



From the COUNSELOR'S CORNER

November 2021

Remember that we are here for you via phone, email, and now for in person appointments, so don't hesitate to reach out to us. Visit our [Tahanto School Counseling website](#) for more information on available supports and resources.



CLASS OF 2022 APPLICATION UPDATE

The Class of 2022 has been active in their pursuit of postsecondary education. Over half of the seniors have already applied to at least one college, keeping the Counseling Office very busy processing over 230 transcript requests! Many of these applications are for Early Action and Early Decision and students have already received positive results!

Applied Early? Note that if your school materials were sent prior to November 14, your colleges will NOT have your quarter one grades. This is not automatically done. You need to directly request these from Ms. Rodman, verifying that your report card is accurate, if you would like an update sent to any college.

Hearing Decisions? Students have already begun hearing decisions from colleges and many more will be rolling in over the next months. Regardless of the result, please update the decisions on Naviance. See Ms. Rodman for help with this, keep her posted, and be sure to share your news with your recommenders as well.

Not Yet Applied? The majority of students apply to college under Regular Decision. There is still time to get this process underway. If you have an early January deadline, you should be meeting with Ms. Rodman right after Thanksgiving. If you are still uncertain of your plans or need help with the process,

make an appointment. Regardless of plans, Ms. Rodman will meet with every senior to discuss life after Tahanto.

Semester Grades? Midyear grades are sent to EVERY school where an initial transcript has been forwarded. This is done for all students automatically, so the transcript does NOT need to be specifically requested on Naviance. Timing of this falls after Quarter 2 and Mid-Term Exams are posted, generally early February.



HELP WITH HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

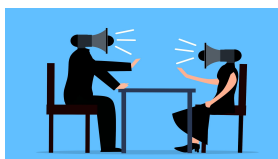
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) ([Official Form Link Here](#)) is required for anyone looking to receive federal financial aid for postsecondary education. The [CSS Profile](#) is required by some (mostly private) colleges and universities. Schools may additionally have their own institutional financial aid forms as well.

Need help?

Attend a free virtual presentation from MEFA: Daily College Financing Webinars for Families. Register at mefa.org/events for a live webinar. To view a recorded webinar, please view MEFA Videos page [here](#).

If you have any questions concerning the FAFSA please reach out to MEFA at (800) 449-MEFA (6332) or collegeplanning@mefa.org. Get [FREE help here](#) with applying for college financial aid through Massachusetts FAFSA completion days.

Mistakes in the financial aid process can be costly, so review the [10 FAFSA mistakes to avoid](#).



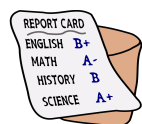
GIVING SENIORS A BREAK THIS THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is often a time for family and friends to reconnect. Review [this article](#) about how your high school senior may need a break however, from the barrage of questions they tend to receive this time of year. Keep this in mind and help lower the stress during this holiday season.



FRESHMEN CLASSROOM PRESENTATIONS

This month, Ms. Rodman and Mr. Picariello met with all members of the Class of 2025. They discussed the transition to high school with the freshmen. Terms such as GPA, transcripts, credits, and graduation requirements were reviewed. Students learned more about the role of School Counselors and other support staff in the building. Then, each student was introduced to [Naviance](#), a college and career readiness platform. They learned how to log into the system and what tools could be helpful for them; this included goal setting, resume writing, career exploration, and college searching. In the Self-Discovery section, students enjoyed taking a personality assessment. Ask your freshman how accurate their results were!



END OF QUARTER ONE

First quarter grades are in the books and report cards have been issued. Stay up to date with PowerSchool, Google Classrooms, and direct communication with teachers. We still have a long year ahead of us, so there is plenty of time to turn things around, if necessary. From after school extra help sessions to peer tutoring, from developing new study skills and organizational strategies, there are steps students can take to make a change. Don't hesitate to reach out for any additional assistance.



LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE?

Leo's for the Lions Club is open to any Tahanto student ages 12-18 who wants to do community service. Some activities include volunteering at Wheat in Clinton, working with Hope Lives Here, collections for Abby's House, and making cards for seniors. Interested students meet every 3rd Sunday of the month at the Town House at 7pm.



KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR DEPRESSION

[Child Mind](#) reminds us that as we head towards winter, still dealing with the pandemic, it's more important than ever to keep an eye out for signs of depression, especially in teenagers. With so many things important to teenagers disrupted — school, seeing friends, sports, and other activities that shape identity — many kids are struggling, even those without a history of depression or anxiety. They provide these [tips and resources](#).



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

I am grateful to work with your students and within this wonderful Tahanto community. May you find much to be thankful for this holiday.

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