College Night for Families of Seniors

August 23, 2023
ATTENDANCE

We are so glad to have so many families with us this evening. Please take a brief moment to enter your attendance. QR code is also located on your handout.
CLASS OF 2024
WHAT'S NEXT?

OAK PARK and RIVER FOREST
HIGH SCHOOL

POST HIGH SCHOOL
GUIDEBOOK
Trends in Admission

- Test Optional policies continue 23-24
- Optional Covid question remains on Common App
- Application Numbers continued to climb in 22-23
- More deferrals and longer college waitlists 22-23
- Rising tuition and fees
- Increased efforts to accommodate trans and non binary students
- Colleges are offering more ED (2) options
- Majors go under the microscope
- Human part of the application is more important than ever

Questions
- How will colleges respond to recent Supreme Court decisions
- Chat GPT - how will colleges use it? Ethical implications?
What Colleges Are Looking For...

- Academic Rigor
- Grades – Upward Trend
- Competent Writing Ability
- Test Scores (Commensurate with Achievement and only if required)
- Student’s Demonstrated Interest
- Degree of Involvement
- Evidence of Growth Throughout High School
  - Academic – Grades/Achievement
  - Personal – Student Essay/Counselor Recommendation
- Impact in Classroom (Teacher Recommendations)
Still Researching?

Recommended sites (page 6 of Guidebook):

College Board Big Future
College Results
College Vine
Fiske Guide
Know How to Go
Mapping Your Future
Naviance
Niche
Princeton Review
Peterson’s Guide
Road Trip Nation
Unigo
How to login to Naviance
FAQ-Instructions for parent and student accounts

Welcome to Naviance
Student.

Please choose your user type.
This allows Naviance to help you log in the way your school and district prefers.

Student
Parent or Guardian
Alumni

I’m new and need to register!
OPRF Applicant, Top 50%
Ex. Student with a 2.9 GPA with a 1200 SAT score
U of Wisconsin - Madison
OPRF Applicant, Top 50%
Ex. Student with a 2.9 GPA with a 1200 SAT score)
Illinois State University
OPRF Applicant, Top 50%
Ex. Student with a 2.9 GPA with a 1200 SAT score)
Columbia College Chicago
TRITON and Community Colleges

Triton College

Areas of Study

Triton Scholars - FREE In District Tuition, Fees and Books with GPA of 3.5/test scores

Triton Trustees - FREE In District Tuition and Fees with a 3.35 GPA/test scores

College of DuPage

City Colleges of Chicago

Parkland Community College in Urbana/Champaign
Remind Notifications for College Callers

• To receive push notifications regarding the College Callers schedule, you will be prompted to download the Remind App.

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/ed992k

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You’ll be prompted to download the mobile app.

Join College Callers

Full Name

First and Last Name

Phone Number or Email Address

(555) 555-5555
College Callers at OPRF

Attend OPRF College Caller Meetings

- All College Caller Meetings will be held various periods of the school day-choose accordingly!
- To receive weekly text message notifications regarding the College Callers schedule, send the following text message:

```
If you don’t have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @ed992k to the number 81010.
If you’re having trouble with 81010, try texting @ed992k to (404) 445-1453.

* Standard text message rates apply.
```
Virtual and In-Person College Fairs

NACAC College Fairs
Strive Scan Virtual College Fairs
HBCU College Fair & Chicago HBCU Alliance
National Portfolio Days
National Unified Theater School Auditions
Princeton Review’s Guide to Virtual Tours
You Visit

Here is a College Visit Worksheet your student can use to take notes and keep track:)

Make a Final List

- Select 6-10 schools, based on your child’s criteria
- A mix of Safer/Likely, Match/Target, Reach/Dream (use Naviance Scattergrams to assess)
- Consider financial safety and also regional safety
- Make sure to list all intended schools in Naviance Colleges I’m Thinking About section
Components of an Application

