



# The Road Ahead

*2022 College Kick-off*

*1/18/22*

# Program Run-Down

- Introductions and Mission
- Sharing Context and Data
- Available Resources
- Post Secondary Planning Preview
- Next Steps - Timeline
- Defining Roles and Responsibilities
- Words of Wisdom from Our Experts

# The Road Ahead...



# Post Secondary Counseling Team



**Ms. Joan Murphy**



# Post Secondary Counseling Team



National Association for  
College Admission Counseling

**Mr Tony Minestra**



# Our College Counseling Mission

We want to empower your Son or Daughter to:

Identify their post secondary priorities

Align their college search w/ their values & vision

Understand the process from start to finish

Feel confident in *Finding Their College Fit*

“College is a match to be made,  
not a prize to be won.”

Martha O'Connell, Director Emerita  
*Colleges That Change Lives*



# Myths of the College Process

Researching colleges is hard and overwhelming.

There is only one “*dream*” college for everyone.

I’ve never heard of that college, so it can’t be any good.

I heard that a student got into (College X) with a lower GPA and SAT than mine. It’s not fair!

There is no way my family can afford college. I can only look at public schools in Illinois or Community Colleges.

I need to know my major before beginning my search.

# Some early Class of 2022 College Data

## DePaul Prep Seniors

**354** - different colleges applied to

**1,702** - total applications out (1/9/22)

**11** - avg apps per DCP Senior

\* 2021 - 1,250 applications, 298 schools, 10 apps/senior

# Some National Class of 2020 Data

4% drop in College Enrollment (overall)

16% drop in First Time Enrollment

31% increase in applications...

But only 8% increase in admits\*

\*results differ by selectivity

# Some National Class of 2020 Data

Highly Selective (<20% admit rate)

+ 38% Applications, - 27% Admit Rate

Mid Selective

+ 13% Applications, - 8% Admit Rate

Less Selective

+ 22% Applications, - 6% Admit Rate

# A look back - Some 2021 DCP Data

119 Seniors, 110 College-Bound Seniors, 68 *Different* Schools

105 to 4-year schools, 4 to City Colleges, 3 to Professional School

8 apps per Senior (avg), 72% admit rate

43 Seniors admitted to 100% of apps

Top Landing Spot = DePaul University (14 enrolled)

16/26 Admitted to U of I (12 = first choice major)

Admitted Seniors at 13 out of 14 Big Ten Universities

# Admission Returns at our Top Spots (2021)

DePaul U	53/63	<b>84%</b>	(vs. 68% Nationally)
Marquette	26/35	74%	(78%)
Loyola U	26/30	<b>87%</b>	(64%)
UIC	22/26	<b>85%</b>	(73%)
Mich St	21/24	<b>86%</b>	(67%)
Indiana	18/20	<b>90%</b>	(72%)
Iowa	18/20	<b>90%</b>	(83%)
Illinois	16/26	<b>62%</b>	(55%)
Wisconsin	13/18	<b>72%</b>	(53%)
Bradley	14/16	<b>88%</b>	(73%)
Saint Louis	16/16	<b>100%</b>	(56%)
Missouri	11/16	69%	(82%)
Miami (OH)	12/13	<b>92%</b>	(69%)



# 2021 National Application Trends

Common App = 11% App ^ Overall

6 apps/applicant (Up 9% from 2020)

South/Southwest saw biggest ^ growth

46% of applicants self-reported scores

6.5% Two-Year decline in enrollment

Privates/Selectives = Enrollment ^, Others down

Waitlists are bigger, linger longer

# Post Secondary Resources

- College Counselors (Joan and Tony!)
- Post Secondary Planning Curriculum/Advisory
- Spring College Conference
- March 9th College Fair
- Fall College Rep E-Visits (125+)
- Naviance (stay tuned)



# Junior Advisory Curriculum

Oct 20: Career Exploration

Jan 12: Naviance Re-Introduction

7 P's of the College Process - the “*Why*”

College Research Skills/Resources

# Junior Advisory Curriculum

March 9: College fair

April 13: Interview skills and Resume workshop

Summer to do list

Etiquette and strategies for professional communication

# Spring Post Secondary “To-Do List”

College Conference w/ your college counselor

Continue to research colleges\*

Plan/Attend our March 9th College Fair

Prepare for and take SAT/ACT

Begin building a balanced college list

Identify and request letters of rec

Line up meaningful/purposeful summer plans

# Find the Balance: *How vs. Why*

## How:

Applications  
Essays  
Letters or Rec  
Resumes  
Supplements  
Deadlines

## Why (7 Ps):

Person  
Place  
People  
Price  
Program  
Parents  
Prayer

# Factors to Consider...

- ★ Learning Style
- ★ Size of School
- ★ Location
- ★ Distance from home
- ★ Campus Setting
- ★ Activities/Athletics
- ★ Commute v Res Life
- ★ Selectivity
- ★ Honors Program
- ★ Facilities
- ★ Research Opportunities
- ★ Dual Degree Programs
- ★ Faculty/Class Size
- ★ Curriculum Flexibility
- ★ National v Regional
- ★ Student Body Personality
- ★ Support Services
- ★ Cost, Scholarships
- ★ Socio-Political Climate
- ★ Diversity
- ★ Campus Personality/Vibe
- ★ Faith Identity/Tradition

