

SOPHOMORE PARENT NIGHT

PLANNING FOR JUNIOR YEAR

March 31, 2015

JUNIOR YEAR ACTIVITIES

- First steps
- Summer experiences and opportunities
- Get Involved in FLHS and the community
- PSAT/NMSQT—NEW**
- College Planning Night
- FOCUS
- NAVIANCE
- Junior Appointments
- College Visits
- Other standardized tests
- General timelines

FIRST STEPS

- RELAX
- MANY OPPORTUNITIES
- GOOD FIT FOR ALL STUDENTS
- NOT ONE OPTION
- RESPONSIBILITY IS FOR THE STUDENTS
- COMMUNICATION IS KEY

What Is The Right College?

- Someone else's choice?
- The college with the best basketball team?
- US News & World Report's #1?
- The college I can afford?

REMEMBER:

- The answer will be different for each student.

Making the Match

- It's not about finding the best college...
 - It's about finding the right college
 - The right college is where students can be happy and successful
- There are more than 3,000 schools in U.S.
- Average of 7-9 applications per student.

Think Outside the Box

New
Locations

Different
Opportunities

Colleges I Have
Heard Of

WHERE DO I FIT?

SUMMER EXPERIENCES & OPPORTUNITIES











- DEVELOP YOUR INTERESTS
 - JOBS
 - VOLUNTEER WORK/COMMUNITY SERVICE
 - SPORTS
 - SUMMER PROGRAMS
 - COURSES, CLASSES, CAMPS
 - TRAVEL
 - CAMPUS VISITS
 - » Contact info--emails

PSAT/NMSQT

- BASELINE INFORMATION
- MATH/EVIDENCE-BASED READING & WRITING
- SIGN UP IN SEPTEMBER
- TEST AT FLHS Wednesday OCTOBER 14, 2015*
 - RESULTS IN MID-DECEMBER
 - SPECIFIC ANSWERS
 - LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY
 - STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR SAT'S
 - COLLEGE BOARD RESOURCES

PSAT Structure: 2014 versus 2015

| | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Scoring | 20-80 each component | 1600 total |
| Total time | 2 hours 10 minutes | 2 hours 45 minutes |
| Total questions | 125 questions | 139 questions |
| Reading | 48 questions, 50 min | 47 questions, 60 min |
| Writing | 39 questions, 30 min | 44 questions, 35 min |
| Mathematics | 38 questions, 50 min | 47 questions, 70 min |
| Guessing | Penalized | Neutral |
| Pace* | 62 seconds/question | 71 seconds/question |

-  **A perfect score will be 1600, not 2400.**
How exactly this will happen (the allocation of points per section) has not yet been announced.
-  **The essay will be optional.**
Students will now have to write an analysis of a paragraph (no more canned examples).
-  **No obscure vocabulary words.**
Vocabulary-based exercises will test words students can expect to see in college courses.
-  **No more guessing penalty**
Currently, students lose $\frac{1}{4}$ of a point for every wrong answer. On the new test, there will be no penalty for wrong answers.
-  **Fewer random reading passages**
Passages will be more focused on historical and scientific topics.
-  **More advanced math**
There will be a new section called "Passport to Advanced Math" with pre-calculus & trigonometry.
-  **No calculator allowed on parts of the math section.**
For 25 out of 80 minutes, students will have to rely on mental math.
-  **Paragraphs containing grammatical errors**
No more hunting for mistakes in short sentences.
-  **More charts and graphs**
Students will have to integrate multiple sources of information.
-  **Computer-optional, at select locations**
Currently, the test is only available on paper.

COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT

FALL/WINTER 2015-16

- SEVERAL SPEAKERS FROM COLLEGES
 - OVERVIEW OF ADMISSIONS PROCESS
 - DIFFERENCES AMONG COLLEGES
 - WHAT'S IMPORTANT
 - HOW TO PRESENT APPLICATIONS
 - TIMELINES
 - HOW ARE ADMISSIONS DECISIONS MADE
 - FOCUS ON GRADES & ACTIVITIES

College Career Center

- Resources for Post High School Planning
 - College Listings
 - Alumni Ambassadors
 - Choosing a Major
 - Scholarship/Financial Aid
 - Test Prep Programs & Practice Materials
 - PSAT, SAT, ACT Registration Information
 - Summer Programs
 - Gap Year Options
 - Military Programs
 - Career Information
 - Job Searches

College Career Center

- Coordinate College Visits
 - Start in mid-September
 - Listed on Naviance
 - Register on-line to visit with a representative
 - Explore many other options
 - Part Time Job Bank
 - Register for job opportunities

