

College and Career Night

PLANNING YOUR FUTURE



**WEST ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT
January 28, 2020**



Tonight's Agenda



- What's Going on in School Counseling?
- Understanding PSAT Scores
- Post-Secondary Options
- The College Application Process
- Financial Aid & Scholarships



Here is a look at our scheduled student meetings throughout the school year



Seniors Meetings (Mid-September until early October) Counselors meet with their students in small groups

COLLEGE APPLICATION LINKS - Class of 2020

[Transcript Request Form](#)

[Parental Consent Form for Record Release](#)

[Senior Checklist](#)

[Class Rank - Decile Information](#)

Click [here](#) for senior checklist packet

Class of 2023





Freshmen Meetings: (Mid-October-early November) Counselors meet with their students in small groups

Freshmen Year Survival Guide

[Course Selection Sheet](#)
[GPA Estimator](#)
[Sample High School Transcripts](#)
[WOHS College Average Acceptance Info](#)
[Student Bulletin Board](#)
[Clubs & Activities Schedule](#)
[Freshman Year Reference Guide](#)

Important To-Dos and Tasks

 TASK [Activities Resume](#)
Assigned by Cheryl Butler

 TASK [Freshman Survey](#)
Assigned by Cheryl Butler

Click [here](#) to view the freshmen reference sheet that was provided to all students in their 9th grade meetings.

Class of 2022



Sophomore Meetings: (Mid-November-early December)
Counselors meet with their students in small groups

Sophomore Year Survival Guide

Useful Links:

[GPA Calculator & WOHS College Acceptance Info](#)
[PSAT Scores](#)
[Student Bulletin Board & Clubs/Organizations](#)
[Course Selection Sheet & Course Descriptions](#)
[NJSLA Requirements](#)

- Students receive a copy of current grades & transcript
- Login to Naviance - Review links
- Create Collegeboard account to access PSAT results
- Use Khan Academy for additional PSAT/SAT practice

Class of 2021



Pre Junior Conference Meetings: (Month of December) **Counselors visit Junior English Classes**

- Provide transcript and current grades
- PSAT scores - link to Khan Academy
- SAT/ACT test taking timeline
- Fee waivers

- Course requests for next year - Recommendations for AP/Honors

- Start researching/visiting colleges
 - a. Junior conference invites in the mail
 - b. Update your Activities Resume
 - c. Start thinking about teacher recommendations

Click [here](#) for Pre-Junior Conference Guide

Upcoming Events



- Scheduling: (January to mid-February) *Counselors meet in small groups with each grade level for course selections. Current grades and progress towards graduation are discussed.*
- Junior Conferences: (Mid-February-March) *Individualized meeting with the student, parent/guardian, and School Counselor to discuss post-secondary planning.*
- NJSLA Test Administration (April-May)
- AP Test Administration (May 4-15)
- Visit to Middle Schools
- Finalize next year schedules and wrap up the school year!

Post-Secondary Planning



Options Include:

- Four Year College
- Two Year College: Cost effective-Transfers to State Universities-NJ Stars
- Technical School: Career specific, hands-on training
- Click [here](#) for more info
- Military
- Click [here](#) for more info
- Employment



Choose A College That is Right For YOU!





College Search



- Research and make a prospective college list on Naviance-Have a family discussion
 - Attend Junior Conference
 - Click [here](#) for Junior Conference Packet
 - Visit Colleges
 - Students are allowed **5** non-chargeable absences in Junior year AND **5** days during senior year for college visits.
 - Attend College Fairs-WOHS hosts 2 each year
 - Attend WOHS Information Sessions
- ★ **WOHS Spring College Fair- April 21st at 6:30 PM**

WOHS Information Sessions



- College Reps visit WOHS throughout the school year during the school day- over **50** reps have visited so far year this year.
- Students have a chance in their own school to meet face-to-face and ask specific questions.
- Students can let the college know they are seriously interested.
- Provides students with a specific contact at the college to whom they can reach out to at a later date.
- ****Instant Decision Days are held at WOHS for select colleges, and vary from year to year.****

Students must pre- register for college visits on Naviance!

OCTOBER Tue 16 01:30PM	Randolph College 📍 Career Center 0/45 seats are taken.	REGISTER BY Tuesday, Oct 16 2018, 07:30AM	Register Now View Details
OCTOBER Wed 17 08:30AM	Syracuse University 📍 Career Center 1/45 seats are taken.	REGISTER BY Wednesday, Oct 17 2018, 02:30AM	Register Now View Details

Other Factors to Consider in the College Search

Student Support Services



If your child receives accommodations through an IEP or 504 Plan, they may be eligible to continue to receive accommodations in college.

- All colleges/universities are required to have an Office of Disability Services. Services offered vary from school to school.
- When visiting schools, include a stop at the Office of Disability Services to get more information about the support available.
- It is up to the student to disclose their IEP or 504 plan and request accommodations.
- Your child's Case Manager/School Counselor can provide more information about this process.
- Level of service varies from college to college. More comprehensive programs typically have an additional fee.

