
Bridgewater Raritan Regional H.S.

Senior College Night

September 13, 2023
Mrs. Kaiser
College and Career Counselor

What will be covered in this presentation?

Important Upcoming Dates

Class of 2023 Recap

Senior Seminar & College Representative Visits

The Application Process & Deadlines

Admission Plans

RVCC

NCAA

Financial Aid & Scholarships

Resources at BR

Supporting your Child

Important Upcoming Dates

Fall College Fair- Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 at 6pm-8pm (Large Gym)

*We are utilizing Strive Scan for the college fair

Financial Aid Night- Monday, October 16th, 2023 at 8pm (Virtual)

*Link to be sent at a later date

The Admissions Game - Thursday, October 19th, 2023 at 6:30pm (Auditorium)

*For both parents and students

Financial Aid Night- HESAA Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7pm (Auditorium)

Where did the class of 2023 apply to?

Top 10 colleges our students applied to:

Rutgers

Penn State

RVCC

Northeastern

TCNJ

University of Maryland

NJIT

NYU

Seton Hall

Drexel University

Matriculation-Class of 2023

Highest #'s: Rutgers (New Brunswick), RVCC, Penn State, Northeastern, TCNJ

4 year college bound: 72.4%

2 year college bound: 19.8%

The rest opted to :attend trade/technical schools, full-time employment, took a gap year, military service or attended a non-US college.

Senior Seminar

Each counselor will be holding Senior Seminar with their students in September:

FERPA Form and Common App Ferpa

Students are provided their transcript to review before it is sent

***STUDENTS CANNOT REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS UNTIL 10/2/2023**

How to approach the application process

Important dates and deadlines

What steps need to be done in Naviance

Using the Common Application & Special Circumstance Applications

Sending test scores

Financial Aid/Scholarship Resources

College Representative Visits

During the school day

September through November

Schedule is posted in Naviance

Students register for the visits via Naviance (5 visits excused)

About 75 schools signed up

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the schools and demonstrate interest.

FERPA Form

Emailed to students and parents early September.

Paper Form-

Scan and email to: collegeprocessing@brrsd.k12.nj.us

(Also found on school website, counselor's Google classroom and in Naviance)

*Common Application also has a FERPA form within the application-both must be completed if the student has common app and non-common app schools

Where to start?

- 1) Organization
 - a) Visit the undergraduate admission page
 - b) Create a spreadsheet
- 2) Students should be reviewing their transcript for accuracy
- 3) College List-maintain a “healthy” list
- 4) Application procedures-review for each school
- 5) Use your resources-reach out when you have questions.
 - a) **Don't wait until the last minute!**

Creating the “healthy” list

Reach

Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores fall below the school’s range for the average freshman. Reach schools are long shots. Reach schools **should not** be the bulk of your college list.

