# Junior Parent Night *Class of 2024 January 19, 2023*



# The Counseling Department

- Mrs. McMorrow: St. George House, Dept Chair
- Mrs. Barnes: St. Blaise House
- Mr. Beneze: St. Ignatius House
- Mrs. Larson: St. Michael House, STA Class of 2024
- Ms. Benitez: St. Teresa House, St. Francis House (A-F)
- Ms. Peters: St. Maximilian Kolbe House, St. Francis House (G-O)
- Mrs. Walker: St. Patrick House, St. Francis House (P-Z)
- Mrs. Villarreal: St. Francis House (9th –11th starting in 2023-2024 school year)

# "Every journey begins with the first step."

"Remind your students that where they go matters less than what they do when they get there."



## Junior Year

- SCOIR
- SAT & ACT
- College Search and Selection
- College Visits
- The Application Process
- The Admissions Process
- Letters of Recommendation
- Application Deadlines
- Essays
- Financial Aid/Scholarships

## What is SCOIR?

- Online software for college search and application process
- Counselors use this tool to suggest colleges, and send transcripts/letters of recommendation
- Students will use this tool for self-discovery, to search and compare colleges, create a resume, access forms and surveys, submit requests for transcripts and letters of recommendation, and apply to some colleges
- Parents can use this tool to suggest colleges, compare costs, and <u>monitor</u> student progress

## SCOIR

- All students were given a link to login to SCOIR. Please bookmark this and <u>download the app</u>
- At this point in the process, **all** students need to be actively using SCOIR
- Tools in SCOIR
  - YouScience
  - College preferences
  - $\circ$  Discover
  - Activities & Achievements
- SCOIR 101 in booklet for more info

### Parent Access to SCOIR

You will receive an invitation to join SCOIR via email Once you accept the invitation you will receive step-by-step instructions on how to create your account Today I read Scott and Borgman's comic strip, 'Zits':



# **College Selection:**

#### • Reach:

1-2 colleges which you do not necessarily have the ideal academic criteria for admissions, but are close enough to still merit consideration. (These tend to be popular schools with competitive acceptance rates)

#### • Match:

 3-4 colleges for which you fall comfortably within the stated range of admissions criteria. The majority of colleges you apply to should be Match schools.

#### • Safety:

• 1-2 colleges for which you exceed the upper range of the admissions criteria and are therefore fairly "certain" to be admitted.

# What is in an Application?

<ol> <li>Online Application</li> <li>NDP official transcript if requested</li> <li>Official ACT or SAT scores if applicable***</li> </ol>	<b>In-State Application Process:</b>	Out-of-State Application Process:
***Subject to change       Letter(s) of Recommendation         5. Essay(s)	<ol> <li>2. NDP official transcript if requested</li> <li>3. Official ACT or SAT scores if applicable***</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>and/or on college's website</li> <li>2. NDP official transcript</li> <li>3. Official ACT or SAT scores if applicable***</li> <li>4. Counselor and/or Teacher Letter(s) of Recommendation</li> </ul>

# Common App

- Commonapp.org
- Universal application
- Exceptions to Common App
  - College does not have it as an option (Direct to Institution only)
  - You are applying in-state
  - You were advised by a coach or admissions rep to apply Direct to Institution

#### SAT & ACT \*\*\*Subject to change\*\*\*

- Two major college entrance exams
- Serves as a predictor of how students will perform academically during their freshman year in college
- Spring of junior year
- Take either one, at least twice, if applicable
- Scores can be used:
  - For admission decisions
    - Some colleges are test optional or test blind!
  - To award scholarships and merit awards
  - To determine placement in college courses

#### SAT & ACT \*\*\*Subject to change\*\*\*

- SAT- <u>collegeboard.org</u>
  - March, May, June, August, October, November and December
  - **\$60**
- ACT-<u>act.org</u>
  - February, April, June, July, September, October and December
  - $\circ$  \$63, \$88 with essay portion
  - Most colleges don't require the essay portion

## Letters of Recommendation

#### • Whom should I ask?

- 1 junior year core teacher (Math, Science, Social Studies, English, or World Language)
- At least 1 other teacher (Any subject, any school year)

#### • How do I ask them?

- Speak to teacher **<u>in-person</u>** before the end of the school year.
- Complete student surveys in SCOIR
  - Teacher Letter of Recommendation Survey
  - Counselor Recommendation Survey
    - ✤ Parent Survey is available as a link on the NDP website
- Request teacher in SCOIR
- Send thank you note!



