

THE MEADOWS SCHOOL

OFFICE OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Who We Are



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Read our bios and get to know us at
themeadowsschool.org/collegecounseling

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS UPDATE

As expected, the pandemic continued to impact the 2021-22 college admissions cycle. Many colleges extended their test-optional admissions policies, continued virtual recruitment throughout the summer and fall with online information sessions and tours, and received record-high application numbers once again. According to data from Common App, as of November 2021, total applications submitted increased by 22%.

Closer to home, the 41 seniors who comprise the Class of 2022 submitted 495 applications and have already received acceptances at 52 colleges and universities. A list of college acceptances is featured outside the College Counseling Office. Approximately 88% of seniors submitted early decision and/or early action applications, benefitting from acceptance rates that are generally two to three times greater in early than in regular. These students are continuing to hear back from colleges throughout the month of January. Students who applied under regular decision will hear back from colleges after the third week of March. We applaud and celebrate all of their hard work. Congratulations and keep it up!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

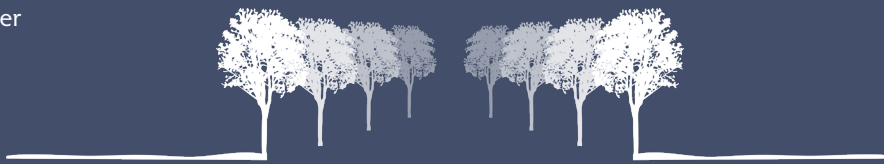
Wednesday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. - NCAA Presentation in the Wanda Lamb Peccole CFA

Looking to play sports in college? Join us as we host former students, athletics, and college counseling for a panel and NCAA presentation. Learn how to contact coaches, put together a resume and highlight reel, and hear personal stories from Meadows alumni about their college athletic experiences. Whether your student is in 6th or 10th grade, it's never too early to plan ahead!

SOPHOMORES & FRESHMEN

Here are a few things you can do now:

- Begin planning for summer. Summer programs often have winter deadlines and can fill up fast. Review TeenLife's 80+ Summer Programs for ideas.
- Review your PSAT results. Connect your College Board account with Khan Academy to create a customized tutoring plan based on your strengths and areas for improvement. The only way to improve your score is to practice and prepare for the next time!
- Create a separate email address specifically for college applications, scholarships, etc. Your email will get SPAMMED with tons of extraneous information during this process.
- Review your 1st semester grades and transcript. Evaluate what went well and what you can improve upon. Challenge yourself in your areas of strength and subjects that appeal to you. Make the most of our Meadows curriculum.
- Hone in on activities that you enjoy and will commit to throughout high school. Look for leadership opportunities and step up your contributions! Focus on the activities that are meaningful to you and on the impact that you can make, not on what you think you should do or what you think colleges want. Be bold, creative, take initiative, take a calculated risk, step outside your comfort zone. Start a "Passion Project" that is unique and takes your interest to the next level.
- Start a resume to record your achievements, awards, commitments, programs, extracurriculars, etc. When you are a senior, you will need to document all the details of your life story in high school starting from freshman year. Keep a record of all of it!



JUNIORS

First and foremost, stay engaged in junior advisory! Advisory offers students the opportunity to complete significant portions of their college application before senior year such as their activities, resume, essays, teacher recommendations, common application, and crafting well-researched college lists. Stay on task and by the end of junior year, you will be well-prepared to apply.

Here are some additional suggestions for future planning:

- Have fun with SUPERMATCH in the Colleges tab on Naviance.
- Begin test prep. Review your PSAT results. Link your collegeboard.org account and Khan Academy for tutoring help.
- Catch up on previous junior and parent presentations and panels on the College Counseling playlist on the TMS YouTube channel.
- Meet with your College Counselor to discuss your curriculum for next year.
- Plan for your summer with academic opportunities, internships, jobs, volunteering, and working on college essays. If your summer program requires a teacher or counselor recommendation, at least two weeks advance notice is preferred.
- Research and apply for scholarships starting with our Scholarship Resources webpage.

JUNIOR COLLEGE TRIP

Get ready to visit colleges with expert college counselors and make life-long memories with friends! This is a quintessential Meadows School experience that shouldn't be missed. If you plan on participating, please submit the following forms by February 1st:

- Field Trip Permission Form.
- Medical Liability Form and goCampusing Guidelines.
- Copies of front and back of medical insurance card and COVID vaccination card (if applicable).

