

# JUNIOR-PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT: COLLEGE PROCESS KICKOFF

October  
28, 2020



# COLLEGE PROCESS TIMELINE: JUNIOR YEAR

- September: Financial Aid Night
- October: Junior/Parent Information Night
- Month of November: Classroom presentations
- **December 1-21: Individual junior/counselor meetings. Students- Mrs. Marcel in the guidance office will email you with your meeting time. Meetings will take place mostly in the mornings before school. Some will have them during free periods.**
- January-February: Junior, parent and counselor meeting. Parents can email Mrs. Marcel [nmarcel@briarcliffschools.org](mailto:nmarcel@briarcliffschools.org) to schedule. Please include in the email when your child has a free period (semester, period and cycle day) and who their counselor is. Include two or three times that will work for you. *Please note: Physical Education is NOT a free period and conferences should not be scheduled during PE.*

**PLEASE MAKE ALL MEETING TIMES WHEN YOUR STUDENT IS VIRTUAL.**

- December-October: Take SAT/ACT

# COLLEGE PROCESS TIMELINE: SENIOR YEAR

- Aug 5th: 2020-2021 Common Application becomes available
- Mid-August: You will receive an email from the guidance office outlining how to begin filling out your Common App and how link your Common App to Naviance/Family Connection. You must send the signed transcript release form back to BHS.
- Fall 2020
  - Take one last ACT/SAT (if necessary)
  - Follow up with teacher recommenders (more on this later)
- **APPLY TO COLLEGE**
  - Deadlines range from October 15-January 15
    - **November 1 is the most common deadline**
  - Send standardized test scores to college (**student/parent's job**)

# TAP TIMELINE

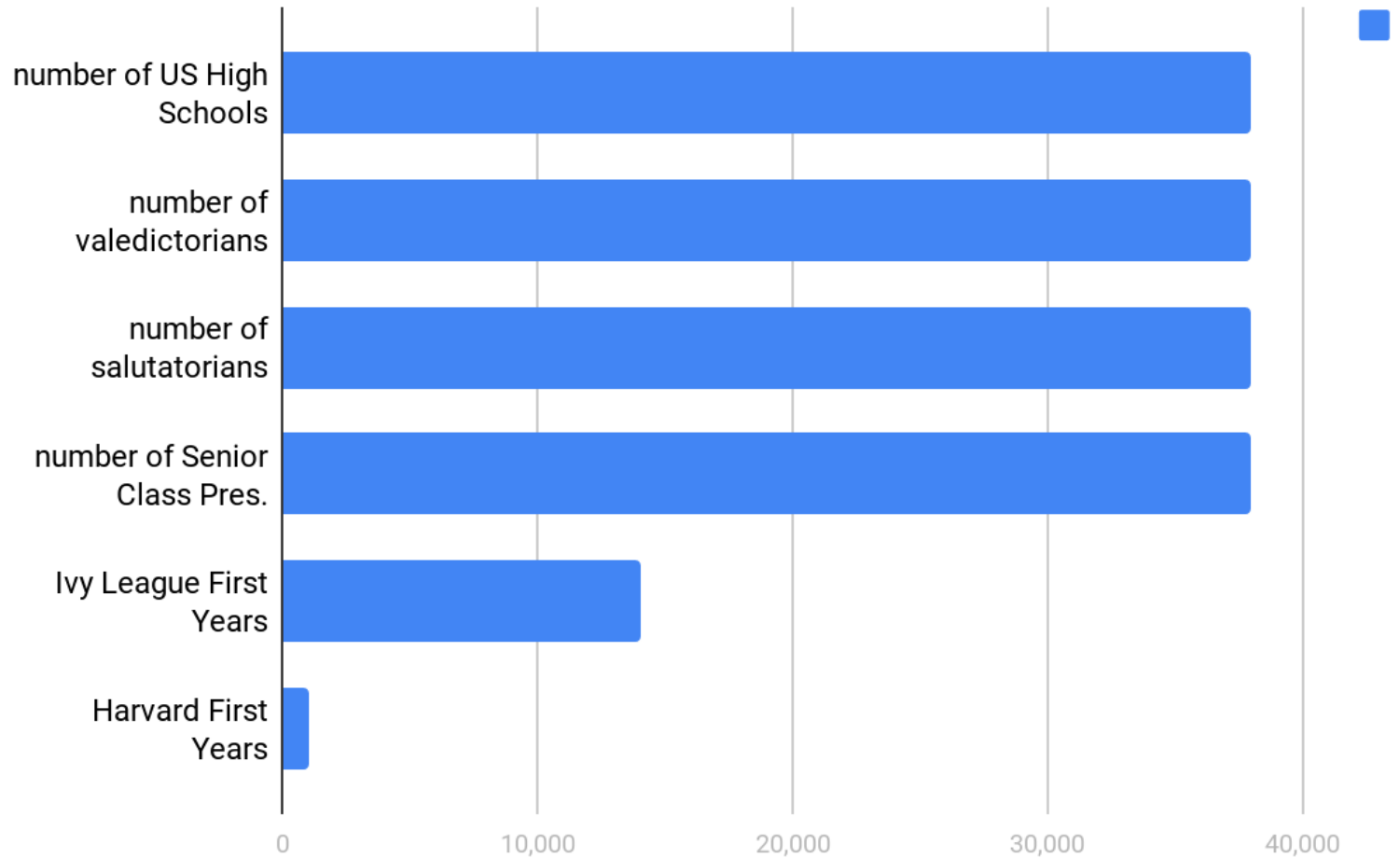
## Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Classroom Guidance Schedule:

