

Junior Parent Meeting

Preparing for College Next Year!

Monday, April 16, 2018

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Topics To Be Discussed

1. Naviance
2. How to start preparing for college next year
3. How can parents support
4. Financial Aid
5. Scholarships
6. SAT/ACT Test Dates

Junior-itis: Noun or Condition

A common ailment suffered by college students in their third year.

Symptoms: Apathy, lethargy, laziness,
Netflix binging

What Is Naviance?

- Naviance is a college and career readiness platform that helps connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals.



Naviance Can Be Used For...



- **Test Preparation**
 - ACT/SAT
- **Electronic Transcripts**
 - Naviance eDocs allows counselors and advisors to securely send student application-related forms, including transcripts, letters of recommendation, school profiles and more, electronically to more than 2,000 colleges and universities
- **Career Exploration**

- Students should have an updated email address in Naviance.
- Students can add parent info to be notified of important college information.



How to Prepare For College Next Year!

- Do Your Research!
- Take SAT/ACT
- Request Recommendations Early
- Fill out FAFSA/TASFA
- Apply For Scholarships

How Can Parents Support?

- Search together for colleges that meet your child's needs. Once you have an idea of the qualities your child is looking for in a college, help him or her create a list of colleges to consider applying to.
- Help your child research scholarships. This form of financial aid provides money for college that doesn't need to be repaid.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid events.

How Can Parents Support?

- Help your child make summer plans. Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills — and colleges look for students who pursue meaningful summer activities. Help your high schooler look into summer learning programs or find a job or internship.
- Visit colleges together. Make plans to check out the campuses of colleges your child is interested in.

Application Process



Students Can Apply Early Decision, Early Action, Regular Decision

- **Early decision** plans are binding — a student who is accepted as an ED applicant must attend the college. **Early action** plans are nonbinding — students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the normal reply date of May 1.

ED Applicants

- Apply early (usually in November) to first-choice college.
- Receive an admission decision (usually by December).
- Agree to attend the college if accepted and offered a financial aid package that is considered adequate by the family.
- Apply to only one college early decision.
- Apply to other colleges under regular admission plans.
- Withdraw all other applications if accepted by ED.
- Send a nonrefundable deposit well in advance of May 1

EA Applicants

- Apply early.
- Receive an admission decision early in the admission cycle (usually in January or February).
- Consider acceptance offer; do not have to commit upon receipt.
- Apply to other colleges under regular admission plans.
- Give the college a decision no later than the May 1 national response date.

The logo for 'Apply Texas' features a red five-pointed star on the left, followed by the text 'Apply Texas' in a white serif font. The word 'Apply' is in a smaller font size than 'Texas'.

Apply Texas

The logo for 'The Common Application' consists of the words 'THE COMMON' on the top line and 'APPLICATION' on the bottom line, both in a white serif font. A thin horizontal line is positioned between the two lines of text.

THE COMMON
APPLICATION

- How many minutes do you think an admissions team spends reading a college application?

What Information Does An Admission Officer Review?

- * Grades / Overall GPA * Strength of high school course selections
- * Test Score
- * Essays
- * Teacher and Counselor Recommendations
- * Class rank
- * Volunteer hours—100 +
- * Student's Demonstrated Interest
- * Personal Accomplishments
- * Personality Characteristics
- * Courses in progress Junior and Senior year

Fit & Match

- **Fit:** how well a school meets the academic and social needs of a prospective student
- **Match:** how well a prospective student would fit in and contribute to the campus community academically, socially and culturally.

How to Demonstrate Fit & Match?

Research each school on your college list and answer the following questions:

1. What about this school fits academically with me?
2. What about this school socially fits with me (dorms, food, geographic environment, etc.)?
3. How does the campus culture fit with my personality, the person I am (unique traditions of the campus)?

College Essays

Apply Texas

- **Topic A** - What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.
- **Topic B** - Most students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. Tell us about yourself.
- **Topic C** - You've got a ticket in your hand - Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?

College Essays

Common App - 7 prompts total

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from *obstacles we encounter* can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a *challenge, setback, or failure*. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you *questioned* or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your *thinking*? What *was the outcome*?

FAFSA/TASFA

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) is a form that can be prepared annually by current and prospective college students to determine their eligibility for student **financial aid**.
- **TASFA** (Texas Application for State Financial Aid) is for non-citizens who are classified as Texas residents. If you are a foreign student or non-citizen, you may be eligible to be classified as a Texas resident for tuition purposes.

Financial Aid

- **GRANTS:** Free money. Grants are awarded based on financial need (family income).
- **SCHOLARSHIPS:** Free money, awarded based on both need (family income) and merit (GPA, class rank, leadership qualities, writing ability).
- **WORK STUDY:** Part-time employment on campus or designated off-campus sites. Work study is awarded based on financial need (family income).
- **LOANS:** Federal and state money that is borrowed. Loans must be paid back at federally capped low interest rates.

12 Websites To Find Scholarships

1. Fastweb.com
2. Collegeboard.org
3. Niche.com
4. Scholarships.com
5. Moolahspot.com
6. CollegeNET.com
7. Scholarship Monkey
8. Cappex
9. Chegg
10. Unigo
11. Peterson's
12. The U.S. Labor Department's Free Search Tool

Recommendations

- Start early!
- Create a solid, well-balanced college list
- Do your homework
- Personalize each application (admissions officers know the other schools essay topics)
- Do not use superficial things in your application

Upcoming Rising Senior Boot Camp

- May 17th & May 21st
 - College Essays
 - Applying Early to College
 - Scholarships
 - Resume
 - FAFSA & More!

Upcoming ACT & SAT Dates!

SAT

June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	May 23, 2018	July 11, 2018
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ACT

June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5-18, 2018	June 19, 2018
July 14, 2018	June 15, 2018	June 16-22, 2018	July 24, 2018
September 8, 2018	August 3, 2018*	August 4-17, 2018*	September 18, 2018*

Add Us On Remind!

- **Students: Text**
@2019travis to the
number 81010
- **Parents: Text**
@f9669b to the
number 81010



remind

College and Career Readiness Team

- **Lead Counselor: Rachel Bazan Shipp,**
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- **College Bound Advisor, Tiffany Jackson,**
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- **College Readiness Counselor: Jeffrey Blum,**
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