Alice Gorman--coordinator

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

- Art School Fair—tentatively scheduled for Fall
- Area College Fairs
 - Dozens of Colleges visiting in the State
 - Late March or Early April, 2016 4:00—8:00 p.m.
 - Webster Bank Arena
- Gap Year Fair—Winter
- Military Day—Spring
- Career Schools & Colleges Fair---Spring
- All information posted on FLHS website and in Infinite Campus

NAVIANCE

- WEB-BASED SERVICE
- REGISTRATION IN FALL SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSES
- SIGNING UP FOR COLLEGE REP VISITS
- RESEARCHING COLLEGES
- CHECKING FLHS HISTORY & DATA
- SCHOLARSHIPS
- HOME—SCHOOL COMMUNICATION
 - UPDATE EMAIL AND PROFILE DATA
 - [HTTP://CONNECTION.NAVIANCE.COM/LUDLOWE](http://connection.naviance.com/ludlowe)

JUNIOR APPOINTMENTS

- STUDENT AND BOTH PARENTS ATTEND
- SET IN SECOND SEMESTER—between Feb and April breaks
- *FLHS Post High School Planning Guide*
- OVERVIEW OF COLLEGES
 - STARTING TO SORT
 - SIZE, LOCATION, MAJORS, ACTIVITIES & SPORTS
 - DEVELOPING A “LIST”
 - TESTING TIMELINES
 - COMMUNICATION
 - RESPONSIBILITIES

COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS

- ANY TIME YOU TRAVEL—STOP IN
- PLAN AHEAD AND DECIDE WHAT TO SEE AND WHAT TO ASK
- VISIT WHILE IN SESSION IF POSSIBLE
- TAKE A TOUR
- STAY OVER IF POSSIBLE
- REGISTER WITH ADMISSIONS OFFICE FOR VISITS/OPEN HOUSES—ask for Acceptance information
- TALK WITH STUDENT/PROFESSORS
- GET A “FEEL” FOR CAMPUS
 - PICTURE YOURSELF HERE
 - SORT WHAT IS IMPORTANT AND WHAT IS NOT—FOR YOU
 - DON’T GO BY PR OR “THE NAME”

STANDARDIZED TESTS

- SAT AND SUBJECT TESTS
 - MARCH (SAT only), MAY, JUNE
- ACT
 - ANOTHER NATIONAL EXAM
 - CURRICULUM BASED
 - DIFFERENT SCORE RANGE
 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS—MAY
 - SCORES FOR CREDIT OR PLACEMENT

TIMELINES

- SEPTEMBER
 - PSAT REGISTRATION for FLHS—on-line
 - COLLEGE REP VISITS
 - VISIT COLLEGE CAREER CENTER
 - REGISTER ON NAVIANCE—EXPLORE OPTIONS
- OCTOBER
 - PSAT ON Wednesday October 14, 2015*
 - CONTINUE COLLEGE REP VISITS
 - ALUMNI DAY
 - CONTINUE COLLEGE REP VISITS
- NOVEMBER
 - CONTINUE NAVIANCE EXPLORATION
 - CONTINUE COLLEGE REP VISITS
 - ATTEND FINANCIAL AID NIGHT—OPTIONAL FOR JUNIORS
 - REVIEW PSAT RESULTS

TIMELINE

- JANUARY
 - ATTEND COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT
 - CONTINUE REVIEW OF PSAT RESULTS—PLAN FOR SAT'S—PTA ALPHA PREP SAT PREP CLASSES?
 - VISIT COLLEGES
- FEBRUARY
 - COURSE REGISTRATION
 - AP EXAM REGISTRATION
 - INDIVIDUAL JUNIOR PLANNING MEETINGS
 - VISIT COLLEGES
- MARCH
 - INDIVIDUAL JUNIOR PLANNING MEETINGS
 - SAT/ACT EXAMS
 - VISIT COLLEGES

TIMELINE

- APRIL
 - INDIVIDUAL JUNIOR APPOINTMENTS
 - ATTEND AREA COLLEGE FAIRS
 - SAT/ACT TESTS
 - VISIT COLLEGES
- MAY
 - SAT/ACT TESTS
 - AP EXAMS
 - VISIT COLLEGES
 - PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS—TEACHERS, OTHERS
- JUNE
 - SAT/ACT TESTS
 - VISIT COLLEGES
 - PLAN SUMMER VISITS/ACTIVITIES
 - PLAN DEVELOPMENT OF COLLEGES TO VISIT—CONSIDER EARLY APPLICATIONS
 - FINAL EXAMS

COMMUNICATION

- STAY IN TOUCH WITH COUNSELOR
 - First initiallastname@fairfieldschools.org
 - Resposito@fairfieldschools.org

- UPDATE INFINITE CAMPUS INFO
 - EMAIL, TEXTS

- READ READ READ TALK TALK TALK