

# COLLEGE PLANNING FOR JUNIORS & THEIR FAMI

 MIDDLEBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL Part II **Spring 2025** 



M https://mhs.middleboro.k12.ma.us/about-our-schools/counseling-department/department-welcome



@Sachem Guidance

@mhscounseling1

# What You Should Be Doing Over the Summer





# Junior Timeline

#### **April:**

- · Continue researching colleges on Scoir.
- Set up college tours with admissions offices for April Vacation.
- Begin to narrow down your college list.
- Send "Thank You" notes to the people who interviewed/showed you around campus.
- KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!

04/05/25

ACT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

04/16/25

College Planning for Juniors & Their Families-What You Should Be Doing Over the Summer workshop,

6:00pm MHS Black Box Theatre.

04/18/25

Deadline to Register for the 05/03/25 SAT. (MHS is a test site)

#### May:

- · Continue researching colleges in Scoir.
- Continue to narrow down your college list.
- · KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!

05/03/25

SAT administered. (MHS is a test site)

05/09/25

Deadline to register for the 06/14/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

05/22/25

Deadline to register for the 06/07/25 SAT. (Recommended if you did not register for the 05/03/25 SAT)

05/22/25

Deadline to late register for the 06/07/25 SAT. (Recommended if you did not register for the 05/03/25 SAT)

05/27/25

Deadline to late register for the 06/14/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

#### June:

 Ask a core academic teacher if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf for college.
 Ask your School Counselor any final questions before you leave for the summer.

· KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!

06/07/25

SAT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

06/06/25

Deadline to register for the 07/12/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

06/14/25

ACT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

06/20/25

Deadline to late register for the 07/12/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

#### July:

- Continue to visit colleges.
- · Write a rough draft of your essay.
- Review & update your Teacher Recommendation, School Counselor Recommendation & Activities Sheets.
- Start checking to see if the colleges you are applying to have posted the Fall 2024 Freshman applications.
- Watch for the registration deadline for the 08/26/23 SAT.
- Read the School Counseling Department Newsletter for important updates.

07/12/25

ACT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

#### **August:**

- Attend the MHS College Application Boot Camp.
- Set-up an on-line account with the colleges that you are applying to and/or the Common Application (www.commonapp.org). \*\*Type the Email Address & Password You Used In Your Cell Phone! \*\*
- Start downloading and filling out applications
- Register for either the October or November SAT if you have not already taken it twice.
- Have a rough draft of your essay completed.
- Read the School Counseling Department Newsletter for important updates.

08/01/25 08/19/25 Deadline to register for the 09/06/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site) Deadline to late register for the 09/06/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

08/23/25 SAT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

#### **September**

- Watch for the registration deadline for the 10/07/23 SAT.
- Attend College Planning for Seniors & Their Families-The Nuts & Bolts of Applying to College.
- · Updated GPA's will be posted on your Scoir account.
- · Read the School Counseling Department Newsletter for important updates.

09/06/25

ACT administered. (MHS is not a test site)

09/12/25

Deadline to register for the 10/18/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

09/30/25

Deadline to late register for the 10/18/25 ACT. (MHS is not a test site)

# **LOOKING AHEAD**



## **CLASS of 2026**

#### **COLLEGE PLANNING WORKSHOP - Part II**

Table of Contents			
Topic	<u>Page</u>		
Timeline	Inside Cover		
Your School Counseling Staff	2		
A Word from the School Counseling Department	2		
What You Should Already Have Done	3		
Testing Information	4		
• ACT	4		
• SAT	4		
CEEB Code	5		
Teacher Recommendations	6		
School Counselor Recommendation	8		
Activities Sheet	10		
Sample of What to List on Your Activities Sheet	11		
The College Interview	12		
Suggestions	12		
Sample Questions You May Be Asked	12		
Sample Questions You Might Ask	12		
The Application & Admission	13		
Overview of Application Process     How Many Colleges Should LApply To	13 14		
How Many Colleges Should I Apply To     College Acceptance Criteria	14		
Students on IEP's or 504's	15		
Types of Application Deadlines	15		
Important Information Needed To Complete Your College Applications	16		
The Essay	17		
Tips for Writing Your Essay	17		
2025-2026 Common Application Essay Prompts	18		
College Application Boot Camp	19		
How to Prepare for Boot Camp	20		
Boot Camp Details	21		
Mark Your Calendars	22		
Sample Forms	i		
Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for Teacher	ii		
Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor	iv 		
Activities Sheet	vii 		
Glossary of Terms	viii		

