

# COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS



Roslyn High School

# Components of the Admissions Folder:



- High School Transcript
- SAT and/or ACT Scores
- Activities Resume
- College Essay
- Recommendation Letters

# High School Transcript

What are colleges looking for....



- Three-year cumulative weighted and/or unweighted Grade Point Average
- Academic growth over entire high school career
- Level of rigor in course disciplines
- Consistency in grades
- Senior-year course selections
- Mid-year senior grades
- Final Grade Point Average upon graduation

# SAT/ACT Tests



- SAT and ACT scores are sent to colleges by the student. Roslyn does not report any standardized test scores.
- Most colleges, not all, pull highest SAT subcomponent score from different test dates.
- Most colleges, not all, use single ACT test date score for admission.
- Score Choice is available for both SAT and ACT. Roslyn recommends sending all scores.
- Some colleges are Test Optional. View [fairtest.org](http://fairtest.org) for participating colleges.
- Some colleges accept the ACT (w/writing) as Subject Test requirement.
- Triple check admissions requirements, including subject-based testing (i.e. Engineering majors).
- College Board Score Choice List: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/profdownload/sat-score-use-practices-list.pdf>

# Activities



- Extracurricular Activities:  
(In school and outside of school)
- Community Service
- Athletics/Musical Talents, etc.
- Awards and Recognitions
- Work/Summer Experiences
- Educational Programs
- Leadership

*\*\*\*List them on the Common App in order of most important to you\*\*\**

# College Essay



- Essay provides opportunity for student voice and creativity
- Writing piece must be engaging
- Essay **MUST** be proofread!!
- Be careful of asking for too much advice
- Watch for supplemental essays on the common application and/or if you are applying to special programs or scholarships.
- Do not be too generic on supplements, if they ask why you are applying to their college give a specific answer for each school.

\*\* If you need support with your college essay, you can make an appointment with Ms. Grgas in the English Study Center\*\*

# Letters of Recommendation



- **School Counselor:**

Letter written highlights overall high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to share any personal information deemed significant to their lives and its impact on high school career.

- **School Teacher(s):**

Letter written highlights the student during the duration of the course. Students should also provide teacher(s) with a history of outside activities and an unofficial high school transcript.

- Students are encouraged to sign all waiver forms waiving access to recommendation letters. College admissions representatives deem these letters more credible in the admissions process.

# Apply Appropriately!



## Guidance Recommends

- Schools with acceptance rates of 30% or higher
- Does not include special programs or majors with stricter admission
  - Combined Medical Programs, Business Schools, etc.
- Guidance is recommending that students have **AT LEAST 3** of these schools on their college list
- These are schools that students will be happy to attend if accepted.
- If you are applying to a large number of schools, you may want to consider adding more safer options
- Hail Mary applications.....



# Coalition vs Common App



- **Common Application**

- 742 Colleges accept the Common App
- Supplemental applications – sometimes multi-step essays
- Links directly to Naviance

- **Coalition Application**

- 113 Colleges accept the Coalition Application
- University of Florida, University of Maryland and University of Washington are all Coalition **exclusive**
- More time consuming to complete as you are required to self report all high school grades
- Essay sizes vary by institution

# Application Terminology



- **Early Decision:**  
Binding agreement with college stating student must attend if accepted. Decision made on or about December 15.
- **Early Action:**  
Non-binding application. Decisions usually made by mid-December.
- **Rolling Admissions:**  
First come, first serve. Applications are processed as they ‘roll’ in and decision is quickly ‘rolled’ back to student.
- **Regular Decision:**  
Decisions are made after deadline date has lapsed. Most decisions letters are mailed in early April.
- **Single Choice Early Action/Restrictive Early Action:**  
A few of the most competitive colleges offer this non-binding admission policy. Students may apply to a single choice college, however they are not permitted to apply to other schools using the EA/ED option during this period.

# Scholarships & Financial Aid



- **Naviance Account:** List of available national and school-specific scholarships.
- **Fastweb.com, Scholarship.com, Collegeboard.com:** Websites that post various scholarships based on personal questionnaire.
- **Student Initiated VS. Student Nominated Scholarships**
- **Financial Aid Night:** October 16, 2017
- **Fafsa:** Free Application for Student Aid – Calculates Family Expected Contribution.
- **CSS Profile:** College Scholarship Service from College Board. Over 600 colleges require this online document.
  - ✦ Email notifications will be sent to each senior
  - ✦ Updated information will appear in monthly Newsletters

# Submitting Applications to Guidance Office



- College paperwork must be handed in directly to Guidance
- It will take up to 15 school days for all college paperwork requests to be processed. Do not wait until the last minute
- Naviance and Common Application must be matched
- Transcript request form must be submitted with student and parent signatures.
- Completed Activity Sheet/Resume must be submitted with first college paperwork request or updated in Naviance.

# Things to Remember...



- Seek out your school counselor for advice...and read all emails from Guidance.
- View your Naviance account for the list of colleges visiting Roslyn! – still being updated
- Attend Open Houses and/or visit colleges of interest. Make certain to register for each school visit – many colleges track interest.
- Apply to appropriate colleges
- **Prioritize the ‘right fit’ over the ‘right name’**
- Watch Deadlines!!
- Visit chosen college before depositing
- Share your admissions decisions/results with your counselor

# Dates to Remember



- **September 18<sup>th</sup> – period 2 – College Application meeting with counselors**
- **September 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - College Application workshop – 2:40 p.m. in Room 113 – Please sign up in Guidance**
- **October 1<sup>st</sup> - FAFSA forms can be submitted**
- **October 16<sup>th</sup> - Financial Aid Night**
- **November 1<sup>st</sup> - Early Admissions Deadline for most colleges**
- **December 1<sup>st</sup> - All Applications submitted to Guidance**
- **May 1<sup>st</sup> - Deposit Due to College of choice**