Realistic/Target/Match

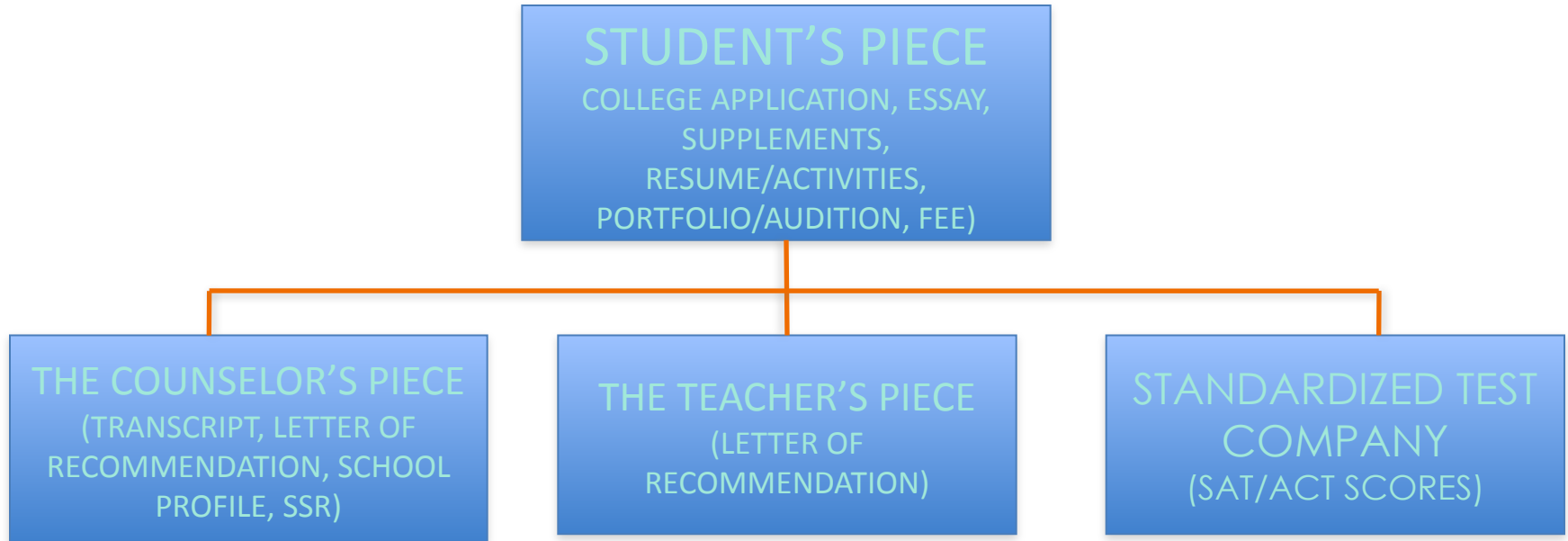
Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores fall within (or even exceed) the school’s range for the average freshman. The **majority** of schools that you apply to **should be in this category**.

Safety

Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores are **above** the school’s range for the average freshman. We recommend applying to **at least two safety schools**.

*On average, students apply to 6-10 schools

COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS



Types of Admission:

Regular Decision-materials are not reviewed until after the deadline.

Early Decision-Binding* agreement. Students must rescind all other applications if accepted into their Early Decision school. **You can only apply ED to one school.** Parents and counselor must sign off on in addition to the student.

Early Action- early deadline that is not binding. Students receive their decision about a month after the deadline.

Rolling- applications are reviewed and decided upon as they are submitted and received. Decision is made within 4-6 weeks of the school receiving all materials.

Open- all high school graduates are admitted on the basis of high school diploma (RVCC)

Deadlines



<u>Application Due Date:</u>	<u>Request Transcripts By:</u>
November 1st	October 10th
November 15th	October 20th
December 1st	November 3rd
January 1st	December 1st

Students cannot request transcripts until 10/2/23

***If your child has a 10/15 deadline, they should be requesting transcripts on 10/2/23!**

Transcript or SRAR (Self-Reported Academic Record)

Transcripts

- Includes courses, level (Academic, Honors, AP), final grade and credits earned.
- Includes a weighted GPA only
- Official transcripts are sent by the school counselor (via Naviance)
- We do not rank!

SRAR

- Student enters each course, level, grade and credits into the school's online application system.
- Students are provided with an unofficial transcript in Senior Seminar from their counselor (an electronic version is also emailed to every student after the add/drop period).

Community Colleges (RVCC)

- Requires transcript only after graduation unless applying to the Honors program.

SRAR Sample

Sample SRAR Entry

2019 - 2020 (10th Grade) [\(edit\)](#)

GPA: 95.20

Subject Area	Course	Actual Title	Type	Grade	Length (Credits/Units)	Term/Semester
English	ENGLISH 10	ENGLISH II H	Honors	94	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
Mathematics	ALGEBRA 2	ALGEBRA II H	Honors	90	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
Science	BIOLOGY	BIOLOGY H	Honors	94	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
World Language	LATIN 1	LATIN 1 CP	College Prep	99	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
History / Social Studies	AMERICAN/US HISTORY	US HISTORY I H	Honors	97	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
History / Social Studies	EUROPEAN HISTORY	AP EUROPEAN HISTORY	AP (Advanced Placement)	96	Full Year (05.00)	N/A
Phys. Ed / Health / Gym	PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH	H & PE 10	National SRAR Standard	97	Full Year (04.00)	N/A