# **Your School Counseling Staff**

	Staff Member	Student's <u>Last Name</u>	Phone <u>Ext</u>	<u>Email</u>
(49)	Mrs. Amy B. Beirne School Counselor	A-Dau	3110	abeirne @middleboro.k12.ma.us
	Mrs. Colleen E. Breton School Counselor	Dav-Jo	3221	cbreton@middleboro.k12.ma.us
	Mr. Andrew R. Swiderski School Counselor	Ju-Ph	3133	aswiderski @middleboro.k12.ma.us
	Mr. Stephen E. Goldman School Counselor	Pi-Z	3111	sgoldman@middleboro.k12.ma.us
San	Mrs. Tammy C. Miller School to Career Counselor	Sr Internships Early College	3124	millert@middleboro.k12.ma.us
	Mrs. Gretchen Ponte Administrative Assistant		3109	gponte@middleboro.k12.ma.us

A Word
from the
School
Counseling
Department

Your school counselor is here to advise you during the college planning process. Our job is not to choose your colleges or to get you admitted, but to direct you in the exploration of possibilities, to help you make more knowledgeable choices, and to help guide you through the application process.

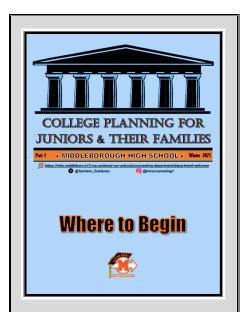
We can bring facts about you and your background to the college's attention. Your job is to help your school counselor highlight your unique qualities, personal strengths, and special circumstances.

Remember, in most cases, you are looking to make a four-year commitment. Be yourself! Don't try to be what you think the colleges want you to be! Choose your college because it is the right one for you and you are right for it!

# What You Should Have Already Done

#### A Review of the Previous Workshop

Please refer back to the "Where to Begin" workbook for information that was previously distributed.



Presented to students & parents/ guardians on January 8, 2025.

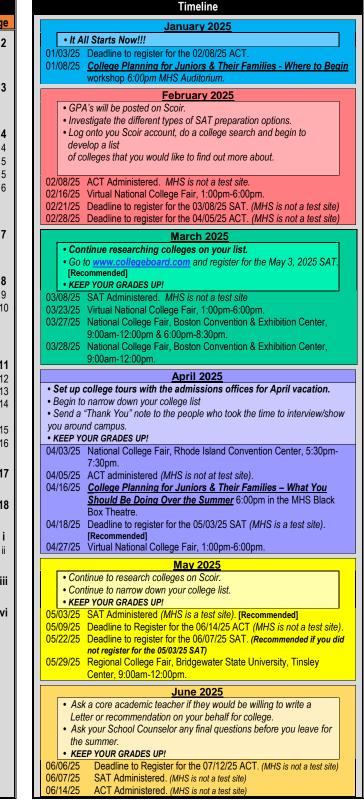
If you were unable to attend, all info is available at:

https://mhs.middleboro.k12.ma.us/about-ourschools/counseling-department/departmentwelcome

Click on the Junior Info link.



Table of Contents	
Topic P	age
A Word from the Schoo Counseling Department	
Where to Begin • Junior Checklists	3
Testing Info	4
SAT vs ACT     Testing Timeline	4 5
• ACT Info	5
• SAT Info	6
• CEEB Code	
School Counseling Department Website	7
Scoir	8
<ul> <li>Activities Sheet</li> </ul>	9
<ul> <li>What to List on Your</li> </ul>	10
Activities Sheet	
Matching Self to	
School	11
Next Steps	12
The College Search     Tipe for Visiting	13 14
Tips for Visiting     Colleges	14
Questions to Ask	15
Get on Mail/Email Lists	16
The Big Don'ts	17
The big bon to	
Mark Your Calendar	18
Sample Forms	i
Activities Sheet	ii
Glossary of Terms	iii
Notes	vi



# Testing Information



<u>The ACT</u> is an achievement-based test that coincides with the general curriculum. It is not an aptitude or an IQ test. Instead, the questions on the ACT are directly related to what you have learned in your high school courses of English, mathematics, and science. It consists of up to 5 sections: English, mathematics, reading, science, and an optional writing test. **Students should take the writing section.** Most colleges and universities recognize the ACT as being comparable to the SAT.