# What's a “Good” College List look like?

Appropriate Size (8-12 is the sweet spot)

Has at least 2-3 ‘likely’ schools (admit and \$)

No more than a third are ‘reach’ schools

Every school meets student's priorities (7 Ps)

Every school will make student happy

Accounts for family's financial situation

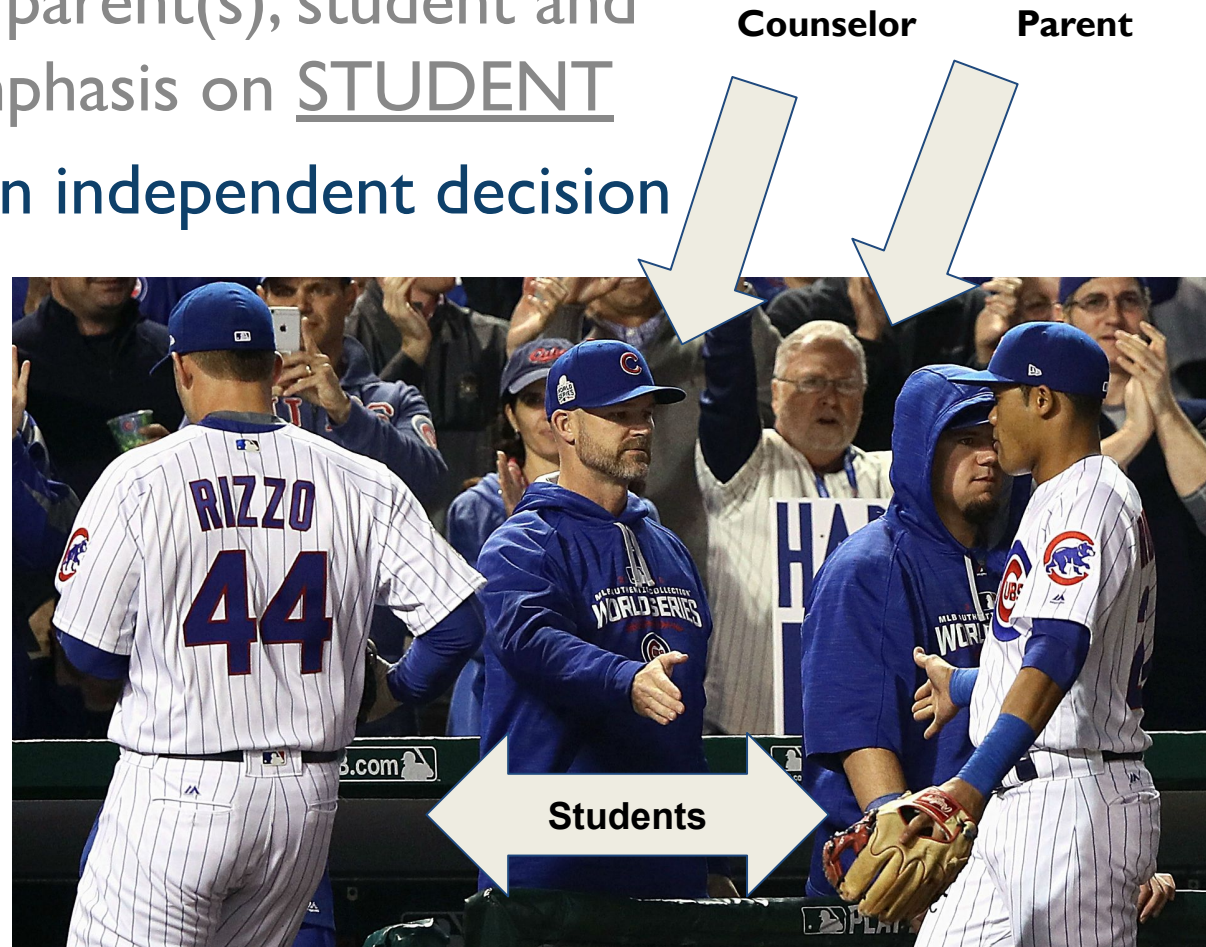
Represents a healthy collaboration between students, parents, and college counselor.