- **November: Introduction to the College Search Process**
- **February: Senior Year Course Scheduling**
- **April/May: Interview skills/Resume writing workshop**

# INTRODUCTION TO NAVIANCE

College  
Search,  
Scattergrams  
and more!

# REALITY



# WHAT DOES NAVIANCE/FAMILY CONNECTION DO?

- COMPARE COLLEGES AND VIEW SCATTERGRAMS
- SEARCH FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
- CREATE AND KEEP AN UPDATED RESUME
- INITIATE AND KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
- BE NOTIFIED ABOUT COLLEGES VISITING BRIARCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL

# LOGGING IN TO FAMILY CONNECTION

- To log in: Go to the Briarcliff Manor Home Page ([www.briarcliffschools.org](http://www.briarcliffschools.org)), select Parents/Students, HS Parents/HS Students, click on Family Connection

## Students:

- Username: Briarcliff E-mail address
  - first initial, last name, graduation year@briarcliffny.org (John Smith = jsmith21@briarcliffny.org)
- Password: Click "Forgot your password?" and follow the steps. **CREATE A CELL PHONE CONTACT FOR NAVIANCE.**

## Parents:

- Username: Your email address
- Password: contact your child's counselor if you do not already have a password. He/she will reset it.



[HS Students](#) [MS Students](#) [Todd Students](#) [Report Bullying](#)

# HS Students

To know more about Digital Resources' Privacy Policy and Terms of Use click [HERE](#).  
To access Databases on your personal computer click [HERE](#). Please ask Ms. McCabe for the password.

- DIGITAL RESOURCES
- DATABASES
- GUIDANCE CENTER
- HELP DESK
- AUP
- CODE OF CONDUCT



Course Management System



Assessment Management System



Textbooks, multimedia and professional development



Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC)



Student Management System



College and Career readiness platform





## Welcome to Naviance Student

Email or Username

Password

☐ Remember me

[Forgot your password?](#)

Login

[Need additional help?](#)

**Briarcliff High School**

444 Pleasantville Road

Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-1922

p: (914) 769-6299

[www.briarcliffschools.org](http://www.briarcliffschools.org)

[Privacy Policy](#)

Welcome, Ferris!

Search for Colleges



Type a college name

SEARCH



No Welcome Message is available at this time.

[Read more](#)

## My Favorites



COLLEGES

I'm thinking about



COLLEGES

I'm applying to



COURSES

I'm thinking about



CAREERS AND CLUSTERS

I'm thinking about

## Important To-Dos and Tasks

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.

[See All in My Planner](#)

## What's New



State University of New York at New Paltz will be visiting your school on Thursday, November 1st, 2018 at 12:49 pm [more info](#)



University of Rhode Island will be visiting your school on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 at 10:04 am [more info](#)

## Colleges

 Type a college name

SEARCH

MORE COLLEGE SEARCH OPTIONS

### Find Your Fit



SuperMatch®



College Match

Scattergrams

Advanced College Search

College Lookup

Show less

### Research Colleges



COLLEGES

I'm Thinking About

Enrichment Programs

College Maps

### Apply to Colleges



COLLEGES

I'm applying to

### Scholarships and Money



SCHOLARSHIPS

I'm Applying To

Your Fit Criteria

2 selected criteria

To refine your results, use the arrows to move your criteria into the "Must Have" and "Nice to Have" boxes.