1. Common App (or Coalition) or Direct to the University
2. Link CA and Naviance

3. The Transcript and other school forms. Here is the Transcript Release Form & Instructions on how to complete the TRF

4. Essay & Supplement (if required)

5. Test Scores (if required)

6 Recommendation Letters (if required)

7. FAFSA & CSS Profile

8. Audition? Portfolio?
Staying Organized Is the Key

- Here is an Application Organization Chart to keep track of deadlines and elements of the application. pg. 13 of Guidebook
- Make a copy of it and use it to keep track of everything:)
Types of Admissions

Regular – Specific deadline (ex: Jan. 1st)
Admission decision in April

Rolling – Apply anytime
Admission decision in 4-6 weeks

Early Action-(Priority) Early deadline (ex. Nov. 15th)
Admission decision in December

Early Decision–Early deadline (ex: November 1st)
Admission decision in December
Binding agreement--Must attend
Essay Writing Tips

- CA Essay prompts
- Answer the question asked in your authentic voice
- Have someone proofread your essay
- Chat GPT and the essay
- Help Available!! We have English teachers each period of the school day in the SRC for writing assistance. Also, Dr. Barbara Mirel, former college professor, can also help with college essays on Mondays and Tuesdays from 5-7 pm in the SRC.

Essay Writing Workshop for students:
September 6, 2023
6:30 PM
Recommendation Letters

- How many letters do students need? Rule of Thumb is TWO. But consult the school’s application.
- Please DO NOT request letters through Common App
- Please ask for letters in person then follow up with requests through Naviance
- Counselors & Teachers require three weeks prior notice for rec letters (please complete the questionnaire)
- Students must choose which teacher/ for which college
  Teachers will see exact date and time of request
- Students can see on Naviance when letters have been submitted
You can track the most recent status of your teacher recommendation requests here.

Showing 17 requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation For</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Recommender(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Cancel Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bates College</td>
<td>Jan 01, 2017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason</td>
<td>Dec 01, 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fashion Institute</td>
<td>Jan 01, 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Lawrence</td>
<td>Jan 01, 2017</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Senior Year Testing

- Colleges determine score reporting. **Superscore vs. Highest Composite**

- More than two-thirds of colleges and universities won't require the SAT for 2023-24 admission.

- Click here for an up-to-date list of colleges that are test optional.
What Does “Test Optional Flexible/Blind” Mean?

- **Test Optional Fair Test** students are not required to submit their SAT/ACT scores as a part of the application process
  - Grades, Applicant Essay, Extracurricular Involvement and Recommendation Letters are assigned more importance (examples are Univ. of Chicago, Bucknell)

- **Test Flexible**
  - 'Test-Flexible' admissions policy allow applicants to submit various standardized test scores to support their application.
  - Two examples include Wake Forest University and New York University.

- **Test Blind**
  - Test scores will NOT be considered during the college application process
  - Cal Tech, University of California system, Northern Ill U is now test blind for admission and scholarship consideration
## Fall SAT National Test Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26, 2023</td>
<td>July 28, 2023</td>
<td>August 15, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7, 2023</td>
<td>September 7, 2023</td>
<td>September 26, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 4, 2023</td>
<td>October 5, 2023</td>
<td>October 24, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2, 2023</td>
<td>November 2, 2023</td>
<td>November 21, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9, 2024</td>
<td>February 23, 2024</td>
<td>Coming soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DIGITAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 2024</td>
<td>April 19, 2024</td>
<td>Coming soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not offered at OPRFHS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2024</td>
<td>May 17, 2024</td>
<td>Coming soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DIGITAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Fall 2023 ACT Testing Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Regular Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration Deadline (Late Fee Applies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 9, 2023</td>
<td>August 4</td>
<td>August 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28, 2023</td>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>October 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 9, 2023</td>
<td>November 3</td>
<td>November 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10, 2024</td>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>January 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2024</td>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>March 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8, 2024</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>May 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Not offered at OPRFHS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13, 2024</td>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student College Deadline:</td>
<td>Student transcript Release Form Due to Counselor Secretary by:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Friday, Sept 22, 2023</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Wed., Oct 11, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Wed., Oct 25, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>Friday, Nov 10, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 1 or 15 2024</td>
<td>Mon., Dec 4, 2023</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
How to submit **TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORMS**

hard copies in all counselor offices

**Instructions on How to Fill out a Transcript Release Form**

![Transcript Release Form]

