

## Common Delusions

- ***I'll just bring up my average junior year:*** Junior year is only 1/4 of your entire high school career, do the math.
- ***I heard freshman year does not matter/does not count:*** Look at Lindsey and Kyle – How do their freshmen years reflect on their transcript? Admissions people are humans, not computers. Lindsey showed tremendous growth since freshman year while Kyle had great grades freshman year and his grades declined every year after that.
- ***I have not done anything for the past 2 years, but I will join a lot of clubs my junior and senior year because I heard that looks good on college applications:*** Who do you think looks better, Lindsey or Kyle?
- ***I will study every minute of every day and take every possible AP exam and do nothing else because if you have over a 97 GPA from Briarcliff you can get into any school:*** Is Kyle really so compelling compared to Jessica and Lindsey?
- ***I will spend my entire summer and weekends studying for the SAT/ACT exam because my score is more important than my grades:*** Which more accurately portrays your high school career and academic ability, your high school grades/transcript or a standardized test you took for 4 hours on one Saturday morning?
- ***My chemistry teacher messed up my grade last term but I'll just go to her next year because I do not have any free periods with her in common to meet:*** Fix any and all errors regarding grades, credits, and transcripts ASAP. Colleges may receive an inaccurate report if these issues are not solved prior to the end of junior year.
- ***My cousin's friend's sister's boyfriend's aunt told me...*** Refer all questions, concerns, and comments to your counselor. Your cousin's friend's sister's boyfriend's aunt knows about one particular person's experience at one particular school. Your counselor has a wide range of knowledge about thousands of schools to help answer all of your questions.
- ***Where I go for undergraduate work is more important than where I will go for graduate school:*** Graduate school is specific to your career and assists you in gaining in-depth knowledge and skills that directly apply to the job. Undergraduate school is more general. Both are important.
- ***If I do not get into a "highly selective college" I will be a failure in life.***
- ***If I get into a "highly selective college" I will be a great success in life.***