WELCOME TO SENIOR PARENT NIGHT!!!

COLLEGE APPLICATION & DECISION PROCESS

RECEIVE REMINDERS, NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE GUIDANCE & COUNSELING DEPARTMENT:

Text: 81010 Enter:@b4h374
Senior Counseling Curriculum

- **August 21**: College Application & Decision Process Presentations during Senior English classes
- **August 30-September 3**: Senior Seminars
  - Highly Selective Colleges and Universities
  - College of DuPage
- **September 4-October 13**: Wednesday Warrior Time drop-in College Application assistance in College and Career Center
- **September-October**: Senior Interviews with the School Counselor
Where did the Class of 2019 go?

Students completed over 1900 college applications to over 380 different schools

Students were accepted into over 200 different schools

Students are attending over 80 different schools across 22 States
Willowbrook graduates are attending colleges from coast to coast.

Willowbrook students are attending colleges & universities in 30 states.
WHERE ARE OUR WBHS GRADUATES?

4-Year Public (State) Colleges/Universities

4-Year Private Colleges/Universities

Selective Colleges/Universities

2-Year Colleges/Technical Schools
- College of DuPage, Illinois Technical Institute, Triton College, U. Technical Inst., Wyo Tech,

Military
- Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy
SO WHAT IS THIS PRESENTATION ALL ABOUT???

• Discuss the nuts and bolts of the college application and decision process
• Provide handouts as helpful guides
• Review upcoming seminars/presentations
• Answer questions regarding choosing a college and the application process
WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR SON/DAUGHTER TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT SCHOOL

• 1/3 of college students leave after their first year in college
• Almost 50% of college students never graduate
• Over 50% of adults are unhappy in their jobs
• Job outlook
• Debt
  – Careervision.org
What the Class of 2019 Wants the Class of 2020 to Know?

• Students were asked: If you could start the college search and application process over, what would you do different?
  – Visit more colleges*
  – Prepare more for the SAT
  – Work harder on my studies during Frosh/Soph Year
  – Apply to college earlier*
  – Spend more time researching colleges*
  – Apply to more colleges*
  – Take the SAT more times*
  – Spend more time on my college applications*
  – Spend more time on my college essays*
  – Participate in more extracurricular activities*

*Areas you can work on during your senior year
THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN EXPLORING COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

- Type (Public/Private)
- Academic Rigor
- Admission Requirements
- Size
- Location
- Student Body
- Alumni Network
- Housing
- Field of Study
- Activities
- Cost
- History of School
- Yearly Calendar
- Graduation Requirements
- Student/Teacher Ratio
- Safe School vs. Dream School

Use Naviance Supermatch for college search
Finding the Right College Fit

• Academic Fit
• Financial Fit
• Individual Student Fit
APPLYING TO COLLEGE

STEP 1: REVIEW APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

ESSAYS * TEST SCORES * LETTERS OF REC

ESSAYS

• Answer the essay question
• Ask your English teachers or go to the Writing Center for assistance
• If sending same essay to different schools, remember to CHANGE the School Name
TEST SCORES

- Go to or [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and send scores directly to college/university (fee required) **Scores NOT included on transcript without permission - See handout**

- Should I retake the SAT?
  - Not if you fulfill the requirements of the schools you are considering

- Upcoming SAT test dates
  - October 5 (Registration Deadline: September 6)
  - November 2 (Registration Deadline: October 3)
  - December 7 (Registration Deadline: November 8)

- Test Optional Colleges/Universities ([www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org))

- Have I taken the appropriate exams? Do I need to take SAT Subject Tests? Should I take the ACT?
  - Check admission requirements as many highly selective schools recommend or require two or more SAT Subject Tests
  - Upcoming ACT Test Dates
    - October 26 (Registration Deadline: September 20)
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

• Review admission requirements and determine if letters are required

• Create resume
  ✓ Use Naviance to assist with creating resume
  ✓ Include all academic, athletic, music, club honors/activities
  ✓ Work and Volunteer experience are important also!

• Complete Teacher/Counselor Recommendation Form
• Submit Teacher/Counselor Recommendation request on Naviance
• Ask teacher(s) for letter in person. **Hand them Teacher/Counselor Recommendation Form AND Resume**
• Give Teachers/Counselors ample time to complete letter
  - **2 weeks minimum**
APPLYING TO COLLEGE

STEP 2: SUBMITTING APPLICATION & REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

• Review admission options (Early Decision, Early Action, Rolling Admission) and requirements
• Complete application-online or by paper
  *(REFER TO APPLICATION PROCESS HANDOUT)*
• Submit application fee *(Fee waivers* available through counselor)*
• Be aware of application deadlines
  – *State Schools and Highly Selective….Apply Early!* *(By Nov. 1-U of I, Nov. 15-All other State Schools)*
• Apply now, decide later *(May 1st)*
• Record information in Naviance!!!
TRANSCRIPT REQUEST

• Request transcript on Naviance (no fee) and track date of submission

• If you do not use Naviance, you must complete a Transcript Request Form (Forms can be located in the Guidance Office) and bring $3.00/transcript to the Registrar or your Counselor for transcript to be processed and mailed

• In order to guarantee transcripts will be mailed out by application deadlines-please allow 3 Business Days for processing (Example: Deadline= November 1, Request=October 29)

• SAT School Day Test Score: Score can be included on transcript with parental permission (Parent must submit online form)
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Total Units Earned: 43.0
Cumulative GPA: 3.5116
Class Rank: 151 of 481
Entry Date: 05/11/2014

Unofficial Transcript 08/22/2017

Official when signed
WHAT MAKES AN APPLICATION COMPLETE?