Must Have

✕ Location [1] →

✕ Major [1] →

Your Results

Your results include 6 institutions with a fit score of 90% or above.

	Fit Score ⓘ	Academic Match ⓘ
<div>SUNY Potsdam</div> <div>Potsdam, NY, Rural</div> <div>4 year, Public</div> <div>★ PINNED</div> <div>♡ FAVORITE</div>	<div>100%</div> <div>Why?</div>	<div>Average You</div> <div>GPA N/A 3.5 ⓘ</div> <div>SAT N/A 1510</div> <div>ACT N/A N/A</div> <div>Super match doesn't have sufficient application history for this institution to determine academic match.</div>
<div>Stony Brook University, State University of New York</div> <div>Stony Brook, NY, Town not near a City</div> <div>4 year, Public</div> <div>★ PINNED</div> <div>♡ FAVORITE</div>	<div>100%</div> <div>Why?</div>	<div>Match</div> <div>Average You</div> <div>GPA 3.8 3.5 ⓘ</div> <div>SAT 1290 1510</div> <div>ACT 29 N/A</div>

✕ Close

Fit Score Breakdown

Your Fit Score: 100%

Stony Brook University

Stony Brook University, State University of New York

Stony Brook, NY

4 year, Public

★ PINNED

♡ FAVORITE

Your Fit Criteria

Legend

✓ Match

✳ Close Match

? Data Unknown

✗ Doesn't Match

Must Have

2 out of 2 Must Have criteria are a match

✓ Location [1]

Located in New York

✓ Major [1]

The following programs are offered:

✓ Engineering, General

Nice to Have

You don't have any Nice to Have criteria selected.

This institution is a Match

Your academic qualifications (GPA & test scores) are similar to the academic profile of students who are typically admitted to this institution:



Stony Brook University, State  
University of New York ♡  
Stony Brook, NY, United States |  
[www.stonybrook.edu](http://www.stonybrook.edu)

Communicate ▼

Apply online

Learn More ▼

Overview

Studies

Student Life

Admissions

Costs



AVERAGE NET PRICE ⓘ

**\$10,736**

Income: \$30 - \$48K ▾

[More about Cost & Aid](#)

from 2018

GRADUATION RATE ⓘ

**72%**

Within 6 years

[More about Learning Environment](#)

from 2018

ACCEPTANCE RATE ⓘ

**42%**



[Check out Scattergrams to see how this relates to you](#)

from 2018

REGULAR DECISION - SPRING

November

**1**

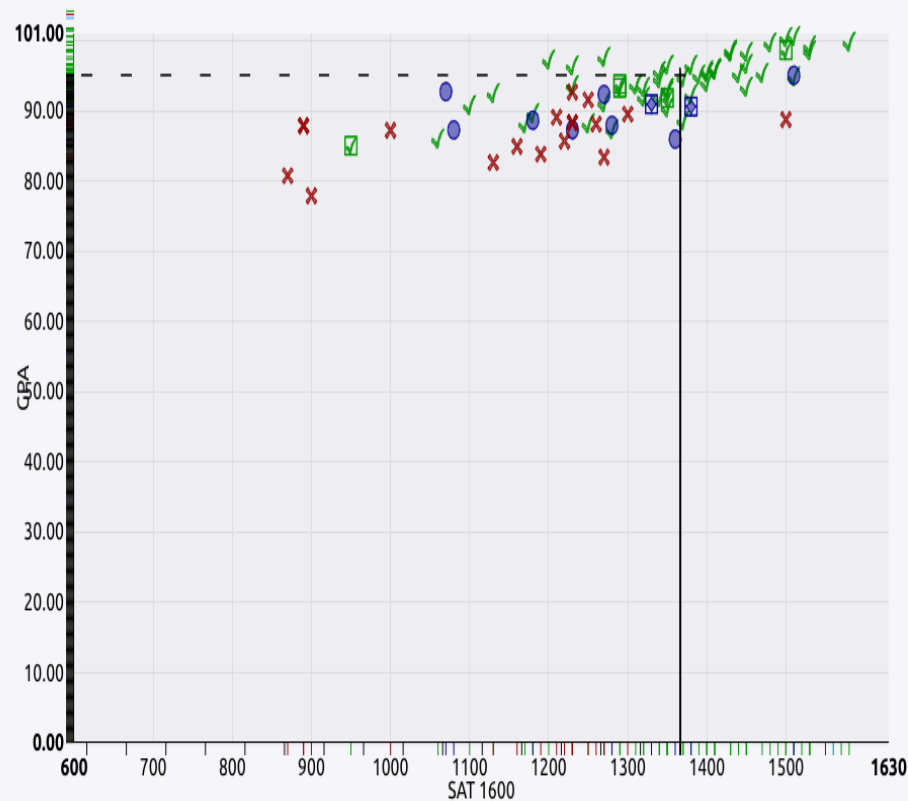
[See all deadlines](#)

