

# Postsecondary Planning

Parkland High School

Fall Workshop

# What is the best plan for you?

## Self-assessment

- On-line Career Experience and Exploration course
- [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) (username is Parkland, password is Trojans) – Interest Surveys
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) will be administered every September and April.

# Which School Is The Right Fit For You?

## College Characteristics

- Major/ Career Goal
- Academic Admission Requirements
- Geographical Location
- Size
- Financial Fit
- Extra-curricular Activities
- Accreditation

# Do The Research!

## (Websites you should know)

- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.sat.org/register](http://www.sat.org/register)
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)
- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
- [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- [www.collegedata.com](http://www.collegedata.com)
- [www.coalitionapp.org](http://www.coalitionapp.org)

# College Admissions Testing

- SAT or ACT or both
- Parkland HS is a SAT Test Center in November, March, May, and June. January test date was eliminated and August test date added this past school year.
- College Board recommends SAT or ACT testing begin in the **spring** of the junior year. Students considering selective schools may begin earlier to accommodate SAT Reasoning and Subject Tests.
- SAT Prep Course offered at Parkland HS Fall and Spring.
- Score Choice
- SAT and ACT Fee Waivers available to families who qualify for free and reduced lunch based on national guidelines.

# SAT Subject Tests

- Check college/university website for updated information.
- Two subject tests may be required for admission to private selective schools.
- Subject Tests are offered at Parkland HS in November, May, and June.

# PSAT

- Offered one time per school year, date determined by College Board.
- Saturday, October 13, 2018
- 4 subtests (1 Reading, 1 Writing and Language, 1 Math with No Calculator, 1 Math with Calculator)
- Open to 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Juniors can qualify for National Merit Scholarships

# Changes to the Redesigned SAT

- Impacts the Class of 2018 and beyond. Students took the Redesigned SAT beginning March 2016.
- New Score Scale of 1600 with optional essay scored separately. Rights-only scoring, no penalty for wrong answers.
- 180 minutes with optional 50 minute essay
- Free test prep available through College Board/ Khan Academy.
- Application fee waivers to four colleges for all income-eligible students.



# Changes to the Redesigned SAT

- New reading section will be a full 65 minutes and includes four longer passages and one set of paired passages.
- The 80 minutes spent on Math will be broken into two sections: 55 minutes with a calculator and 25 minutes without one.

# Parchment Exchange

- Parkland HS partners with Parchment Exchange to provide a secure online transcript ordering service.
- Students should create a Parchment account in their junior year.
- Parchment is a free service for current students, alumni are charged a \$5 fee for each transcript ordered.

# Common Application

- [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
- Accepted by over 800 colleges and universities.
- The high school counselor is invited into the application when the student enters the counselor's email address in the My Colleges section on the FERPA page. The student must remember to invite the counselor into their application for the secondary school report link to activate.

# Common Application

- Counselors can submit a transcript and letter of recommendation online through the common app.
- Convenient and efficient method to process numerous college applications.
- Students can now roll over common application accounts starting in the junior year. Some questions may change over the summer when the new version is released, please carefully review the document. Students can view the current application August 1<sup>st</sup> of every year.

# Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success

- More than 100 colleges across the country using the Coalition Application.
- Commitment to college accessibility – early engagement tool, begins in ninth grade.
- Uses Self – Reported Academic Records (SRAR).
- Financial Aid important component to application – provides pathway to apply to all coalition schools without having to navigate payment screens if fee waivers are in place.

# Additional College Application Systems

- Penn State University Application – moved to Self Reported Academic Records (SRAR) for 2017-18. Following University of Pittsburgh initiative, trend is gaining momentum nationwide.
- PASSHE – Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
- SendEdu

# College Application Procedures

- Transcript Release Form must be signed and submitted to Counseling Office prior to processing first college application. Students can choose to remove their SAT, ACT and AP scores from the transcript with parent permission. However, transparency is encouraged by all postsecondary institutions.
- Ten working days are required to process all college and scholarship applications.
- Resume or recommendation profile form is required if a letter of recommendation is requested.

# College Application Procedures

- Requesting a teacher letter of recommendation is the responsibility of the student.
- If using the common application, remember to invite your teacher recommenders into the application.
- Mid-year grade reports are requested by many colleges. A 7<sup>th</sup> semester cumulative GPA will be recalculated in the senior year.
- All final transcript requests should be made through Parchment.



# College Decisions

- **Rolling Admission** – applications reviewed on a continual basis, decisions released throughout the academic year.
- **Early Action** – November 1<sup>st</sup> is the most common deadline date. Non-binding agreement. Admission decisions released mid-December.
- **Early Decision** – November 1<sup>st</sup> typical deadline. Binding Agreement. Admission decision released mid-December.

# NCAA Clearinghouse Eligibility Center

- Students planning to participate in Division 1 or II athletics at any college or university must submit their academic transcript to the eligibility center at the end of their junior year. Students transcripts should be sent to the NCAA Clearinghouse through Parchment.
- Requirements are changing for students who enroll full-time at a Division II school after August 1, 2018.
- [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

# Financial Aid

- DeSales University presented a financial aid program September 2018.
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) becomes available October 1<sup>st</sup> of the senior year. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). FAFSA now requires “prior-prior” year financial information. Class of 2019 will use 2017 tax information.
- CSS Profile Form is required by some private colleges and universities to access institutional aid. Forms become available October 2018. <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com>

# Scholarships

- Scholarship information is available on the Parkland High School website under the student link.
- Free scholarship search services available – [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).
- Local scholarship opportunities can be found at places of employment, unions, religious organizations, and other community groups.

# Military

- Recruiters from all of the United States military branches visit Parkland High School each school year. Information on job training programs, educational incentives, ROTC, and the elite military academies is presented to interested students.

# College Interview

## ( Most Commonly Asked Questions)

- Tell Me About Yourself.
- Why Are You Interested in Our College?
- What Can I Tell You About Our College?
- Who In Your Life Has Most Influenced You?
- Why Do You Want To Major In \_\_\_\_\_?
- What Will You Contribute To Our Campus Community?
- Tell Me About A Challenge That You Overcame.

# College Interview (cont.)

- What Do You Do For Fun In Your Free Time?
- What Do You See Yourself Doing 10 Years From Now?
- Does Your High School Record Accurately Reflect Your Effort and Ability?
- Recommend A Good Book To Me.
- If You Could Do One Thing In High School Differently, What Would It Be?

# Common Employability Skills

## Personal and People Skills

- Integrity
- Initiative
- Dependability & Reliability
- Adaptability
- Professionalism
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Respect



# Career Exploration

- 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade Career Presentation Month
- 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Job Fair – March 2019
- STEMM Camps
- [www.parklandsd.org/web/career](http://www.parklandsd.org/web/career)

# Additional Items

- College and Career Resource Room – Postsecondary admission representatives visit Parkland HS throughout the school year. Schedule is posted on the Parkland HS website.

# Questions

Thank you for attending our presentation this evening.