



The Road Ahead

Junior College Kick-Off Convo

January 24, 2023

The Road Ahead...



Program Run-Down

- Introductions and Mission
- Sharing Context and Data
- Available Post Secondary Resources
- Values-Based College Process
- Defining Roles and Responsibilities
- Words of Wisdom from Our Experts
- Next Steps and Important Dates
- Maia Training (optional)

Post Secondary Counseling Team



HARVARD



GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF EDUCATION



Ms. Kelley Curtin



Post Secondary Counseling Team



Ms. Kate Kaushal

Post Secondary Counseling Team



Mr Tony Minestra

Our Department Vision

DePaul College Prep features a comprehensive post secondary planning program, designed to educate, support, and serve our diverse student population. The vision of our multi-year program is rooted in our student-focused approach. Our intention is to guide and to lift our young learners towards their educational goals, in the spirit of our DePaul Prep mission.

Our College Counseling Mission

We want to empower your child to:

- Identify their post secondary priorities
- Align their college search w/their values and vision
- Understand the process from start to finish
- Confidently LEAD their own search and selection
- 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 DCP Class of 2022 College Data

- Avg. Apps Per Student: 8.75 (154 Seniors)
- Overall Acceptance Rate 74%
- Seniors with 100% acceptance: 59
- # of Different Colleges Applied to: 307
- # of Different Colleges Admitted to: 245
- # of Students Admitted to #1 School: 121

Some DCP Class of 2022 College Data

- Catholic Colleges and Universities: 32 students
- Top 50 National Colleges: 26 students
- Top 50 Public Universities: 46 students
- Top 50 Liberal Arts Colleges: 7 students
- Big Ten Institutions: 27 students
- Illinois Public Schools (4-year): 22 students

Some National Class of 2022 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 2022 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

DCP Post Secondary Resources

Support

- College Counselors (Tony, Kelley, and Kate)
- Letter of Recommendation Request Process
- Personal Statement Prep in AP English and English IV
- Advisory

Events

- PEWS Programming
- College Fair on Monday, March 13
- RAMpUp
- Fall College Rep Visits (125+)
- Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshops



DCP Post Secondary Resources

Online Resources

- Maia Learning
 - Research Colleges
 - Character Assessments
- DCP College Planning Website
 - Presentation Recordings
 - Pre College Programs and Internships
 - DCP Scholarship Database
 - Common App Support
 - Requirements
 - Completion Guide



Advisory Post Secondary Curriculum

Junior Year

- Academic Advising/Course Selection
- Maia Software Introduction
- College Research Skills/Resources
- 7 P's of the College Process - the “Why”
- Understanding the College Timeline and Key Terms
- Career Exploration
- Essay Development - Building Your “Story”

Senior Year

- Common App and Essay Completion Workshops
- Financial Aid Award Literacy

Values-Based College Process

- How do your values connect to the values of the college?
- Take time for self-reflect
 - What do I do well? Where do I tend to struggle?
 - When am I at my best? My worst?
 - What truly matters most to me?
 - What motivates me? What challenges me?
 - Where do I feel comfortable? Uncomfortable?
 - When do I feel purposeful?
 - What gifts do I have to give?

Exploring and Identifying your Values

Leads to Practical Choices...

Course Selection

DCP Club Participation and Leadership Opportunities

Pre College Programs and Internships

Expending Resources on Campus Visits

College List Building

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/Support
- ★ 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 Does a “Good” College List Look Like?

Appropriate Size (8-12 is the sweet spot)

Has at least 2-3 ‘slam dunk’ 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