# THE SCATTERGRAM

- This graph compiles data (GPA/standardized test scores) from 5 years of Briarcliff specific history
- Student will be plotted on the graph once he/she has standardized test scores
- Scatterplots supply recent, relevant, and specific data, but they do NOT provide a complete picture of your college acceptance chances

## Scattergrams | Applications for Briarcliff High School ⓘ

Comparing Weighted GPA with SAT (1600 Scale) ▴ ▾



### Legend

	Accepted	Waitlisted/Accepted	Waitlisted/Unknown	Waitlisted/Denied	Denied
🕒 You	✓ Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	● Regular Decision	✗ Regular Decision
— Average GPA	✓ Early Decision	● Early Decision	● Early Decision	● Early Decision	✗ Early Decision
Average Score	✓ Early Action	● Early Action	● Early Action	● Early Action	✗ Early Action



We want your feedback! What do you think about the new SuperMatch?

Provide Feedback

< Back

## SUPERMATCH COLLEGE SEARCH

### Compare Pinned Colleges

An in-depth comparison of your pinned schools

Collapse All

Export

Viewing 1 - 4 of 4



★ PINNED

♥ FAVORITE



**Stony Brook University, State University of New York**

[www.stonybrook.edu](http://www.stonybrook.edu)

★ PINNED

♥ FAVORITE



**Cornell University**

[www.cornell.edu](http://www.cornell.edu)

★ PINNED

♥ FAVORITED



**Syracuse University**

[www.syr.edu/](http://www.syr.edu/)

★ PINNED

♥ FAVORITE



**SUNY Potsdam**

[www.potsdam.edu](http://www.potsdam.edu)

Academic Match ⓘ

Match

Match

Match

Unknown

▼ ADMISSION INFO				
Test Optional	No	No	No	Yes
Average High School GPA ⓘ	3.8	Unknown	3.8	Unknown
Average ACT ⓘ	29	32.5	26	Unknown
Math	28	32.5	26	Unknown
Science	28	Unknown	Unknown	24
English	28	33	25	Unknown
Reading	30	Unknown	Unknown	24
Average SAT ⓘ	1290	1430	1190	Unknown
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	580	700	580	Unknown
Math	630	730	610	Unknown
Acceptance Rate	42%	14%	52%	68%
Accepts AP Credits	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accepts IB Credits	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coalition App Member	Yes	Yes	No	No
Common App Member	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Application Fee	\$50	\$80	\$75	\$50

▼ ATHLETICS				
Associations & Divisions	NCAA (Division I, Division I FCS)	NCAA (Division I, Division I FCS)	NCAA (Division I, Division I FBS)	NCAA (Division III)
Levels Available	Varsity (20 sports)	Varsity (36 sports)	Varsity (24 sports)	Varsity (19 sports)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male (10 sports)</li> <li>Female (10 sports)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male (17 sports)</li> <li>Female (19 sports)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male (10 sports)</li> <li>Female (14 sports)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male (9 sports)</li> <li>Female (10 sports)</li> </ul>
	-	-	Intramural	Intramural
	Club	Club	Club	Club

## Quick Links

## RESOURCES

[Transcripts](#)[Test scores](#)

## College Maps

 [Search for colleges](#)

Please note that maps are currently limited to colleges in the U.S. and Canada.