Education System / Curriculum: American High School Diploma

Colleges & Universities that require SRAR

Rutgers

Baylor

Binghamton

Clemson

Duquesne

Florida Publics (most)

Kean

Louisiana State

Montclair

NYU

Penn State

Texas A & M

Texas Tech

SUNY Buffalo

UConn

UMinnesota

UOregon

UPitt

URI

UTennessee

UTexas Arlington

UTexas San Antonio

Virginia Tech

Standardized Testing

Test Optional- www.fairtest.org

[Compass Prep List](#)

Naviance versus college website (overall admission profile)

SAT- www.collegeboard.org

ACT- www.act.org

SAT Dates

2023–24 School Year Test Dates

SAT Test Date*	Deadline for Registration, Registration Changes, and Regular Cancellation
Aug 26, 2023	Aug 11, 2023 Register
Oct 7, 2023	Sep 22, 2023 Register
Nov 4, 2023	Oct 20, 2023 Register
Dec 2, 2023	Nov 17, 2023 Register

ACT Dates

TEST DATES

United States, US Territories, and Puerto Rico



2023|2024

Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 9, 2023	August 4	August 18	September 1
October 28, 2023	September 22	October 6	October 20
December 9, 2023	November 3	November 17	December 1
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19	February 2
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22	April 5
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17	May 31
July 13, 2024*	June 7	June 21	July 5

*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

Test Information Release for the 2023–2024 testing year will occur in September, April, and June. See www.act.org/the-act/tir for more information.

Sending Scores

- Many schools now accept self-reporting of scores. Student would put on the application or the SRAR.

Check the school requirements and do this whenever possible. It saves money and then you are not waiting on College Board to send them.

Many schools require scores directly from the College Board/ACT.

Request via your online account at least 2 weeks in advance.

There is a fee per school.

Requesting Letters of Recommendation:

There are two options:

- 1) You can choose to have both teachers send their recommendations to all colleges on your list.
- 2) You may specify which college(s) you would like teachers to send recommendations to.

*After the initial request to teachers; every time you add a transcript for a school and you wish for their recommendation to be sent, you MUST tell your teacher.

*It is important for students to remain in communication with their teachers to make sure their letters are sent to each school they want them sent to.

Letters of Recommendation

Letters of recommendation

Add new request

Here you can ask a teacher to write you a letter of recommendation. Make sure you give your teachers plenty of time to write your recommendations!

Cancel

Submit Request

1. Who would you like to write this recommendation?*

Altemose, David

2. Select the recommendation request type:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Select All	Colleges ^	Due ^
<input type="checkbox"/>	Albright College 0 required / 2 allowed / 0 requested	Jul 26 2023
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drexel University 1 required / 5 allowed / 0 requested	Nov 01 2022
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elon University 0 required / 1 allowed / 0 requested	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kean University 0 required / 10 allowed / 0 requested	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moravian University 0 required / 2 allowed / 0 requested	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ramapo College of New Jersey 1 required / 2 allowed / 0 requested	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rutgers University-New Brunswick -- required / -- allowed / 0 requested	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The College of New Jersey 0 required / 3 allowed / 0 requested	

Outside Recommenders

For example:

Coaches, Work Supervisors, Community Service Supervisors, Youth Group Advisors

Option 1 (Common App Schools only):

- Student may invite a non BRHS staff recommender on Common App as an “outside recommender” in the Assign Recommender section.

Option 2 (Any Non Common App School):

- Student should provide the recommender with the admissions office email address so the recommender can email it directly to the admissions office.

Counselor Recommendation

Students are required to complete their brag sheet for the counselor via Naviance.

*There is a separate teacher brag sheet. Students should not submit their Naviance brag sheet to teachers.

