

# Hollis Brookline High School



## **JUNIOR COLLEGE PLANNING**

**February 16, 2022**

# What do Colleges Look At?

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- Student transcript/academic record
- Standardized Test Scores/many are optional
- Engagement outside of classroom
- Community Service
- Institutional priorities
- Demonstrated Interest

# How do I start a College Search?



## College Search – Naviance (Supermatch)

- Admission statistics
- Location/size
- Majors/ Programs
- Financial Aid
- Retention & Graduation Rate
- Environment
- Cost
- Extracurricular Activities
- Fit

# Welcome, Emily!

Search for Colleges

SEARCH

## Welcome HBHS Seniors

English    Go

Hello Class of 2020!

There are several tasks you should be completing in the Fall of your Senior Year:

## My Favorites

- COLLEGES I'm thinking about
- COLLEGES I'm applying to

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English   Go

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Mouse   Pen   Rectangle   Stickers   Eraser

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# How to Select Colleges



- Be able to make more informed choices by researching schools and visit campuses
- Look “beyond admissions”
- Having a broad range of colleges selected will help diminish stress
- As you narrow down your list, remember
  - Safety – exceed criteria range
  - Target – meet criteria range
  - Reach – outside of criteria range

# Standardized Testing



## SAT

- All Junior students will be taking the SAT on March 24th, this will include the SAT Essay.
- ACT
  - Students must sign up on [act.org](http://act.org) to take privately if needed.
  - Includes a Science section
  - Writing (ACT) is optional

# SAT Test Prep

- Khan Academy offers free online test prep
  - Link PSAT scores for personalized study
  - Take full length practice tests

## SAT Achievement Associated with Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy



### The Three Best Practices

 Following personalized skill recommendations

 Taking a full-length practice test

 Leveling up skills

\*These associations control for student demographics and PSAT/NMSQT scores.



# Sending SAT and ACT Scores



- Students must contact the testing agency to request scores to be sent to each college.
- HBHS does not report SAT or ACT scores on the transcript.

SAT - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

ACT – [www.ACT.org](http://www.ACT.org)

# Activities to Include on your College Application



- Student Council
- Performing Arts Activities
- Yearbook
- Sports: School and any Out-Of-School Experiences
- Community Service/Volunteer Experience
- Outside of School Learning Experiences, Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO).
- Other Activities (i.e. religious activities, hobbies, clubs, etc.)
- Summer or Special Travel Experiences
- Employment
- Honors and Awards – academic, athletic or other

# How do I get my recommendations?



- **Two Teacher Recommendations**
  - Ask your teachers, in person this spring
  - Consider who to ask and why/be sure to check specific college recommendation requirements
  - Follow-up conversation by completing the Student Request for Teacher Recommendation form
- **Counselor Recommendation**
  - Parent and Student Questionnaires on Naviance
    - About me > Surveys > Surveys from my school

# FERPA



- Family Educational Rights Privacy Act
- HBHS practice adheres to non-disclosure of college recommendation letters to maintain confidentiality
- HBHS Staff provide letters of recommendation with the purpose of enhancing the application packet of the student
- Recommenders have the right to refuse to write letters of recommendation if the student selects not to waive their right
- Waiving your right improves the fidelity of your application from the viewpoint of college admissions

# When to Apply - Deadlines



- Early Action
- Restrictive Early Action
- Early Decision I & II
- Priority
- Regular Decision
- Rolling Admission

# Financial Aid



- Grants, Loans and Scholarships
- FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Federal form which must be completed to receive any aid for any college in the U.S., including student loans
  - CSS Profile
  - Form used by some private colleges in conjunction with the FAFSA form.
- Check estimated Family Contribution (EFC) calculator
- Attend our Financial Aid Night Presentation – Fall 2022
- Resources: NHHEAF, lendEDU, college specific websites

# NCAA



- Students planning on participating in Division 1 or Division 2 college athletics **MUST** register on-line and notify counselor
- Students and families should be familiar with all NCAA requirements
- [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org) - general information, allow access to eligibility center for registration as student athlete

# Two vs. Four Year College

## What's the difference?

- Similar process
- Online or paper application
- SATs not required for admission but can be looked at for placement
- NH Transfer Connections Program/Dual Enrollment
- Advantages:
  - Financial
  - Readiness for College
  - Exploration
  - Free STEM Classes NH Community College System)



# Military Academies



- These programs require early planning due to nomination process/early application
- If you are pursuing a military academy, please see your School Counselor in Spring of your Junior Year
- Check military or specific academies for further information

# Important Things To Do-Action items



- Complete Class of 2023 Counselor Recommendation Request Form by June 1st-In Naviance under “About Me” and “Surveys From Your School”
- Complete two Teacher Recommendation Request Forms by June 1st
- Encourage Parents to complete the Class of 2023 Parent Brag Sheet by June 1st
- Have a list of at least 5-8 colleges you expect to apply to in the fall (safety, target, reach)

# College Essay



- What does the Essay provide?
  - Personal information not found elsewhere in the application
  - Provides opportunity hear from you in your own words
  - Gain insight into your thinking process
  - Assess your writing ability
- This can be the most lengthy and stressful part of the application
- Topics/subjects provided through Common App or by College

\*\*\*Some colleges also accept video portfolios

# Social Media/Online Etiquette



- Students and their social media use is currently a hot and important topic in the college world.
- College admissions reps and scholarship judges freely admit they check up on students via social media.
- Students can use social media to their advantage by sharing their hard work, community service, and desire to get into college.

# What Resources Are Available?



- Naviance
- CollegeBoard.org
- College Representative visits at HBHS (Fall)
- HBHS College Handbook
- College Websites
- Campus Visits
- College Admissions Representatives
- Meet with your School Counselor!!

# Senior Student Panel



- What important thing about college admissions do you wish you knew as a Junior?
- One piece of advice you would give regarding applying to college?
- In your personal application journey what would you have done differently?

# Contact Information



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# Final Remarks

- The admission process can be taxing on the parent/child relationship
- Juniors take ownership of the admission process
- Parent's role/student role/counselor role
- Plan ahead & stay organized