Other Factors to Consider in the College Search



NCAA & Prospective Student-Athletes

- Student athletes intending to play NCAA Division I or II sports must register and clear through the NCAA Eligibility Center. More information available at:
 - [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)
- Students must complete 16 core courses in order to meet NCAA requirements. A list of WOHS approved courses can be viewed online at:
 - [NCAA High School Portal](#)
- Consult with your coach & send letter of interest and athletic profile to college coaches

About The College Process



- Keep the process in perspective
- Work together as a family
- Students must take ownership
- Discuss finances openly
- Start early and meet all deadlines
- Meet often with your counselor

What Do Colleges Look For?



- Transcript (most important document)
 - GPA, Courses & Grades
- Standardized Test Scores: SAT/ACT, Subject Tests
- College Essay(s)
- Resume (Extracurricular Activities)
- Letters of Recommendation
- Supplemental Portfolios (ex: artwork portfolio, music/theater audition)



GPA & Transcript



Transcript

- Students are provided with a copy of their transcript by their counselor each year
- Includes final grades, credits, and GPA from grades 9, 10, and 11
- Colleges look for a rigorous course load-All **4** years
- Sent to all colleges/universities that students are applying to



Grade Point Average (GPA)

- Average of all courses from grades 9, 10, and 11
- GPA is weighted on a 4.0 scale (click [here](#) for GPA scale)
- Courses are weighted based on course level (ex: AP, Honors, etc.)
- GPA determines your class decile:

WOHS does not provide an exact ranking of students. We provide a percentage of where students are within the class (Decile Ranking). In September, this information will become available to seniors



College Admissions - Testing

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SAT



- Students register to take the SAT and/or ACT online-Juniors should take this spring!
- Students approved for free/reduced lunch are eligible for SAT/ACT fee waivers. Please see your school counselor before registering to take the exam(s).
- WOHS SAT & ACT Bootcamp
- SAT Subject Tests are required for some colleges, usually highly competitive schools (check with each school) – Each subject test is one hour – Can take up to three exams in a sitting
- Students are responsible for sending official scores from the testing agency to each college

Test Optional Colleges/Universities

More than 1000 four-year colleges and universities do not use the SAT or ACT to admit substantial numbers of Bachelors-degree applicants. For a list of colleges/universities click [here](#)

SAT vs. ACT



SAT

ACT

3 hours + 50 minute essay (optional)

2 hours, 55 minutes + 40 minute essay (optional)

3 tests + optional essay
Reading, Writing/Language and Math

4 tests + optional essay
Reading, English, Math and Science

Composite score: 400-1600
Essay score reported in 3 dimensions (reading, analysis, and writing- on a 2-8 scale)

Composite score: 1-36 and Writing Score: 1-36
STEM Score: 1-36 (*math and science*)
ELA Score: 1-36 (*reading, english, writing*)

- Includes formula sheet for math section
- Includes no calculator section for math
- Questions increase in difficulty as you progress (reading, writing, and math)

- No formulas provided
- May use a calculator for all math
- Question ordering is random

Number of questions: 154

Number of questions: 215

SAT Test Dates

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Register at www.collegeboard.org

SAT®

Spring 2019 Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadlines	Late Registration (fee required)
*March 14, 2020	February 14, 2020	March 3, 2020
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	April 21, 2020
*June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 27, 2020

* Offered at WOHS

ACT Test Dates

Register at www.act.org



Spring 2020 Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadlines	Late Registration (fee required)
*February 8, 2020	January 10, 2020	January 17, 2020
April 4, 2020	February 28, 2020	March 13, 2020
*June 13, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 22, 2020
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	June 26, 2020

*Offered at WOHS

SAT & ACT Testing Accommodations



- Students who have approved accommodations at WOHS (IEP or 504) *may* be eligible for accommodations on the SAT and/or ACT
- SAT accommodation requests must be submitted **prior** to test registration
- ACT accommodation requests are submitted **after** test registration
- ★ For more information, please contact your child's Case Manager or School Counselor

WOHS SAT & ACT Bootcamp



SAT Class Dates

SAT Test Date

**APRIL 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 30
MAY 1**

MAY 2, 2020

ACT Class Dates

ACT Test Date

JUNE 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, and 12

JUNE 13, 2020

- **Students sign up in the Conforti Office.**
- **The registration form and \$60 application fee must be submitted (form [here](#)) when they sign up!**

The College Application Process



By September of senior year students should have a list of schools finalized.