- [Colleges that accepted our students](#)
- [Colleges where our students are attending](#)
- [Top 20 most popular colleges where our students applied](#)
- [Colleges i'm thinking about](#)



- 
- [4 year college](#)
  - [Common Application](#)
  - [HBCU](#)
  - [Hispanic Serving](#)
  - [Ivy League](#)
  - [Jesuit Colleges](#)
  - [Matriculated 2010](#)
  - [New York College](#)
  - [Schools w/ Proactive LD](#)
  - [Strong SP Ed Programs](#)
  - [Strong SP Ed Programs](#)
  - [Strong SP Ed Programs](#)
  - [U.S. Catholic Colleges](#)

Back



Top 20 most popular colleges where our students applied

Binghamton University

Cornell University

University of Michigan

University of Delaware

Boston University

University of Maryland, College Park

Stony Brook University

Syracuse University

SUNY Albany

Tulane University

Northeastern University

Pennsylvania State University

**LETTERS  
OF RECOMMENDATION  
AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL  
BACKGROUND RECORD  
AND PARENT BRAG**

# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- How many do I need?
  - One counselor letter
  - One teacher letter
    - Some schools **require** two teacher letters
- When do I ask for these letters?
  - Spring (May/June)
    - This gives teachers and counselors an opportunity to write the letters over the summer
    - Many teachers require a preliminary form for students to fill out before they will write a letter
      - See the teacher for the specific material he/she requires
    - **Counselors require an online survey, found on Family Connection, before we will write your letter...**

# AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND SURVEY SUGGESTIONS

**Do: Give specific details...** "For the past three summers I have worked at Pocantico Hills Day Camp. The first two summers I was a CIT, but this summer I was hired as a paid counselor. I worked with 7 and 8-year-old campers. My favorite part of the summer was on the last day when the kids made a card for me. I hung it in my room and it makes me smile every time I see it."

**Don't:**

- **Simply list activities**

Welcome, Ferris!

Search for Colleges



Type a college name

No Welcome Message is available at this time.

[Read more](#)

## Important To-Dos and Tasks

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.

[See All in My Planner](#)

## My Favorites



COLLEGES

I'm thinking about



COLLEGES

I'm applying to



COURSES

I'm thinking about



CAREERS AND CLUSTERS

I'm thinking about

## What's New



University of Rhode Island will be visiting your school on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 at 10:04 am [more info](#)



Wesleyan University will be visiting your school on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 at 12:49 pm [more info](#)



ABOUT ME

[Home](#)



FERRIS BUELLER

[My Account](#)

My Stuff



My Assessments



My Surveys



Postsecondary Plans





## Quick Links

### INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME

[Resume](#)

[Game plan](#)

[Documents](#)

[Journal](#)

[Survey history](#)

### OFFICIAL THINGS

[Profile](#)

[Inbox](#)

[Account](#)

[Test scores](#)

### SURVEYS

[Surveys In progress](#)

## My Surveys

Filter by

In progress



Autobiographical Record

IN PROGRESS



## Quick Links

### INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME

[Resume](#)
[Game plan](#)
[Documents](#)
[Journal](#)
[Survey history](#)

### OFFICIAL THINGS

[Profile](#)
[Inbox](#)
[Account](#)
[Test scores](#)

### SURVEYS

[Surveys in progress](#)

## Autobiographical Record

**Note:** Please save your answers often if you need longer than one hour to complete this form. You will be logged out of the survey after one hour if you have not changed the page.

### \* 1. FULL LEGAL NAME:

Please provide at least one answer.

### \* 2. WHAT TYPE OF COLLEGE SETTING WOULD YOU PREFER?

☐ City

☐ Rural

☐ Suburb

Please provide at least one answer.

### \* 3. HOW FAR DO YOU WANT TO TRAVEL?

☐ Commute

☐ Under 2 hours

☐ 3-6 hours

☐ Take a plane

☐ Anywhere

Please provide at least one answer.

# PARENT BRAG OVERVIEW

## Helpful Tips:

- Less about your child as a small child/baby, more about your child **now**
- Discuss things that are **not** readily apparent through grades, test scores, extracurricular activity lists
- An anecdote that can be extrapolated to his/her whole personality
- Specific examples
- Hidden/unique talents

The Parent Brag is available on Naviance/Family Connection with questions to help guide you. You cannot see or access your child's autobiographical background and your child cannot see or access your parent brag. You must enter through your respective Naviance accounts.

Welcome, Ferris!