TEST PREPARATION

Even though all Ivy-League colleges, and many highly selective institutions, remained test-optional for 2021-22, the majority of admitted students did submit test scores. At Notre Dame, for example, only 30% of students admitted through Restrictive Early Action this year did not submit scores. So, juniors, sign-up for standardized testing through act.org and collegeboard.org. Spaces fill up quickly, especially for testing at The Meadows School.

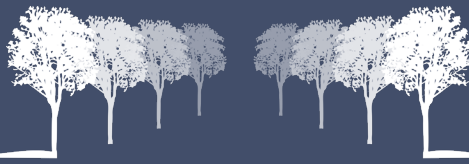
When considering whether to take the SAT or ACT, and determining which test you prefer, we recommend trying both at first since they vary in timing, format, and content. Then, based on your performance, you can decide which test to focus on. Your College Counselor can help you formulate a testing strategy and plan during your individual appointment. Testing dates for both the ACT and SAT are posted on the TMS College Counseling website.

All students have access to ACT® and SAT® Test Prep through their Albert IO school accounts. Simply log in, select Subjects, then Test Prep. Albert IO offers practice problems, assessments, and answer explanations. College Counseling will be including test prep and Albert IO in junior advisory.

Date	Deadline	Test	TMS Site
February 12, 2022	January 7, 2022	ACT	No
March 12, 2022	February 12, 2022	SAT	Yes
April 2, 2022	February 25, 2022	ACT	Yes
May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	SAT	No
June 4, 2022	May 6, 2022	SAT	Yes
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	ACT	Yes
July 16, 2022	June 10, 2022	ACT	No

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS

Email your College Counselor to arrange a first junior meeting. The first junior meeting should include one or both parents. Parents are an important part of this conversation and planning for the future involves collaboration and transparency.




SENIORS

Finalize your list, double-check deadlines, and continue working on regular decision deadline applications. Students who modify their college lists or make last-minute changes should consult with Ms. Hines and update Naviance's "Colleges I'm Applying To" section to request transcripts.

There is still time to research additional colleges and submit applications, particularly to schools in our own backyard. University of Nevada, Reno, and University of Nevada, Las Vegas, offer an excellent education at a significantly reduced cost and their application deadlines extend into springtime.

Remember that colleges care about 2nd semester senior grades. All decisions are pending the successful completion of your senior year. It's not enough to just finish; you must finish in good standing.

Financing your education plays a key role in your college decision process. Don't forget to search and apply for scholarships. Check out the listing of scholarships on the College Counseling section of the TMS website by clicking the *Financial Aid & Scholarships for College* button.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > NINTH GRADE > TENTH GRADE > ELEVENTH GRADE > TWELFTH GRADE 	<div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Class of 2021 Facts </div> <div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px;"> <p>100% four-year college/university acceptance \$8,992,236 in renewable academic scholarship offers (over four years)</p> <p>2 National Merit Scholarship Winners 4 National Merit Scholarship Finalists 1 National African American Scholar 1 Presidential Scholar Winner</p> <p>Advanced Placement Recognition (as of fall 2020)</p> <p>3 National AP Scholars 14 AP Scholars with Distinction 7 AP Scholars with Honors 11 AP Scholars</p> </div>		<div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Downloads & Links </div> <div style="background-color: #2c2c4a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> NEWSLETTERS </div> <div style="background-color: #2c2c4a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> STANDARDIZED TESTING Information </div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> SCHOOL PROFILE </div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> UPPER SCHOOL COMPARISON </div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> ADMISSION OFFICER VISITS </div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> 21-22 TESTING CALENDAR </div> <div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> FINANCIAL AID and Scholarships for College </div> <div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> WEBSITES & FORMS for College Counseling </div> <div style="background-color: #4a4a8a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> COLLEGE TRIPS WEEK for Juniors </div>
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APPLICATION TIPS & REMINDERS

- Mid-year grades are sent to colleges automatically during the last week of January.
- Update Naviance with your admissions decisions.
- Send copies of scholarship and financial aid award letters to Mrs. Hines in College Counseling.
- Update Naviance to indicate that you have submitted your application and request transcripts (which will also automatically send your teacher recommendations).
- Colleges should provide you with a way to track your application status online. Check your email and college portal frequently.
- Some offices send an automated message stating your application is incomplete. The process of uploading all your materials—matching your application, test scores, and recommendation letters—and updating your student status as complete on the college website, can take several days for an admissions office. Don't panic. Wait a few days and check again. Chances are that your materials are received, but not yet processed.