# Test Dates & Deadlines Fest Registration Date Deadline Control Control

Date	Deadline	Registration Deadline
06/14/25	05/09/25	05/26/25
07/12/25	06/06/25	06/20/25
09/06/25	08/01/25	08/19/25
10/18/25	09/12/25	09/30/25
12/13/25	11/07/25	11/24/25

#### MHS is not a test center for the ACT

- ➤ You must register with a credit card online at www.actstudent.org.
- ► Registration for the ACT Test is \$65.00. Writing Add-On \$25.00.
- ► Science Add-On \$4.00.
- ▶ If you receive free or reduced lunch, see your School Counselor for a fee waiver.
- ► There is an additional fee of \$38.00 to register late, try to avoid this.



The SAT is a measure of the critical thinking skills. It assesses how well you analyze and solve problems--these are skills you have learned in school will need in college. Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800 with 500 being considered an average score. It is administered seven times a year.

You should take the SAT twice (one in junior year and one in senior year).

We strongly recommend taking your first SAT on May 3, 2025!

#### **Test Dates & Deadlines**

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	
*05/03/25	04/18/25	04/22/25	
06/07/25	05/22/25	05/27/25	
08/23/25	TBA	TBA	
09/13/15	TBA	TBA	
10/04/25	TBA	TBA	
11/08/25	TBA	TBA	
12/06/25	TBA	TBA	

- ➤ You must register with a credit card online at <u>www.collegeboard.com</u>.
- ▶ Registration for the SAT is \$68.00.
- ▶ If you receive free or reduced lunch, see your School Counselor for a fee waiver.
- ► There is an additional fee of \$34.00 to register late try to avoid this.
- \* = MHS is a test site on this date

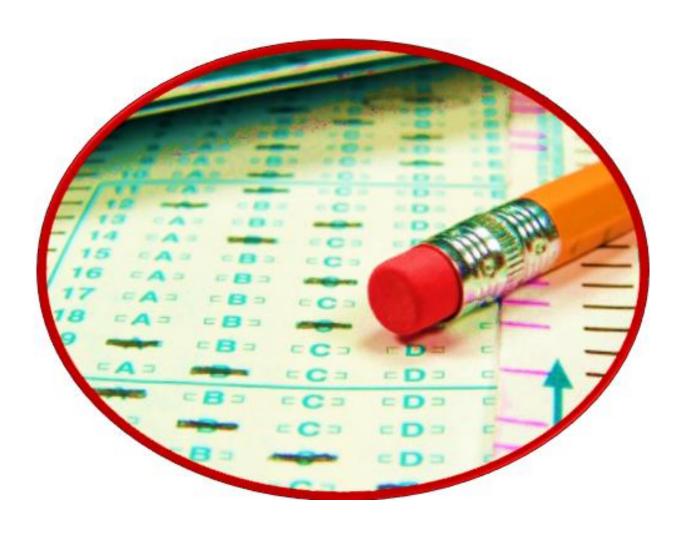
## CEEB Code



The CEEB (College Entrance Examination Board) code is a unique number assigned to every high school and college. You will need to provide this code when registering to take the SAT and/or the ACT.

Middleborough High School's CEEB Code is:

221405



# Teacher Recommendation

#### **Very Importantili**

If you have not already done so, you should ask one of your junior teachers

If they would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation in the fall!

Your teacher's recommendation will highlight your academic performance. Upon your request, a copy of this letter will be sent to each school to which you apply.

<u>Please note that in most cases, you will only need one academic letter of recommendation.</u>

Read each application carefully and DO NOT send more than the college is asking for!

It could work against you, as some colleges may note in your file that you did not follow directions.