**Oak Park and River Forest High School**

**TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM**

**FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>ID Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counselor:</td>
<td>Cell Number:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please send my transcript to the following college(s):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Type: EA, ED, Pri., Reg., Rolling</th>
<th>How are you applying? Please circle one</th>
<th>Deadline Date:</th>
<th>Non-U.S. School?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<td>6.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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<td>8.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>CA or Direct</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Please initial the following items upon completion:**

I have listed the above schools in Naviance under “Colleges I’m Thinking About” and have also indicated above whether I am applying via the Common Application or direct to the college/university.

I have marked the Decision Type (Early Decision, Early Action, Priority, Regular Decision, or Rolling) for each college, along with the correct corresponding deadline date.

I have completed my counselor’s preferred Questionnaire for Letters of Recommendation.

If applying to an INTERNATIONAL school, I have already submitted my application to this institution.

**If applying via the Common Application:**

I have listed the above schools on my Common Application.

I have completed the FERPA section of the Common Application and checked that I have waived my rights.

I have completed the “Common App Account Matching” in the “Colleges I’m Applying To” section of Naviance.

If applying EARLY DECISION: I have completed the Early Decision (ED) agreement in Common App. (See your...
Enrollment Decisions

- Accepted
- Denied
- Deferred
  - Put into the regular pool from an early action/decision program
- Wait-Listed
  - May be admitted after May 1st
- May 1\textsuperscript{st}: your decision due to college
Financial Aid

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) accepted on or after December 1, 2023 it is also a graduation requirement (or waiver)
- Student Aid Estimator
- CSS Profile some schools require this
- Please reach out and contact our Illinois Student Assistance Commission Representative, ISAC Salma.Uribe@Illinois.gov
In-State Financial Aid Opportunities

■ Many Illinois State Colleges/Universities offer opportunities to in-state students for those who qualify.

■ Northern Ill U. has the Huskie Pledge-A 3.0 GPA Illinois families with household incomes of under $75,000.

■ Southern Ill U has The Saluki Commitment for families making under $63,575.

■ University of Illinois has the Illinois Commitment-Family Income less than $67,100 and Illinois Promise-free tuition for those who qualify.
Athletics

- Division 1 & II athletes must register with the NCAA
- If not already registered, complete registration asap
- Complete Transcript Request Form for NCAA and submit to your Counselor’s Secretary
Resource Packets Available:

- **Class of 2024 What’s Next? Guidebook:** timeline, checklists, test scores, the college search, Naviance, community colleges, world of work, college organization sharts and more!

- **Local and National Scholarship Opportunities & Financial Aid**
  (Don’t assume private colleges cost more—Parents/Students: Define affordability/select a Financial Safety School.)

- **Trades and Apprenticeships**

- **Alternative Admissions**

- **Essay Writing tips**

- **Colleges in Illinois**

- **Note:** GAP Year Fair @ OPRFHS on January 27th 2024

- **Note:** OPRFHS Financial Aid Night-Sept. 27th, 2023 6:30 PM-virtual (Mary Ann Nucciarone-Director of Financial Aid University of Notre Dame)
CLASS OF 2024
WHAT'S NEXT?

OAK PARK and RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

POST HIGH SCHOOL GUIDEBOOK
We are so glad to have so many families with us this evening. Please take a brief moment to enter your attendance. QR code is also located on your handout.
Thank You For Being Here!

This is an exciting time filled with so much possibility!

Counselors are here to support the needs of each of our seniors as we navigate this process together!

Questions?

The OPRFHS Counseling Department