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

Accounts for family’s financial situation

Financial Fit



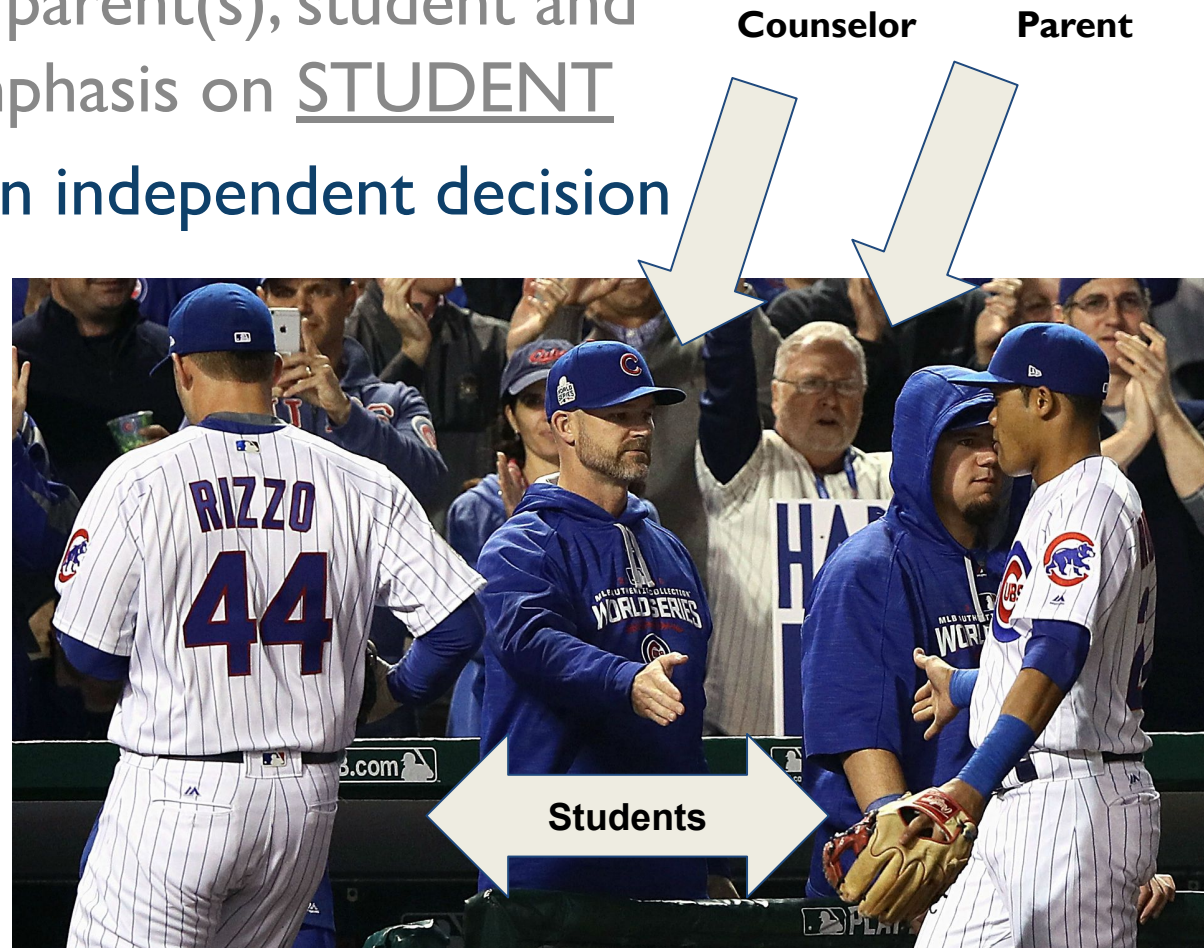
- “Family talk” about affordability
- [Federal Student Aid Estimators](#) and [Net Price Calculators](#)
- Consider the college’s stats
([Buyers vs. Sellers](#), ROI, Gift vs Self Help)
- Consider your student’s stats
(Top 25% of admitted class=**more \$\$**)
- Research and apply for [scholarship opportunities](#)

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
- Identify & Pursue Chances to Explore Interests
- Organize and Manage Maia Account
- Complete Applications (with support)
- Take & Send Official Test Scores (IF required)*
- Letter of Rec Requests (Form and Maia)
- Clear, Consistent Communication with CC
- Student to College Communication

Family Role in the Process

- Let your student *Lead the Process*
- Help to organize materials and deadlines
- Aid in planning college visits (if possible)
- *Real Talk* - discuss restrictions in the search
- Listen and Be Supportive - it's an emotional time
- Offer perspective and provide context
- Keep a realistic approach - you *know* your child
- Respect YOUR child's process/privacy
- Remember...it's *their* journey

DePaul Prep Responsibilities

- Writing Letters of Rec (and Uploading)
- Packaging LoRs and Submitting
- Sending Transcripts (Upon Request) and all Docs
- School Profile
- Counselor Forms/Reports
- Provide Essay Guidance and Perspective
- Support, Advice, Guidance throughout the process

DePaul Prep Testing Data

- 23 Seniors last year utilized test scores (ACT/SAT) in their admissions process (15%)
- Average ACT Score submitted = 27.2
- Average ACT score overall for '22 Class - 21.4
- Average SAT score overall for '22 Class - 1055

DePaul Prep Testing Support

- Academic Approach Sunday Prep Course (12 week)
- In-House FRESH Period Test Prep Series
- Content Support: Resource Hub

