## JUNIOR TAP SESSION 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLEGE SEARCH PROCESS AND NAVIANCE

#### **NOV-DEC TIMELINE**

#### November:

- Classroom presentations
- Make individual appointment with counselor
- Complete questions 1-13 of the Autobiographical Record before your meeting (today)

#### December:

- Meeting between student and counselor during student's free/lunch period or after school to discuss thoughts and preliminary plans for life after HS
- PSAT scores released

### JANUARY-JUNE TIMELINE

- January- Feb: Student and parent conferences
  - Family conference (parent, student, counselor) (you have to have completed your December meeting with counselor in order for your parent to schedule this family meeting)
- January: Grade Forum Meetings
- Spring semester-Transition Assistance Program (TAP):
  - Feb- course selection
  - May-Interview/Resume workshop
- March-June: Students may take standardized Tests (SAT, ACT, SAT subject tests)
- May-June: Ask 1 or 2 teachers if they will write a recommendation letter for you

#### WHAT IS NAVIANCE?

#### It allows you to:

- Search for colleges and careers
- 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 HS

# LOGGING IN TO FAMILY CONNECTION

- To log in: Go to the Briarcliff Manor Home Page (www.briarcliffschools.org), select the HS Students tab, and click on Family Connection
  - Username: Briarcliff E-mail address
    - first initial last name graduation year@briarcliffny.org (MSafer22@briarcliffny.org)
  - Password: Is it in your phone?

#### **COLLEGE SEARCH**

- Keep search broad
  - Try your first search with just size, location, selectivity and major (undecided is ok and if you don't have your PSAT scores from last year don't use test scores...)
- The percentages next to the colleges on your search result list is not your odds to get in- they represent how much that school matches the search criteria you entered.

