



Junior College Information Night:

Class of 2024

*This presentation will be available on the
Chaminade website under the Student
Life - - College Placement section.*



Q & A



Partnership for Success

- Student = competitor (on the field, working hardest)
- Counselors = coaches (provide info, design strategy)
- Parent = owner (facilitator, but not quite *on* the field)

***** Juniors, our program is designed around YOU. We want to hear from YOU about YOUR plan.*****



What do colleges look at?

- **GPA** (context: school, rigor of schedule)
- **ACT/SAT/AP exam scores** (sort of...)
- **Essay(s)**
- **Recommendations:** counselor & teacher letters
- **Other:** legacy, diversity, gender, athletics, full pay (?)
- **Extras:** club, sport, job, service, leadership
- **Demonstrated interest** (sort of...)





Today's College Landscape

Applying to college is more competitive than ever.

- overcrowded applicant pools, understaffed admissions offices, SAT/ACT optional
- hefty tuition prices
- For some schools, even perfection isn't enough.
- It's not about finding the right school; it's about finding a right school. (There are many!)
- It's not where you go, but **what you do once you're there** that really matters.



Applying from Chaminade

- Ultra-competitive applicant pool (46 current seniors have 97+ GPA unweighted)
- Students are not ranked
- 4 years of rigorous courses
- No weights are added to student grades/GPA

These are **good** things!

What would my GPA be if I went to ____ High School?

What is Test Optional?

- Nowadays, most colleges **do not** require the submission of SAT, AP, or ACT scores. You can submit some, all, or none of your test scores for most schools.
- Most colleges use a superscore, or the combination of your best individual test sections. (It's like the highlight reel of your tests.) Take advantage of this by studying, testing, and re-testing.
- Good scores can help. Low scores can harm. *What's a good score? What's too low?* It depends on the school, so check with your counselor after you test.

Test Optional? We test.

- 1) Take **diagnostic SAT & ACT**: Use **Method** (you already have free online access) or **any test prep resource** to try out each exam at **home** (timed) or **at testing center** to determine your level of comfort and success.
 - *You do not have to take both exams.*
 - *Why take an official exam cold if you can take a [FREE] diagnostic test instead?*
- 2) Choose a test prep plan that fits budget, schedule, and needs.
 - *It's the student, not the test prep company, that matters most.*
- 3) Register for exams.
 - *SAT dates & registration: [CollegeBoard.org](https://collegeboard.org)*
 - *ACT dates & registration: [ACT.org](https://act.org)*




SAT vs. ACT



SAT

- Math, reading
- **3:00, 154 items**
- requires test savvy
- best score: 1600
- *not designed to optimize student performance*

ACT

- Reading, writing, math, science
 - **2:55, 215 items, essay**
 - Straightforward, but fast-paced
 - best score: 36
 - *not designed to optimize student performance*
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How does Chaminade guide applicants through today's college landscape?

We actively encourage the following from students:

- SAT/ACT prep, testing, re-testing
- Building a balanced list of prospective schools
- staying touch with your counselor
- communicating with your parents
- Naviance: Self-Discovery tools (career, strengths)
- Visiting campuses before senior year
- Communicating with admissions reps
- Summer essay workshop



A Balanced List of Schools

- **Safety** - very high probability to admit
- **Likely** - high probably to admit
- **Target** - could go either way
- **Reach** - less than 50% likely to admit
- **Far reach** - far less than 50% likely to admit

Hey, you never know...

Your counselor can help you identify all of these schools.

Military Academy Applicants

- Contact Mr. Auriemma - nauriemma@chaminade-hs.org
- Academics, physical preparedness, and commitment
- ***Plan on following an accelerated application/nomination schedule.***
- Academy Presentation (TBD)
- Hangar>Guidance>Academies/ROTC

Timeline: October-December

- Maintain or improve your grades.
- Take diagnostic SAT and ACT. Choose test prep strategy.
- Register for winter SAT or ACT dates.
- Increase involvement in school/community activities.
- Explore Naviance Self-Discovery features.
- Pay attention in College Prep 11.

Timeline: January-March

- Maintain or improve your grades.
- Continue SAT or ACT prep and testing.
- Submit resume and brag sheet (College Prep 11).
- Plan your summer: explore passions, get a job, visit college campuses, deepen your commitments
- ***Meet with your college counselor and start building a balanced list. Counselors will reach out with their availability in the coming months.***

Timeline: April-August

- Maintain or improve your grades.
- Continue SAT or ACT prep and testing.
- Research schools on the list you built with counselor. Visit campuses when possible.
- Chaminade College Fair - April 26.
- Invite teacher recommender via Naviance in June (College Prep 11).



Who is my college counselor?

Mr. Auriemma - Homerooms 3A, 3B, 3C

Mr. Meyfohrt - Homerooms 3D, 3E, 3F

Mr. Armstrong - Homerooms 3G, 3H, 3J

Ms. Cinnamo - Homeroom 3K

Mr. Giardina - Homerooms 3L, 3M, 3N

Mr. Kaplan - You've been emailed.

College Prep 11

Juniors have this class once per cycle and will go over the following:

- Naviance; Scattergrams
- Building a balanced list of schools
- SAT/ACT prep (via Method)
- College terminology
- Researching colleges
- Demonstrating interest - fairs, visits
- Resume, brag sheet submission
- Requesting teacher rec letter for next fall
- College essay review

Paying for College

We have a financial aid consultant, Mrs. Carolyn Bianco, on our College Placement Team. *Do not wait for senior year to start discussing college finances.*

cbianco@chaminade-hs.org



College Apps Gone Wrong

- A student's application was sent to Georgetown College, not Georgetown University.
- A student had no idea that he & Mr. Kaplan had an email exchange earlier that day.
- The wrong SAT scores were sent to colleges.
- Teacher rec letter requests were submitted incorrectly via Naviance. As a result, no letter was written.
- A student was locked out of his Common Application and Naviance accounts because the password was *twice* changed without his knowledge.

The impulse to take over for your son is strong because you want the best for him. Resist it. Let him take charge. Let him grow. Let Chaminade help.

Final Thoughts:

There is no good reason that this process has to be stressful.

There is no magic formula/trick/shortcut for being admitted to college. All an applicant can do is put his best foot forward. Chaminade will help.

GPA is most important, but it's not everything. Schools take a "holistic view" of the applicant, which means they consider everything and how everything fits together. As a result, schools craft their incoming classes however they see fit.

Admissions reps are not obstacles or opponents. Their job is to advocate so that they can admit. Chaminade works with them as partners.

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