It is recommend that students apply to a range of 6 to 10 schools


- Safety:** Your scores and grades are above what this school typically accepts
- Target:** Your GPA and SAT scores are in line with what this school typically accepts. *Majority of the schools you are applying to should fall within this category
- Reasonable Reach:** Your GPA and SAT scores are slightly below what this school typically accepts

Student and Counselor Responsibilities



Student Responsibilities

Counselor Responsibilities

Monitor deadlines	Submit transcript(s) upon student request
Write essays	Secondary School Report
Submit applications and transcript request form(s) on time	Counselor letter of Recommendation
Send test scores (if required)	Submit teacher letters of Recommendation
Follow through with teacher recommendations	WOHS School Profile
Complete FAFSA/financial aid documents	*Counselors will send above materials electronically to most colleges
Apply for scholarships	
Make sure social media accounts are appropriate	

Application Options: Choices to Consider



- Early Decision- 1 school (binding) 11/1, 11/15,12/1 deadlines
- Early Action- (non-binding) 11/1, 11/15,12/1 deadlines
- Regular Admission
- Rolling Admission
- Priority



★ **2020 -21 applications typically become available**
August 1st

Most commonly used applications:

- Common Application
- Coalition Application



Productive Summer = Less Stressful Fall



The Common Application



www.commonapp.org

- Approximately 800 schools are members of the common app
- Save time from having to complete each college's individual application
- There is no disadvantage to using Common App rather than the college's own application
- Class of 2021- Application becomes available around August 1st.

If a school offers the option of using the Common Application, you are **HIGHLY** encouraged to use it!



The Coalition Application



<http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org>

- Launched in 2016 the Coalition has approximately 150 schools that are members.

“The **Coalition** for College is a diverse group of more than 140 distinguished colleges and universities across the U.S. that is committed to making college a reality for all high school students through its set of free, online college planning tools that helps them learn about, prepare for, and **apply** to college.”

Click [here](#) for schools that accept the Coalition App

Components of the Application



- Essay/Personal Statement
- Resume
- Letters of Recommendation
- Financial Aid
- SRAR, if applicable
- Portfolio (i.e. Art), if applicable

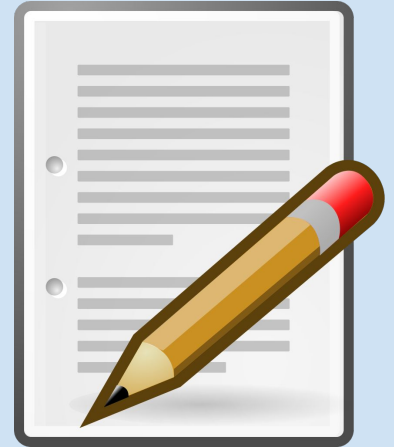


Essay/Personal Statement



Your essay reveals something important about you that your grades and test scores can't—your personality. It can give admission officers a sense of who you are, as well as showcasing your writing skills.

- Start early and write several drafts (Summer)
- Answer the question being asked
- Have at least one other person edit your essay



Mountaineer Writing Center: Staffed by English teachers during lunch to help students improve their writing. Schedule an appointment through your English teacher.

Activities Resume



- Use a Resume to Market Yourself... A resume is one page compilation of your activities while in high school.
- Resume should be completed on NAVIANCE by the end of junior year
- Consistent Involvement is Key
- Sports, Clubs, Activities, Employment and Community Service
- Summer Programs & Internships
- Include any Honors and Awards

Important To-Dos and Tasks

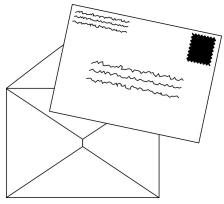


TASK

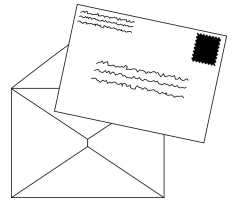
Activities Resume

Assigned by Cheryl Butler





Letters of Recommendation



By the end of your Junior Year:

- Ask 2 teachers in person to write a letter on your behalf
- Complete “Survey for Letters of Recommendation” under the ‘Important To-Dos and Tasks’ section in Naviance

Senior year:

A screenshot of a Naviance interface showing two tasks. The first task is highlighted with a black arrow pointing to it from the right. The tasks are:

📋 TASK	Complete Survey for Letters of Recommendation Assigned by Cheryl Butler
📋 TASK	Request Teachers Letters of Recommendation Assigned by Cheryl Butler

Senior meetings: September

- Follow up with your 2 teachers and put the formal request into Naviance
- Seniors will receive a recommendation from their school counselor in addition to their 2 teacher letters



Financial Aid



FAFSA
[Fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)

Federal Student Aid including grants, work-study and student loans.

Pell Grant: Max. amount \$6,195

The 2021–2022 FAFSA becomes available Oct. 1st and will ask for 2020 tax information

Many colleges require the FAFSA for merit scholarships

HESAA
www.hesaa.org

NJ Student Tuition Aid

NJ Resident attending an in-state school

TAG (Tuition Aid Grant)
Annual Award (\$1220-\$12,938)

Application must be submitted *after* the FAFSA has been processed

- ★ [NJ Stars](#)
- ★ [Community College Opportunity Grant](#)
- ★ [EOF Program](#)
- ★ [NJ Dreamers](#)



Financial Aid



CSS Profile

cssprofile.collegeboard.org

The College Board's **CSS Profile**[™] is an online application that collects information used by almost 400 colleges, universities, professional schools, and scholarship programs to award financial aid from sources outside of the federal government

Scholarships & Other Information

WOHS offers 2 Financial Aid Workshops in the fall

Scholarships

Apply during senior year

Check Naviance & Guidance Newsletter

WOHS Scholarship Fund becomes available in February of senior year!



Questions