- A chance for colleges to get to know you better outside of your grades and accomplishments
  - Get to know your personality, goals, values, and/or worldview- what makes you, you!
  - **Prompt.com is an excellent resource (see your counselor)**
- Personal Statement
  - Voice!
- Supplements
  - Specific to that college, make it personal
  - Answer all supplemental questions, even if listed as "optional"

# **Application Deadlines**

- Early Decision (ED)
- Restrictive Early Action (REA)
- Early Action (EA)
- Regular Decision
- Rolling
- Priority Deadlines

\*\*\*See College 101 book for timelines based on deadline\*\*\*

## **In-State Admissions**

#### **Requirements for Guaranteed Acceptance:**

- 16 core classes:
  - 4 English 2 Social Science
  - 4 Math 2 World Language (same language)
  - 3 Lab Science 1 Fine Art/CTE
- No more than 2 deficiencies (D or F in core classes) cannot be in both math and science
- Must also meet 1 of the following:
  - Graduate in the top 25% of your class
  - 3.0 GPA in competency courses
  - ACT-22/SAT-1120 (GCU: 19 ACT or 1000 SAT) \*See test optional policies\*

### Applying to the Honors Colleges

#### ASU Barrett Honors College:

\*Must apply to ASU first \*Additional Application – Opens Sept. \*One Essay

\*Two Letters of Recommendation \*Application Due – November

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#### **<u>UofA Franke Honors College</u>**:

\*Must apply to U of A first \*Additional Application \*One Essay

\*One Letter of Recommendation \*Resume

\*Application Due – November

#### NAU Honors College:

\*Must be admitted to NAU before applying

\*Additional Application - Opens Sept.

\*Two Essays

\*Resume

\*Submit by Nov to be considered (scholarships)

#### **GCU Honors College:**

\*Must be admitted to GCU

\*Community service and leadership

\*Automatic acceptance: 3.9 GPA or 31 ACT or 1410 SAT

\*Additional application: 3.7 GPA or 27 ACT or 1295 SAT

\*\*One Essay, Two Letters of Recommendation, Resume

### Six Factors in Selective Admission

- Grades
- Strength of Curriculum
- Test Scores (ACT or SAT)\*\*
- Recommendations
- Essay
- Extracurricular involvement

\*\*Check school website, many schools are test optional

#### Institutional Need

- The magical "7th" factor in selective admissions
- "College admissions is not about the prospective student or parent of a student, it's about the college." - Jeffrey Selingo, *"Who Gets In And Why - A Year Inside College Admissions"*

#### Institutional Need

- College admissions is a business that we (students, parents, counselors) have no control over
- The college agenda goals set by university leaders drives admissions

# College Visits

- College Rep Visits at NDP (sign up in SCOIR)
   Just for NDP students meet with reps on NDP campus
- College Campus Visits
  - If possible, visit when college is in session
  - Check college website for information about campus tours, dates, times, and registration
- Be prepared to ask a lot of questions
  - See Campus Visit Checklist in "College Planning 101"

# Types of Aid

- Grants
- Loans
- Work Study
- Scholarships

# Scholarships

- Merit Scholarships
  - Based on academic achievement
- Need Based Aid
  - Based on financial need
- Athletic Scholarships
  - Offered to student athletes based on athletic talents

#### Individual Scholarships

- Given by educational institutions or private donors
- Based on academic achievement, leadership qualities, community service work, special talents, acceptance to a specific program, or combination of all (Check <u>NDP Scholarship Database</u> on website and other websites listed in College Planning 101 book)

## Need-Based Aid

- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
  - FAFSA forms can be completed starting Oct 1, 2023
    https://fafsa.ed.gov
- CSS (College Scholarship Service) Profile
  - An online application through College Board to determine eligibility for non-federal financial aid
  - Some colleges require for this to be completed alongside the FAFSA

# Affording College

- Every family will pay something for college, and understanding what you're expected to pay is vital to a successful college plan.
- NDP has partnered with Monica Felton, college planning expert and NDP parent, to help families understand the true cost of college.
- Please see her video, *"Affording College"*, on the NDP Counseling website for valuable information.

## WUE

- Western Undergraduate Exchange
- Member states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming
- <u>https://wuesavingsfinder.wiche.edu/search-results.php</u>
- Reduced level of tuition 150% of the host institution's resident tuition
- Average student savings amounted to \$8,000
- Contact the institution of choice and indicate that they would like to apply as a Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) applicant. There is not a separate WUE application.

### Reminders

- Counselor/Parent/Student College Meetings for current juniors - February through March
- Counselors will email the link at the end of January to make an appointment

# Upcoming Events

- **February 17th, 20th:** President's Day Weekend No School **February 25th:** <u>Practice</u> ACT at NDP
- February & March: Course Selection for Senior Year
- March 13th-17th: Spring Break No School
- April 7th and 10th: Easter Break No School
- May 1st-12th: AP Tests
- May 23rd-25th: Final Exams
- June: College Bootcamp

# Questions?