Search for Colleges



Type a college name



ABOUT ME  
Home



MEREDITH SAFER  
My Account  
Ferris's Account

Ferris's Stuff



Ferris's Assessments



My Surveys



Postsecondary Plans



No Welcome Message is available at this time.

[Read more](#)

## My Favorites



COLLEGES

I'm thinking about



COLLEGES

I'm applying to



COURSES

I'm thinking about



CAREERS AND CLUSTERS

I'm thinking about

## Important To-Dos and Tasks

Relax, you have no overdue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. However, you can get ahead by going to My Planner to see what's next or create a goal or to-do.

[See All in My Planner](#)

## What's New



University of Rhode Island will be visiting your school on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 at 10:04 am [more info](#)



Wesleyan University will be visiting your school on Friday, November 2nd, 2018 at 12:49 pm [more info](#)

## Quick Links

### INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME

[Resume](#)

[Game plan](#)

[Documents](#)

[Journal](#)

[Survey history](#)

### OFFICIAL THINGS

[Profile](#)

[Inbox](#)

[Account](#)

[Test scores](#)

### SURVEYS

[Surveys In progress](#)

## My Surveys

Filter by

Not started



Parent Brag

NOT STARTED



## Quick Links

### INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT ME

[Resume](#)

[Game plan](#)

[Documents](#)

[Journal](#)

[Survey history](#)

### OFFICIAL THINGS

[Profile](#)

[Inbox](#)

[Account](#)

[Test scores](#)

### SURVEYS

[Surveys In progress](#)

## Parent Brag

**⚠ Note:** Please save your answers often if you need longer than one hour to complete this form. You will be logged out of the survey after one hour if you have not changed the page.

1. Tell me what I don't know about your son/daughter. What do I not see before / after school?

2. What do you consider to be the outstanding accomplishments of your child during the past three or four years? Why did you select these as most important?

# STANDARDIZED TESTING

ACT, SAT &  
Subjects  
tests...

# PSAT

- Preliminary SAT exam administered on October 14
- Same content as the SAT, but no essay component in the writing section
- Scores to be released December via College Board portal:  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/getting-scores>
- Understanding your score report:  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/understanding-scores>
- Khan Academy, College Board's partner, provides an analysis of your strengths and areas that need improvement, including concrete lessons to improve these areas:  
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/student-score-reports>



# SAT

- Scholastic “Aptitude” Test
- 3.5-hour exam offered 7 times each year
- Scored out of 1600
  - Math: 800
  - Evidence-Based Reading and Writing: 800
  - Essay “sub-score” which is out of 24 points
    - This sub-score is NOT factored into your English score
    - Now optional from College Board, though we highly recommend you sit for it, because it is required by many colleges

# ACT

- A competing organization that administers a different 3.5-hour exam 5 different times/year
- Scored out of 36 points
  - Math: 36
  - Reading: 36
  - English: 36
  - Science (but not really science): 36

The four subsection scores are averaged together to arrive at your composite score

- There is also an “optional” essay (but it is required for some schools) scored from 2-12. This score will NOT affect any other aspect of your test

# SAMPLE SCIENCE QUESTION

- In Study 2, at the storage temperature of 5 °C, as germination temperature increased from 13 °C to 28 °C, the number of seeds that germinated:

- A. decreased only
- B. increased only
- C. decreased, then increased
- D. increased, then decreased

Storage temperature (°C)	Number of peony seeds that germinated when maintained at a germination temperature of:			
	13 °C	18 °C	23 °C	28 °C
0	15	24	21	1
5	16	23	21	1
10	0	6	4	0
15	0	0	0	0
20	0	0	0	0

# TESTING MODIFICATIONS

If you receive testing modifications (extra time) for classroom testing, you do not automatically receive it/them for standardized tests

- **SAT:** If you have taken the PSAT and received your modifications, you are all set for the SAT, SAT subject tests AND AP exams.
  - The College Board administers all of these tests
  - The College Board allows you to apply for testing mods prior to registering for the exam(s)
  - If you have not taken the PSAT, double check with your counselor if he/she has applied on your behalf
- **ACT:** The ACT does not allow you to apply for testing mods until after you have registered to take their exam
  - It is an entirely separate process than College Board
  - It takes up to six weeks for a decision
    - You must let your counselor know two months prior to the exam date that you are taking it in order to ensure your mods are considered in a timely manner

# ARE ACT/SAT TESTS REQUIRED?

- For many colleges (not all!), students are required to submit ACT or SAT scores
- Every college that requires standardized tests will allow you to submit either SAT or ACT
- What does "score choice" mean?
- What does "super score" mean?