	LETTER OF RECOM	MENDATIO R TEACHEF			
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	CAREER	INTERESTS			
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Teacher:	Class you took wi	th me:	Overall Grade:		
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TH	THREE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE YOUR WORK, BEHAVIOR,				
	PARTICIPATION AND ATTITUDE IN MY CLASS				
	Please explain wh	y you chose each one.			
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2.					
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		Get more out of Scoir To improve your experience with SCOIR, we recommend completing the items below before you continue explorin	0	1	V	Serior at Middleborough High School View Profile
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In order for your letter to be composed, you must first complete the Teacher Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet.

When completing the Teacher Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet, you should provide as much detailed information as possible in order to assist the teacher in writing your letter. If the question is "My proudest accomplishment in your class," be sure to provide details such as a well-written paper, a project that you excelled at, or a presentation you did well on. These details provide the teacher with information to reference in your letter. \*\*Do not write: "My Proudest Accomplishment in your class was getting an A." It's important that you explain why this is an accomplishment.

After completing this form, save it as a Word Document, outside of Scoir, to either your desktop or a flash drive. DO NOT SAVE THIS FORM IN GOOGLE!

When you return in the fall, you will need to provide your teacher with a copy of your completed teacher recommendation form.

You can find the Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for Teacher in your Scoir account by clicking on:

- 1 The *Me* tab
- 2 ...and then View Profile.

Scroll down to the bottom of the page

3 Click on the **Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for Teacher** and begin.

A sample of how to complete this form is located in the back of this workbook.

## **Teacher Recs Continued**

#### Who Might You Ask?

- ▶ One teacher from junior year, who can speak to your current academic achievement.
- ► Select a teacher who you feel knows you the best.
- ► A teacher who you've had more than once.
- ► Consider your potential major when asking a teacher for a letter. You should ask a teacher from a related discipline, i.e. if you are considering engineering, science or health sciences as a major, then you should ask a science or math teacher for a letter.

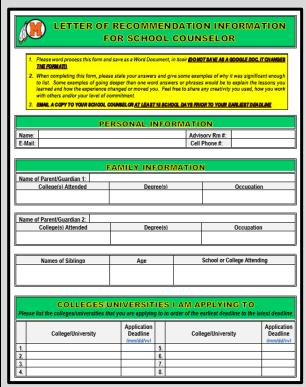
#### What Not To Do

- ▶ Do not ask teachers you had in 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade unless you currently have them or will have them again senior year. The reason you do not ask 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade teachers is because the colleges are more interested in how you are performing academically now, not in the past.
- ▶ If you are asking more than one teacher for a letter of recommendation, make sure that they are not from the same discipline.
- ▶ Please note that <u>a letter of recommendation from an administrator is not considered an academic reference</u> and should only be used as a secondary letter (if necessary).



# School Counselor Rec

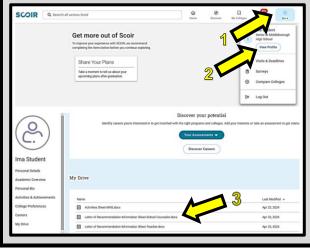
In order for your letter to be composed, you must first complete the Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor.



When completing the Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor, you should provide as much detailed information as possible in order to assist the school counselor in writing your letter. If the question is "My proudest accomplishment in your class," be sure to provide details such as a well-written paper, a project that you excelled at, or a presentation you did well on. These details provide the teacher with information to reference in your letter. \*\*Do not write: "My Proudest Accomplishment in your class was getting an A." It's important that you explain why this is an accomplishment.

After completing this form, <u>save it as a Word</u>
<u>Document, outside of Scoir</u>, to either your desktop or a flash drive. <u>DO NOT SAVE THIS FORM IN</u>
<u>GOOGLE!</u>

When you return in the fall, you will need to email your school counselor a copy of your completed Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor.



You can find the Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor in your Scoir account by clicking on:

- 1 The *Me* tab
- 2 ...and then View Profile.

