Autobiographical Character Sketch***) and two academic teachers – preferably eleventh grade 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.
- SATs, SAT IIs & ACT scores

#### **Application Options:**

- EARLY: Early Decision, Early Action, Priority, Restrictive EA – Accept / Deny / Defer
- Regular – Accept / Deny / Waitlist
- Rolling – Accept / Deny / Waitlist
- Common Application and Coalition Application

### **SAT /ACT Info:**

- It is strongly recommended that you take the SATs &/or ACTs at least once by the end of junior year.
- *Map out your testing schedule and then register online for the exams you want to take.*
- Students approved for accommodations contact counselor before registering
- SAT II's (subject tests) – only some colleges require
- For *some* ED/EA schools, testing must be completed by October (check with individual school).

**TOEFL/Duolingo English Test:** If English is not your first language, and you have been in the United States for less than five years you must also take the TOEFL or Duolingo English Test.

To register visit: [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org) or [www.englishtest.duolingo.com/edu](http://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.***

### **SAT – To register visit: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)**

| <b>Test Date</b> | <b>Registration Deadline</b> | <b>Late Deadline *Additional fee</b> |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| March 13, 2021   | February 12, 2021            | March 2, 2021                        |
| May 8, 2021      | April 8, 2021                | April 20, 2021                       |
| June 5, 2021     | May 6, 2021                  | May 26, 2021                         |
| August 2021      | TBD                          | TBD                                  |
| October 2021     | TBD                          | TBD                                  |

### **ACT- To register visit: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)**

| <b>Test Date</b> | <b>Register Deadline</b> | <b>Late Deadline *Additional Fee</b> |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| February 6, 2021 | January 8, 2021          | January 15, 2021                     |
| April 17, 2021   | March 12, 2021           | March 26, 2021                       |
| June 12, 2021    | May 7, 2021              | May 21, 2021                         |
| *July 17, 2021   | June 18, 2021            | June 25, 2021                        |
| September 2021   | TBD                      | TBD                                  |
| October 2021     | TBD                      | TBD                                  |

### **Senior Year Courses:**

- Courses in Progress (CIP) are listed on transcripts sent to colleges.
- First quarter grades sent to most ED/EA Schools, as well as to others that request them.
- Many schools require mid-year (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter) grades.
- Final transcript sent to school that student will be attending.