

Junior Night



DA VINCI
communications

Agenda

- Words of Wisdom
- Life after High School
- Requirements
- Types of colleges
- Preparing for college search
- College admission tests
- Scholarships
- Parent Tips
- Next Steps for Juniors

Words of Wisdom

- Relax...You will get in.
 - 70% of colleges accept an average of 70% of their applicants
- You don't have to go far away.
 - 88% of high school students go to college in their home state.
- If you don't have a major, it's ok.
 - Take a career interest survey
 - More than half of new college students say a very important reason for going to college is to "find my purpose in life."
- If you don't have a plan, it's okay because there are other options after high school.

Life after High school

- Military
- Working
- Trade school
- College
 - Community College
 - State University
 - Private University



Military

- While not always a popular — or safe choice — joining the military is often a great way to learn more about yourself.
- Joining the military offers you a chance to serve your country, make a career in the service, and/or earn money toward a future college education.
- You'll also earn valuable work experience that can you can apply to civilian jobs once you get discharged

Working

- Nothing helps more with that transition to adulthood than holding down a full-time job
- Can be used as a gap between high school and college
- Can help you explore your likes and dislikes

Trade School

- If you have an interest in a particular trade, such as technology or construction, seek out jobs in the trade that will not only give you valuable experience but guide you toward advancement by helping you with the certifications or licenses you need to succeed.



College

College Subject Requirements (A-G)

- a. **History/Social Science** – 2 years
- b. **English** – 4 years
- c. **Mathematics** – 3 years (4 years recommended)
- d. **Laboratory Science** – 2 years (3 years recommended)
- e. **Language Other Than English** – 2 years (3 years recommended)
- f. **Visual and Performing Arts** – 1 year
- g. **College-Preparatory Elective** – 1 year

Course pattern required for 4 year colleges



UC/CSU GPA Requirements

- UC requires a 10-11 academic non-weighted minimum 3.0 GPA
- CSU requires a 10-11 academic non-weighted minimum 2.0 GPA (eligibility index with SAT/ACT scores)
- Competitive/highly selective or Impacted colleges/majors require a higher GPA and SAT/ACT scores

Types of colleges

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	TUITION	ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
2 YEAR	<p>DEGREES OFFERED: ASSOCIATES</p> <p>PROVIDES: A WAY TO EASE INTO COLLEGE/ TAKE GENERAL COLLEGE CLASSES FOR CREDIT. TYPICALLY HAVE AGREEMENTS WITH FOUR YEAR COLLEGES TO TRANSFER CREDITS.</p>	TYPICALY AROUND \$4,000/YEAR	OPEN-DOOR ADMISSION POLICY



SANTA
MONICA
COLLEGE



PASADENA
CITY COLLEGE®



Types of colleges

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	TUITION	ADMISSON REQUIREMENTS
4 YEAR	<p>DEGREES OFFERED: BACHELORS AND BEYOND</p> <p>PROVIDES: A WELL-ROUNDED EXPERIENCE THAT INCLUDES AN ACADEMIC AREA OF STUDY</p>	<p>STATE: TYPICALLY UNDER \$15,000/YEAR</p> <p>PRIVATE: TYPICALLY MORE THAN \$20,000/YEAR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAT OR ACT • GPA • ESSAY • EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES • LETTERS OF RECCOMENDATIO N • TRANSCRIPTS



Preparing for a college search

- What is important to you?
 - Location
 - Academics
 - Size
 - Student life
 - Campus appeal
 - Total cost- including aid
- Know yourself
 - Values
 - Ambitions
 - Achievements
 - Academic strengths
 - Interests
 - Your standout talents

College Admission Tests

- **ACT**
 - Consists of four tests: English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing

 - Writing component is optional, but choose to take it
 - Top composite score is 36
- **SAT**
 - There are two sections: Evidence-based Reading & Writing and Math
 - Consists of three tests: Reading, Language & Writing, and Math
 - Optional Essay (scores are reported separately)
 - Each section is scored on a scale of 200 – 800 with a total max score 1600
 - > 1200 = a very good score nationally
 - 1000 = an average score nationally
- **SAT Subject Tests**
 - No longer required for UC and many Independent Colleges; **however still highly recommended**

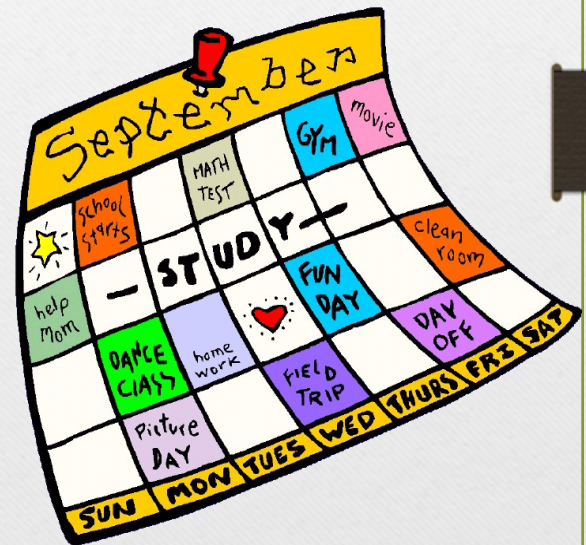
What information do college admission officers review?

- Grades / Overall GPA
- Strength of high school course selections
- SAT and ACT test scores
- Essay
- Teacher and counselor recommendations
- Student's demonstrated interest
- Personal accomplishments
- Courses in progress Junior and Senior year



When should I apply?

- Start applying fall of senior year, working on applications and essays in Summer before senior year
- Early decision:
 - Apply early
 - Get decision early
 - Must commit to school if accepted
- Early action:
 - Apply early
 - Receive decision early in admissions cycle (January or February)



Collecting College Information – Where to go

- **Naviance Family Connection** - College search made simple. Your first stop to kick-start your college and scholarship search
- **nacacnet.org** - National Association for College Admission Counseling. Offers national college fair information and articles about the college process
- **bigfuture.collegeboard.org** – Database of colleges and can used for college search
- **collegeboard.com** - Information about the SAT
- **act.org** - Information about the ACT test

Scholarships

Merit scholarships are where the money is.

- There is more than \$11 billion in merit scholarships available to students from colleges
- Not just for “A” students
- Many awards emphasize leadership or school involvement
- Nearly all colleges offer merit aid scholarships
- The average merit scholarship is \$5,000
- Many awards can be renewed year after year

Scholarship Resources

- Fastweb.com - Private scholarships
- fafsa.ed.gov - Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Studentaid.ed.gov - The federal government's website about paying for college
- MeritAid.com - \$11 billion in merit scholarships
- Cappex.com - Scholarship matching
- finaid.org - Free student resource for learning about all types of financial aid

Parent tips

1. Help your student understand the college search process
2. Be realistic and non-judgmental
3. Be in the "back seat" - and not the driver - of the college search process
4. Be aware of deadlines and fees due
5. Know that things have changed since your college days
6. Don't compare your student with others
7. Don't dwell on disappointments, like a rejection letter
8. Celebrate successes!

Next steps for Juniors

In School

- ✓ Stay focused on academics
- ✓ Do not lighten your academic load for senior year
- ✓ Meet with your school counselor
- ✓ Stay involved in school activities

Standardized Testing

- ✓ Prepare for and register for ACT / SAT tests
- ✓ Register for AP tests as appropriate

College Exploration

- ✓ Explore colleges on Naviance and other online sources
- ✓ Visit colleges if you can
- ✓ Meet with college representatives
- ✓ Attend college fairs