Next, scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the Activities Sheet

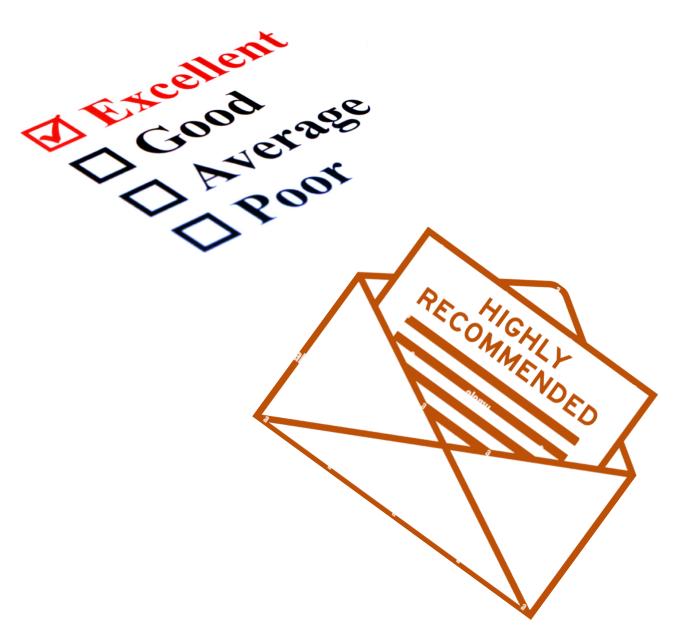
3 Click on the Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor and begin.

A sample of how to complete this form is located in the back of this workbook.

# **School Counselor Rec Continued**

## <u>Tips for completing your School Counselor Letter of Recommendation</u> Information Sheet

- ▶ It is important that you take your time completing the School Counselor Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet.
- ▶ It is meant to assist your school counselor in writing your letter of recommendation.
- ▶ It does not need to be a novel; however, the more detailed and descriptive information you provide allows your counselor to better highlight your uniqueness and individuality. Simply put...you get out of it, what you put into it!
- ▶ The general rule when completing this form is to state your answer and then give two or three examples or why it was meaningful or significant to you. The admissions counselors will have already read all of the information you provided on your application, it is the anecdotal information that they are interested in.



# Activities Sheet



The Activities Sheet is where you will list all of your extra-curricular activities (both in and out of school), primarily from grades 9-12. If you have been involved in long-term activities from a young age such as dance, horseback riding, piano or Boys/Girl Scouts just to name a few, you should also list those activities. Avoid listing activities that you did once or twice in middle school and did not continue in high school. On the next page is a sample of some of the things you should be including on your Activities Sheet

After completing this form, <u>save it as a Word Document, outside of Scoir</u>, to either your desktop or a flash drive. <u>DO NOT SAVE THIS FORM IN GOOGLE!</u> It will change the formatting.

When you return in the fall, you will need to email your school counselor a copy of your completed Letter of Recommendation Information Sheet for School Counselor.

To save on your school issued device:

Click on Save As

Click **OK** through the prompts

When viewing *File Explorer*, choose *This PC* and locate your Student Computer file name (*Example: 26LastNameFirstInitial*) & click *Save*.

You can find the Activities Sheet in your Scoir raccount by clicking on:

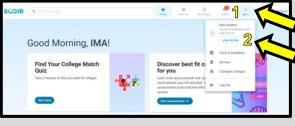
- 1 The **Me** tab
- 2 ...and then View Profile.

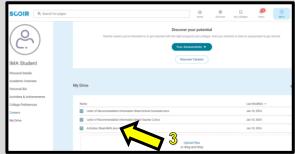
Next, scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the Activities Sheet

Click on the **Activities Sheet** and begin.

A sample of how to complete this form is located in the back of this workbook.

\*\*This document will also be needed when you apply for scholarships in the spring. \*\*







# **What to List on Your Activities Shee**

#### **Athletics**



Baseball **Gymnastics** Swimming & Diving

Basketball Ice Hockey Tennis Cheerleading Indoor Track Track & Field **Cross Country** Unified Basketball Lacrosse Field Hockey Unified Track & Field Majorette

Football Soccer Volleyball Golf Softball Wrestling

#### Clubs



Anime Club Game Club Sachem Supporters

**Book Club** Gender & Sexuality Alliance Speech & Theatre Workshop

Creative Writing Club Start Strong Key Club Chess Club **Mathematics Team** Yearbook (Timaron)

Dungeons & Dragons Club Youth Environmental Service Society (YESS) Pizza Club

Sachem Buddies

#### **Honor Societies**



International Thespian Society (Theatre)