# Teamwork makes the DREAM work

Joint process among parent(s), student and counselor...main emphasis on STUDENT

Important to make an independent decision  
of peers, friends, &  
adult influences

Parents/Counselors  
serve as guides and  
mentors, not  
decision-makers



# Student Responsibilities

- Explore 7 Ps and Discern Priorities
- Organize and Manage Naviance Account
- Complete Applications
- Take & Send Official Test Scores (IF required)\*
- Transcript Requests (Naviance)
- Submit FAFSA/CSS Profile
- Letter of Rec Requests (Form and Naviance)
- Clear, Consistent Communication with PSC

# Testing Spring/Summer Dates

## ACT

Saturday April 2nd

Tuesday April 5th (DCP)

Saturday June 11th

Saturday July 16th

## SAT

Saturday, March 12th

Saturday, May 7th

Saturday, June 4th

# Test-Optional

- ★ 90%+ of 2021 and 2022 DCP Seniors applied T.O.
- ★ 21/22: 1,815+ schools did not require ACT/SAT scores
- ★ 1,400+ have already extended TEST-OPTIONAL or TEST-BLIND for current Juniors (22/23)
- ★ COVID accelerated the movement, but....

Pre-2020, 1,000+ colleges embraced T.O. (including 60 of the top 100 Liberal Arts Colleges in America)

# DePaul Prep Responsibilities

- Writing Letters of Rec (and Upload)
- Packaging LoRs and Submitting
- Sending Transcripts (Upon Request)
- School Profile
- Counselor Forms/Reports
- Provide PS Guidance and Perspective

# Parent's role in the Process

Let your student *Lead the Process*

Helps to organize materials and deadlines\*

Aids in planning college visits (if possible)

Real Talk - Discuss parameters/restrictions in the search

Listen and Be Supportive - it's an emotional time

Offer perspective and provide context

Keep a realistic, grounded approach

Respect YOUR child's process/privacy

Remember...it's *their* journey

# Naviance: Family Connection

Students and Parents each have a separate log-in to be involved in the college search and application process (“Do vs.View”)

Access the Naviance link from the college counseling page on the DCP website

\*Obtain access code from your student’s counselor if you have misplaced yours

# So...how are you feeling?



# College Admissions Panel

“Let’s Hear From the Experts!”



# Where should you begin?

- Create a list
- Develop questions personal to you
  - college fairs
- Use your resources
  - college counselor
  - admissions rep
  - virtual resources
  - campus tours

# Where should you begin?

[illegible]

# THE “NUTS AND BOLTS” OF THE APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS



# WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

## Nonrestrictive Application Plans

### Regular Decision

**DEFINITION:**

Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

**COMMITMENT:**

NONBINDING

### Rolling Admission

**DEFINITION:**

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

**COMMITMENT:**

NONBINDING

### Early Action (EA)

**DEFINITION:**

Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

**COMMITMENT:**

NONBINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

## Restrictive Application Plans

### Early Decision (ED)

**DEFINITION:**

Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

**COMMITMENT:**

BINDING

### Restrictive Early Action (REA)

**DEFINITION:**

Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

**COMMITMENT:**

NONBINDING

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

### Holistic Review

process to fully assess your candidacy for admission.



**CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE**  
Grades and Curriculum



**PERSONAL STATEMENT/ESSAY**  
Quality and Personalization



**LIFE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**  
Extra-Curricular Activities



**COUNSELOR AND TEACHER  
RECOMMENDATION LETTERS**

**TEST OPTIONAL**

\* Different Schools Have Different Approaches

# Your Authentic Voice: Can you even hear it??

Parents and Guardians

Teachers

Mentors

Friends

College Counselors

Parents friends

Friends parents

Neighbors

Grandparents... aunts... uncles... cousins...

Random strangers who see you wearing their alma mater's clothing

Anyone who's ever been to college. Applied to college. Seen a college.

**You.**

# Your Authentic Voice: TWO LISTS

Classes

What **you** love?

Activities

What makes **you** lose all track of time?

Awards

Who inspires **you**?

Scores

Where **you** go to escape stress?

Grades

What are **your** favorite memories?

What can't **you** live without?

Who makes up **your** family?

What motivates **you**?

Who are **YOU**?

# Your Authentic Voice: BE YOU!

If you are funny, please be funny.

If you are 17, please be 17.

If you are witty, please be witty.

If you aren't perfect, please don't be perfect.

If you are privileged, acknowledge that you are.

Be humble.

Be kind.

Be yourself.

# Thank you!

*Questions?*



# NAVIANCE, your new best friend



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mPV\\_fQq78o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mPV_fQq78o)