

# Junior College Kick-off



Mr. Wasserman  
Mrs. Baptiste  
Mrs. Brown  
Mr. Caruso  
Mr. Geller  
Mrs. Kennedy  
Mrs. Lazzarro  
Mrs. Totillo

# Junior Year Timeline

- \* Improving/Maintaining Junior Year Grades
- \* Create a Testing Schedule
- \* Compile a College List/Visiting
- \* Naviance
- \* Teacher Recommendations
- \* Essay

# Hard Work Pays Off

The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.

*Vince Lombardi*

Do. Or do not. There is no try.



# Testing Schedule

- \* Recognize which test speaks to your strengths
- \* Plan when you will take them:
  - SAT – November, December, March\*, May\*, June\*
  - ACT – December, February (Not in NY), April\*, June, July (Not in NY)
  - \*At Roslyn*
- \* How are you preparing?
  - Testing Company? Class vs. Individual? Book? Online?
  - Khan Academy/Kaplan Test Prep
- \* Castle Learning/Method Test Prep
- \* Test Books

# What to consider when selecting schools

What characteristics about potential colleges are most important for your success and happiness:

- Size
  - Location
  - Major
  - School Spirit
  - Cost
- \* Be realistic – When searching for colleges that are a good fit, you must start by identifying your own personal preferences and goals.



# How to know if a college is right for you

- \* Visit
  - Sign up for a tour
  - Information session
- \* Can't visit – Try Google Maps
- \* Research online – College Websites (Not just the homepage)
- \* To rank or not to rank...



# Naviance

- \* College Search
  - Helps narrow down options
  - Scattergrams
  - Career information
- \* Online application submission



NAVIANCE

# College Essay

- \* Your essay needs to be in your own voice and **show** the colleges who you are
- \* It is possible that you will have new essay prompts
- \* By completing your essay before senior year, you will make your life much easier – Started in English classes late spring
- \* Most colleges have at least one supplemental essay.

If you apply to 8 colleges, you will possibly have to write one 500 word essay and at least eight 250 word essays, in some cases more.



# Teacher Recommendations

- \* The majority of colleges require 2 teacher letters
  - 11<sup>th</sup> vs 10<sup>th</sup> grade teachers
  - Should your grade in the class be considered?
- \* Outside letters – Character reference
- \* When and how to ask

# Ways you will apply

- \* Common Application – 813 Colleges
  - \* Complete one general application and submit school specific supplements
- \* Coalition Application – 140 Colleges
  - \* Univ. of Maryland, Univ. of Florida, Univ. of Washington, Virginia Tech are **all** Coalition Exclusive
  - \* Different requirements from Common App
- \* School Specific – VIP Applications
- \* CUNY/California/Texas/SUNY

# Financial Aid

- \* FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- \* CSS Profile
- \* Net Price Calculator
- \* Financial Aid Night – Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- \* Independent Scholarships vs School-specific Scholarships



# Student Responsibilities

Who is going to college?

- \* As a Junior, you should
  - \* Be reflective – understand your needs and wants
  - \* Build meaningful connections with your teachers
  - \* Ask questions and look ahead
  - \* Take initiative

In the end, you will be the one truly benefitting.

# What support is available

- \* Junior College Night – Part 2 on January 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* Junior College Conference
- \* Senior student meetings
- \* College Admissions 101 meetings
- \* Spring and Fall student workshops
- \* Individual College Essay writing support through the English Department

# Now What????

- \* Practice ACT on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9am
- \* Junior College Night – Part II will be on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- \* PFA Naviance Meeting – March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- \* College Admissions 101 - parent group
- \* Begin scheduling junior meetings with your counselor in January