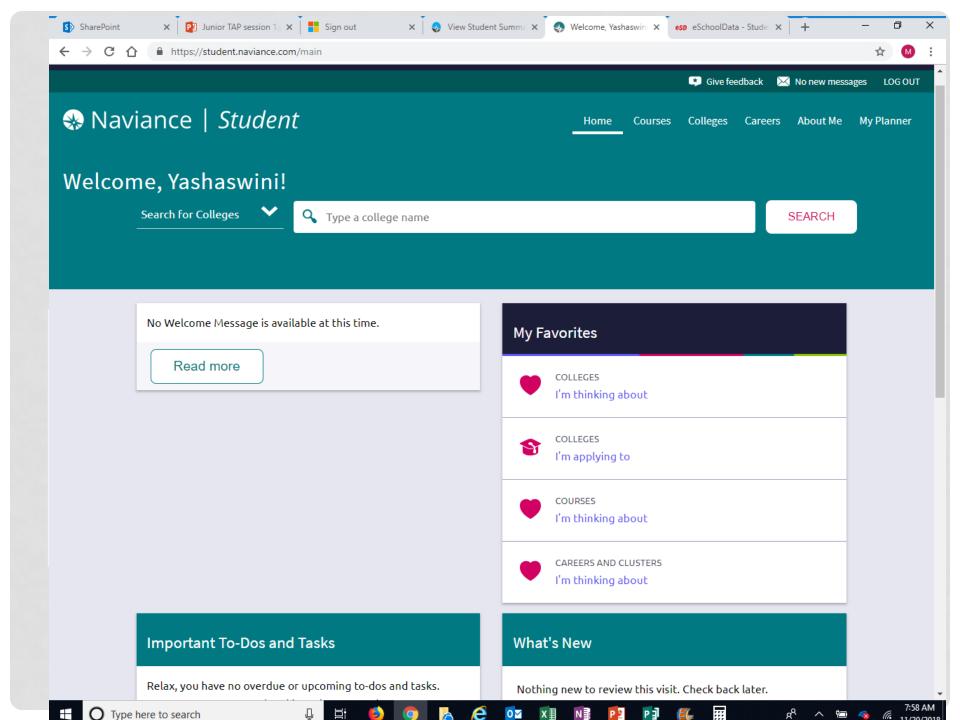
#### THE SCATTERGRAM

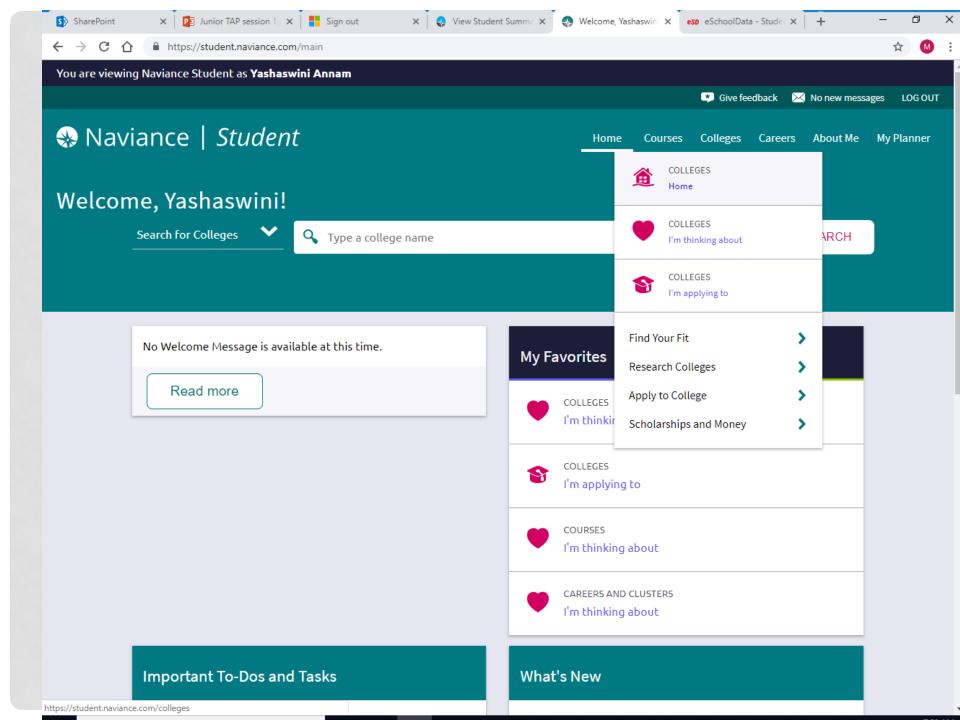
- This graph compiles data (GPA/standardized test scores) from 5 years of Briarcliff specific history
- You are plotted on the graph amongst ONLY Briarcliff applicants from the past 5 years
- Scatterplots supply recent, relevant, and specific data, but they do NOT provide a complete picture of your college chances

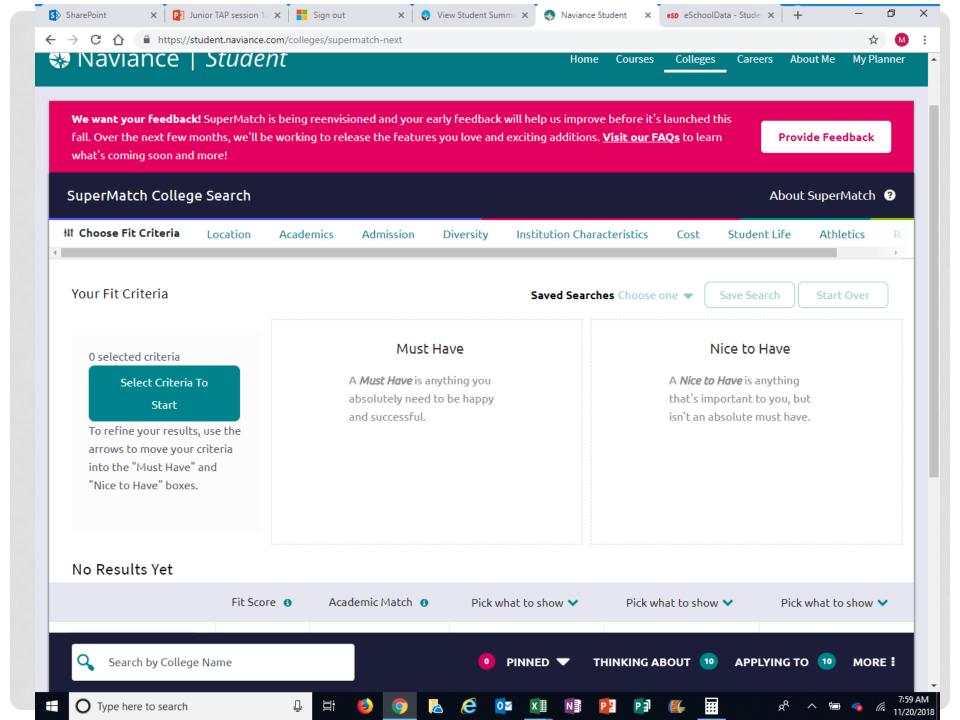
Take a moment to look up the scattergrams for some of your schools