# TEST OPTIONAL/FLEXIBLE COLLEGES

- **Test Optional:** There are hundreds of four- year colleges that do NOT require standardized testing for admission consideration
  - See [www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org) for a complete list
- **Test Flexible:**
  - Some colleges allow you to submit SAT subject tests, AP exams or graded papers in lieu of the SAT/ACT (NYU, Brandeis, Middlebury, Gettysburg)
- **New COVID rules**

# SO HOW DO I KNOW...

## ■ If I should take the test?

- We recommend that all students take one exam at least once in order to keep your options open

## ■ How many times should I take the test?

- Twice is a good number, but if you are happy with your first score, stop there. If you are unhappy with your second score and believe you can do better, try a 3<sup>rd</sup> time... Stop after 3.

## ■ When to take the test?

- April (ACT), May (SAT), or June (both) is a good time to take your initial exam
- Some students will feel ready in February (ACT) or March (SAT)
- October scores will make it by the November 1<sup>st</sup> ED/EA deadlines

## ■ Which test I should take (ACT or SAT)?

- Try a practice test in both and see which you do better on
- Take a combo test at a local test prep agency

# SAT SUBJECT TESTS

**SAT Subject tests are one hour, content-based exams offered in the following subjects:**

**Literature: Conclusion of junior year**

**US History: Conclusion of US History (junior year)**

**World History: Conclusion of World/European History (sophomore year)**

**Math Level I: Conclusion of Algebra II/Trig (either sophomore or junior year, depending on the student)**

**Math Level II: Conclusion of pre-calculus**

**Biology: Conclusion of Regents biology (usually freshman year) or at the conclusion of AP biology (junior year)**

**Chemistry: Conclusion of Regents chemistry (usually sophomore year) or at the conclusion of AP chemistry (junior year)**

**Physics: Conclusion of Regents physics (usually junior year)**

**Foreign Language: Conclusion of junior year**



# SAT SUBJECT TESTS: WHO SHOULD TAKE THESE EXAMS?

- **Almost no one**
- Student achieving mid-high 90's in honors/AP level courses should discuss with their respective teachers
- A VERY small handful of colleges nationwide require subject tests (MIT, Cal Tech, Harvard)
  - The schools that do require subject tests *generally* require 2 tests and prefer one in humanities and one in math/science.
- See specific school's websites as requirements vary greatly and change from year to year:  
[http://www.compassprep.com/admissions\\_req\\_subjects.aspx](http://www.compassprep.com/admissions_req_subjects.aspx)

# DEMONSTRATED INTEREST

College  
Visits and  
Interviews

# HOW DO I SHOW “DEMONSTRATED INTEREST”

- Alumni or campus interviews: spring junior year/fall senior year. Not all colleges allow interviews
- College specific application essays
- Applying under a college’s “Early” program (ED/EA)
  - EDII
- E-communication (emails, chats, web tours)
- Visit
  - Attend local and/or on campus information and/or virtual sessions and open houses
  - Attend college visit sessions offered at BHS (fall)
  - Take a campus tour

# THE COLLEGE VISIT: COMMON QUESTIONS

- Why should I visit colleges?
- I am just beginning the college process and I do not know what kind of college I want to go to, where should I start?
- When is the best time to visit?

# HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR COLLEGE VISIT

1. Information session and tour
2. Walk around without a tour guide
3. Eat in the dining hall
4. Read the campus newspaper and bulletin posters
5. Family discussion
6. Get "credit" for being there
7. Take notes
  - They eventually all blend together
  - It will help you with your college specific essays

# ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- Schedule an interview

1. Dress appropriately
2. Bring a resume
3. Familiarize yourself with the school
4. Ask questions
5. Why this school?

- Sit in on a class/meet with a professor or coach

- Get the “full experience”

# GET EXCITED ABOUT YOUR LIKELY SCHOOLS

- Buy the t-shirt
- Join a Facebook/Meet up/any form of social media group with other interested students
- Talk to friends about what a great school it is
- Follow the sports team
- WHATEVER IT TAKES

# RECAP

**Questions??**