Secondary School Report

School Profile-students are evaluated within the context of their high school and what was available to them.

[BRHS School Profile](#)

The College Essay

Questions the student should ask themselves?

- What doesn't the admissions office know about me that I can enlighten them about?
- What motivates me? What am I passionate about?

Tips:

Be genuine

Be authentic

Use your voice (Colleges are looking for use of AI/Chat GPT)

*Each piece of the college application should be unique!

The College Essay

A good essay requires many drafts.

A good essay has been read by several people (parents, friend, teacher, counselor etc.)

A good essay ends on a positive note.

Personality/Character should be demonstrated through the essay!

A good essay TAKES TIME

Additional Essays/Supplements: Optional = Opportunities!

Special Circumstance Applications

Rutgers

- No transcript or recommendations for the application
- Relies on the “self-report” method (SRAR)
- Make sure to add Rutgers in Naviance under Colleges I am Applying to tab, however, **DO NOT** request transcripts to be sent.

UC (University of California) and Cal. State Schools

- Same as bullet points for Rutgers; add the school but do not request transcripts

Penn State

- Does not require teacher or counselor recommendations

RVCC

Application Process

Open Houses:

<https://www.raritanval.edu/admissions-information/open-houses-and-info-sessions>

Application: www.raritanval.edu

Placement Test (if needed): <https://www.raritanval.edu/placement-testing>

Honors College: [RVCC Honors College](#)

NJ Transfer- www.njtransfer.org

RVCC Application Process

- 1) Apply in February (ideal)
- 2) No transcript is submitted until after graduation
- 3) RVCC should be added to your child's Naviance account under Colleges I am Applying to
- 4) No SAT or ACT required
- 5) No letters of recommendations
- 6) If no eligible scores, placement test is required.
- 7) Student will take the placement test and then be ready for when Fall registration opens up.

NCAA

- 1) Division 1 or 2- must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center
[NCAA Website](#)
- 2) Request a transcript be sent to NCAA via Naviance
- 3) Test scores must be sent from testing center to NCAA (code 9999)
- 4) Division 3 - Contact the college for eligibility requirements

Financial Aid

FAFSA Changes

Usually opens 10/1

This year due to open December/January

www.studentaid.gov

Engage & connect with financial aid offices

Use Net Price Calculators on the college's website

Scholarships

Helpful Links for paying for college:

[Paying for College](#)

- All scholarships will be emailed to students through their Naviance account.
 - Students should review eligibility
 - Pay attention to deadlines

Spring of Senior Year-Local scholarship application will be sent out from the counseling office. Students must complete and submit all materials to be considered.

Managing College Decisions

- Acceptance, Deferral, Rejection
- Waitlist-express that you wish to remain on the list!
- Comparing Offers (May 1st deadline to commit for most)
 - ED has an earlier commitment date
- Choosing THE college!!!

Keeping Naviance Updated

- Students should update results in Naviance as they receive them
- Spring-indicate in Naviance where you intend to enroll (final transcript will be sent early July)
- Please reach out to your child's counselor if you have any questions at any time.

Contact the Counselors

1. **You can Book Me**-schedule directly with your counselor via their Google classroom
2. Email
3. Stop in the counseling office

Resources:

Assigned Counselor's Google Classroom

Naviance

BR Website

College and Career Counselor's Google Classroom Code: **yiynqnz**

Mrs. Kaiser's After School Open Office Hours:

Starting the week of September 18th

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2:05pm-3:30pm (in the Career Resource Room in the guidance office)

Tips for parents:

- Allow your child to take **ownership** of this process.
- Encourage your child to utilize their resources (assigned school counselor, teachers and myself) -they will be on their own in less than a year and this is a vital skill!
- Do not contact colleges on behalf of your child.
- Set aside a time once a week to discuss your child's progress and provide support.
- Check your email on a regular basis-make sure your child is doing the same.
- Follow financial aid deadlines/utilize net price calculators.
- Remind your child to check their application status via their portals.

Questions