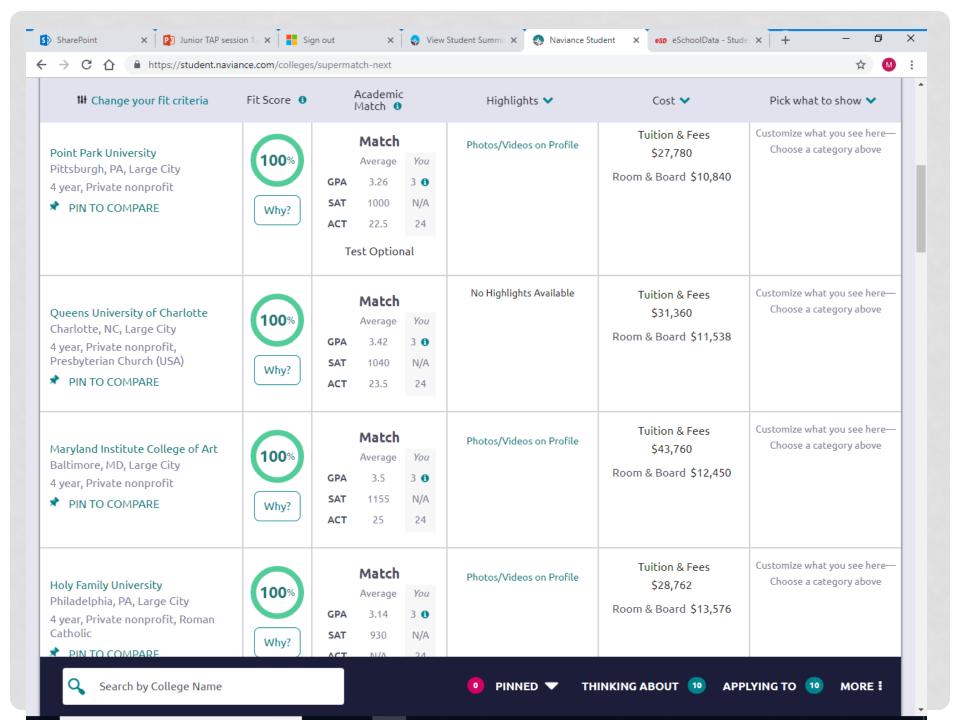
#### COLLEGE ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Grades
- Courses taken
- Standardized test scores
  - See fairtest.org for schools that do not require SAT/ACT
- Extracurricular activities
- Essay
- Recommendation letters (teacher and/or counselor)
- Interviews (where available)
- Demonstrated interest (not all colleges use this)









# AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND RECORD

COLLEGE SELECTION AND COUNSELOR RECS

#### WHAT SHOULD I WRITE?

- Be as honest as possible
- Be as elaborate as possible
- Write your answers on a separate Word document to ensure that you save it (the internet may time out or malfunction)
- Counselors can see your partial completions once you hit "save."

#### WHY DO WE HAVE TO DO THIS?

- It will help your counselor to help you
  - Choose a list of colleges
  - Write your letter of recommendation
- It may help you sort out what you are looking for in college
- It will help you with your college essay

## STANDARDIZED TESTING

ACT, SAT & SUBJECTS TESTS...

## PSAT/SAT/SAT II/ACT

- Your PSAT scores will be ready in December
  - My Big Future
  - Khan Academy
- Take the SAT/ACT Jan-June
  - You may take each several times
  - Score choice/Super score
  - SAT Subject tests (<u>most</u> schools do NOT require any)
  - You may take up to 3 in one day (same day as SAT)
  - See compassprep.com for a list of specific college requirements

#### ACT VS. SAT

- The ACT has many more questions than the SAT, but they are perhaps slightly easier
- The ACT has a science section (though it is more reading comp than science)
- Both include context based questions AND inferential questions
- SAT has 2 sections with scores ranging from 200-800.
  These scores are added together for your total
- The ACT has 4 sections with scores ranging from 11-36. These scores are averaged together for your composite

#### 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 I should 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...
- 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 January/March (SAT). Or before?
  - October 2020 scores make the November 1st ED/EA deadlines
- Which test I should take (ACT or SAT)?
  - Try a practice test in both and see which you do better on