- Online Application
  - Proofread application for errors
  - Attach or upload essay/personal statement, resume/brag sheet
  - Be sure to click submit button

- Application Fee submitted with credit card
  - If application fee waiver is needed, please see your counselor

- Test scores submitted from testing agency

- Teacher/Counselor letters of recommendation as needed

- Transcript request
Applying to Colleges

Step 3: Admission Decisions and Final Decision

- Most schools take 4-6 weeks to process application and respond (Highly Selective will reply in Spring)
- Admission decisions- Admitted, Denied, Waitlist, Under Consideration
- Finish Strong
  - Schools will take all 8 semesters into consideration
  - Schools look for a continued course rigor
MANAGING APPLICATIONS

• Use appropriate email addresses

• **Check email regularly** as school will communicate via email with application updates and sometimes decisions

• Contact admission reps with questions—**use appropriate email format** when corresponding

• Keep track of usernames and passwords

• Use Naviance to track date transcript mailed

• Update admission decisions on Naviance
What is the Common Application?

- Group of colleges and universities that have agreed to honor a single application form
- Many of the colleges and universities have their own supplemental forms that must be completed
- Must create username and password and **add information to Naviance account** so documents can be submitted electronically
- Teacher/counselor recommendations are **REQUIRED** and must be submitted through Naviance
- User-friendly
- Submission online required
- Fees required for each school, waivers available (see counselor)
- See **Common Application Handout** for application steps
ADVANTAGES OF ATTENDING A 2-YEAR COLLEGE (COLLEGE OF DUPAGE)

- 28% of our students attend
- Affordable
- Location
- Wide variety of majors available
- Career/Certificate Programs
- Small Class Sizes
- SAT Score is not required for admission (used for class placement or take Placement Exams)
- Ability to transfer to a 4-year school
- Financial assistance is available
- Representative on campus 1-2 times per month
CURRENT 3+1 PROGRAMS

- B.A. in Management
- B.S. in Nursing

- B.A. in Criminal/Social Justice
- B.S. in Computer Science

- B.S. in Nursing Online

- B.A. in Healthcare Management

- B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management

- B.A. in Human Services
FINANCIAL AID

• Financial Aid Night
  – Thursday, September 26 at 6:00PM in Room C2

• FAFSA Completion Workshops
  – Thursday, October 24, 5:00pm-7:00pm in LMC
  – Thursday, November 7, 5:00pm-7:00pm in LMC

• Financial Aid Senior Seminar
  – 9/26 during Warrior Time

• CSS Profile: [https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp](https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp)

• Net Price Calculator on college/university websites

• Visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and review FAFSA4caster

• Scholarships
  – National scholarships on Fastweb.com or Naviance
  – College/University scholarships by checking their Financial Aid website (check individual school deadlines)
  – Student/Parent Employer
  – Local scholarships by checking daily bulletins, Naviance and the Willowbrook website
  – Many colleges/universities have Semester 1 scholarship deadlines. Applications can be found on their website
WEBSITES

• **www.actstudent.org**
  – ACT Test Dates and Registration

• **www.collegeboard.org**
  – SAT Test Dates and Registration and college and scholarship search

• **www.collegeillinois.org**
  – Financial Aid information for Illinois students and parents

• **www.commonapp.org**
  – Direct link to college application used by 480+ colleges

• **www.connection.naviance.com/willowbrook**
  – Willowbrook High School Naviance website

• **www.fafsa.ed.gov**
  – Direct link to the FAFSA Application

• **www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov**
  – Direct link to the FAFSA Estimator

• **www.fairtest.org**
  – List of Test Optional Colleges and Universities

• **www.fastweb.com**
  – National Scholarship Search Website

• **www.managingcollegecosts.com**
  – College financial planning

• **www.mymajors.com**
  – Search for college majors

• **www.ncaa.org**
  – Official Website for College Athletics
IF YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS AND WANT FURTHER INFO:

• Visit the WB College and Career Center
• Bring questions for meeting with counselor during **Senior Interview**
• Attend a College Rep Visit in College and Career Center
• Attend a College Fair
  – **National College Fair**
    • **October 5, McCormick Place, 11:00AM-3:00PM**
  – **College of DuPage College Fair**
    • **October 15, College of DuPage, 6:30PM-9:00PM**
• Contact the admissions counselors at schools of interest
• Attend a Senior Seminar or drop-in assistance during Warrior Time on Wednesdays
The following Senior Seminars will be offered during Warrior Time:

- **Highly Selective Colleges and Universities**
  - Friday, August 30 (Room C2)

- **College of DuPage**
  - Tuesday, September 3 (Room C2)

- Every **Wednesday**, beginning September 4 and through November 13, students can visit the College and Career Center during Warrior Time for assistance with Naviance, college applications, financial aid, and choosing a college
PARENT EVENTS

• Senior Financial Aid Night
  – Thursday, September 26
    • 6:00PM, Room C2

• FAFSA Completion Workshop
  – Thursday, October 24
    • 5:00PM-7:00PM, LMC
  – Thursday, November 7
    • 5:00PM-7:00PM, LMC
Questions???

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