Testing Spring/Summer Dates*

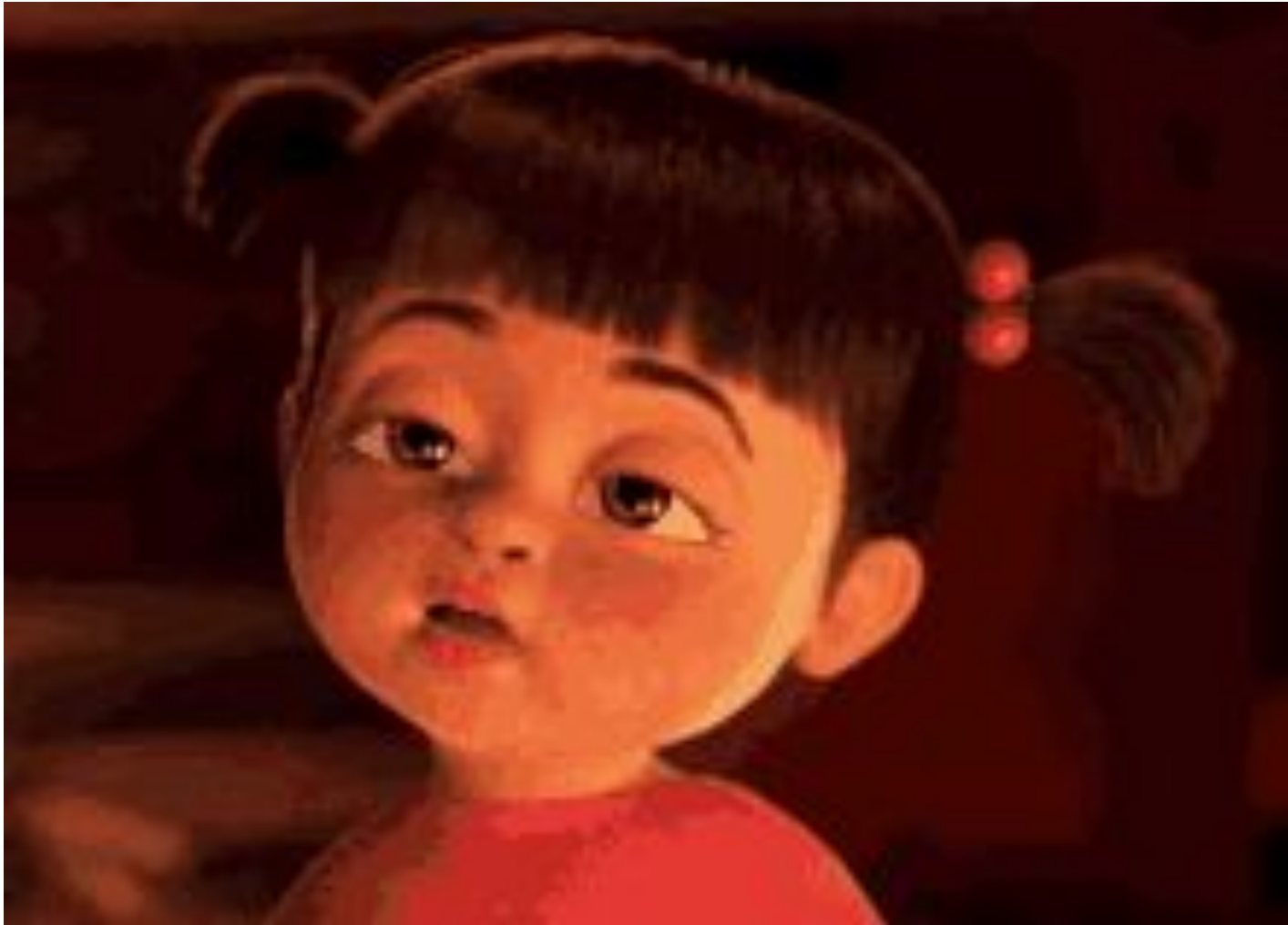
ACT

February 11
April 12 (in-school)
April 15
June 10
July 15

SAT

March 11
May 6
June 3
August 26

So...how are you feeling?



Let's Hear from the Experts!



Jaime Newsom
*Senior Assistant Director of
Admissions - Chicago*



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
BLOOMINGTON



Erin Soroosh
*Regional Enrollment
Manager*



**University
of Dayton**

Spring Post Secondary “To-Do List”

- College Planning Meeting w/your DCP College Counselor
- Identify values - what’s important to you?
- Continue to research colleges
- College visits/fairs (in-person and virtual)
- Prepare for and take SAT/ACT
- Begin building a balanced college list
- Identify and request letters of rec
- Explore possible majors
- Line up meaningful/purposeful summer plans



Important Dates

- **February 21** (*Virtual*) - PEWS: Defining and Exploring College Differences
- **March 13** (*DCEP*) - College Fair
- **March 14** (*Virtual*) - PEWS: College Athletic Recruitment
- **April 12** (*DCEP*) - ACT
- **May 9** (*Virtual*) - PEWS: Summer College Planning
- **June 12-15** (*DCEP*) - RAMpUp program led by College Counseling Team

Thank You!

*And, don't forget to schedule schedule your
Junior College Planning Meeting!*

If **Rand** or **Janick** is your school counselor, then schedule your college planning session with ...

If **Kucera** or **Sneed** is your school counselor, then schedule your college planning session with ...

If **Donlan** or **Ortiz** is your school counselor, then schedule your college planning session with ...

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