

Class of 2019

Countdown To Graduation



Purpose of Meeting

Discussion will include:

- Exploring Colleges/Careers
- College Application Process
- Basics of Finding Financial Aid

EXPLORING COLLEGES

❖ UPCOMING COLLEGE FAIRS:

- ❖ September 13, 2018 (Thur): Central Midwest College Fair at Purdue Northwest: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm with a financial aid session at 5:30 p.m. (<https://admissions.pnw.edu/undergraduate/college-fair/>)
- ❖ September 29, 2018 (Saturday): National College Fair at McCormick Place: 11:00 am-3:00 pm

❖ College Visits:

- ❖ On-campus visits
- ❖ Colleges come to MHS
- ❖ Check MHS announcements
- ❖ www.collegeatlas.org
- ❖ www.icindiana.org (Independent Colleges of Indiana)
- ❖ Bigfuture.org

Indiana Career Information System

- ❑ Web Site: <http://incis.intocareers.org>
- ❑ Offers career exploration and college-planning tools
- ❑ Direct links to colleges and their online applications
- ❑ Username: MunsterHighSchool
- ❑ Password: MunsterHighSchool01

Senior Year Timeline

Fall Semester

- Develop a plan/family discussion
- Attend college fairs & make college visits
- Apply to colleges/universities-by November 1st for scholarship consideration
- Seek out scholarship information
- College athletic eligibility/NCAA
- Take or re-take the SAT/ACT

Senior Timeline

Spring Semester

- FAFSA to be completed between October 1, 2018 and April 15, 2019.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.
- Financial packages received from colleges in April.
- Narrow choices and prepare to make final college/university decision by May 1st.
- Mid-year and final transcripts.

Application types and transcripts

- Done almost exclusively online
- “In-house” app, Common App, Coalition App
- Use “Parchment” to send transcripts...all students have a Parchment account (www.parchment.com)
- Some colleges request transcripts through SENDedu...student will know that when they apply.



MHS Application Process

- It is highly recommended that college applications be completed/submitted by October 31, 2018 (or before). Many have a November 1st scholarship consideration deadline.
- **TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM:** must be on file before any information will be sent (in senior information packet).
- Complete college application online and include additional information that may be required by the college.
- Submit standardized test scores—SAT and/or ACT—directly from testing agency.
- Letters of recommendation-not always needed.
- Student **MUST** request high school transcript through Parchment. If using the Common Application, transcript will be uploaded by counselor within the Common App.
- Counselor is sometimes required to complete eSSR (electronic secondary school report) through Parchment or School Report through Common App and submit to requested college. Counselor will submit letter of recommendation if required, as well.

A College Application is considered completed when...

- The online application is submitted by appropriate deadline.
- The application fee has been paid.
- The SAT and/or ACT scores have been received directly from the testing agency (new policy for many colleges).
- The request to send transcript has been made through Parchment account.
- Letters of recommendation or supplemental information is submitted **ONLY AS NEEDED**.

Analyzing the Applicants



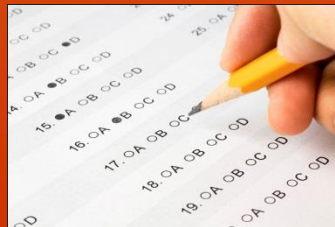
- ✓ Classes taken
- ✓ Transcript/GPA
- ✓ Strong senior schedule (no changing)
- ✓ Solid extra curricular activities
- ✓ SAT/ACT scores
- ✓ Essays
- ✓ Recommendations
- ✓ Student's interests and perceived fit for college
- ✓ Acceptance is PROVISIONARY upon the review and approval of the final transcript

Retake the SAT or ACT??

- Admission purposes: Colleges will mix and match your best scores:

<u>ERW</u>	<u>M</u>
540	560
580	550

- Scholarship purposes:
Some colleges give scholarships based on standardized test scores (and GPA).



Application Options

- Rolling Admissions—once all info is in, college will render a decision usually within 2-6 weeks.
- Early Action—If you apply “early” (usually October/November), you will get an admission decision in December or January, otherwise decision usually in April.
- Regular Decision—Submit application by specific date and receive decision no later than April 15th.
- Early Decision—Binding/Like a contract (typically more selective schools)
- **Specific dates vary from college to college.

Application Decisions...

- Admitted...admitted to the college...good news!
- Deferred/Wait Listed...may need to send 7th semester grades or additional SAT/ACT scores...on the bubble
- Denied...did not meet the criteria for the college, for that particular school year...probably not a good fit for you or the college



How to Search for Financial Aid

- ❖ Internet Websites
- ❖ Students: “Guidance Update”-school email
- ❖ MHS Scholarship Listings on MHS Website: “Guidance Information Update” link
- ❖ See Mrs. White in Guidance
- ❖ Post Secondary School Scholarships—November 1st deadline for many!!



FAFSA



- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Window to apply from October 1, 2018-April 15, 2019
- MHS hosting a financial aid evening on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. (in LGI)
- College Goal Sunday...October 28, 2018 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Purdue University Northwest

***Completing the FAFSA correctly and on time is sometimes seen as being complicated and time consuming. At College Goal Sunday, financial aid experts will be ready with FREE help, so you and your family can file the FAFSA financial aid form ONLINE in one afternoon.

Helpful websites

- NCAA Eligibility Center: <http://www.ncaa.org>
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.act.org
- www.commonapp.org
- www.fastweb.com (scholarship search engine)
- www.transferin.net (where do dual college credits transfer)
- www.indianacollegecosts.org (college cost estimator)

Thanks for coming!



7 minutes to get to 1st hour!!