Mu Alpha Theta National Honor Society (Mathematics)

National English Honor Society

National High School Slavic Honor Society (Russian)

National Honor Society

Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society

Science National Honor Society

Silver M Honor Society

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (Spanish)

Société Honoraire de Français (French)

Tri-M Music Honor Society

#### Student Government



Class Council **School Council** Student Council

#### Outside of School



Babysitting

Baseball Club/Town Basketball Club/Town

**Boy/Girl Scouts** 

**Boxing** 

Cheerleading Club/ Town

Church/Mosque/Temple Involvement

Community Service/Volunteer Work

Dance

Field Hockey Club/Town Flag Football Club/Town

Golf Club/Town

Horseback Riding/Equestrian

Ice Hockey Club/Town Lacrosse Club/Town

Martial Arts Part-Time Work Soccer Club/Town

Softball Club/Town Special Olympics Swimming Club/Town Tennis Club/Town Track & Field Club/Town Ultimate Frisbee

Volleyball Club/Town

# The College Interview



Not all colleges require an on-campus interview; many will not offer one at all. Check the college website/literature to determine the individual college's policy.

If a college recommends an interview, <u>take full advantage</u> <u>of the opportunity</u>! Don't be nervous. Remember, this is not just an opportunity for the college to find out about you, it is also an opportunity for you to find out about the college!

#### If the college/university recommends/requires an interview, here are some suggestions.

- 1. Call the Admissions Office well in advance. Schedules fill up early.
- Interview at your first choice school last. This gives you a chance to compare your first choice college with all others. Even more important, you will be at your most experienced for that last interview.
- 3. <u>Bring your parents/caregivers along.</u> The admissions counselor may want to involve them in the interview process but it also provides a good chance for your parents to talk with the financial aid counselor. (If they plan on talking to a financial aid counselor, they should schedule an appointment in advance.)
- 4. Remember to be yourself —Be relaxed! Dress nicely, not in extremes; be on time; show the interviewer that you know something about the college; let them know what interests you. Arranging the interview to follow a campus tour may be helpful.
- 5. <u>This is not an interrogation</u>. It is an exchange of information that is used to make the student-college match.
- 6. When you get home, <u>always write a Thank-You note to your interviewer.</u> This note will go into your admissions folder and can serve to supply any information you may have forgotten to give and reinforce the interviewer's memory of you.

#### Sample Questions You May Be Asked

- ▶ Why do you think you might like to come to this college?
- ▶ What 3 adjectives would your best friend use to describe you?
- ▶ What activities have you found you have enjoyed the most?
- ▶ What things do you do well?
- ▶ What strengths would you most like to develop?
- ► What do you do for fun?
- ► What issues concern you?

#### **Sample Questions You Might Ask**

- ▶ What is the most popular major on campus? Why?
- ▶ Is the college strong in my field of interest? If yes, how so?
- ► What extra-curricular activities and cultural opportunities are strongly supported by the college and student body?
- ▶ Will applying for financial aid have an impact on the admissions decision?
- ▶ What type of issues will get the students' attention at this campus?
- ▶ What are the computer requirements for this campus?
- ▶ Will I have an academic advisor? How are advisors assigned?
- Am I a competitive candidate for admission?

# Application & Admission



5. Test Scores

### **Get organized now!**

You will be better prepared in the fall and know what to expect as you move through the application process.

#### Before senior year you should:

- Work on finalizing your list of colleges.
- ► Complete a rough draft of your essay.
- ➤ Complete your teacher recommendation, School Counselor recommendation and activities sheets.

#### Here is a quick overview of the application process:

All college applications are not the same, some colleges only accept their own application while others accept the "Common Application". There are over 900 colleges that subscribe to the Common Application. You can check to see which schools accept the Common Application by going to <a href="www.commonapp.org">www.commonapp.org</a> and selecting the Member Colleges & Universities tab. If two or more colleges in your list accept the Common Application then it is worthwhile for you to complete this application.

#### The major components of college applications are:

1. Application, Essay, & Fee Completed by you.

2. Secondary School Report Completed by you and your school counselor.

3. Recommendations One by your School Counselor and one by a teacher

(unless otherwise stated by the college).

4. Transcript & School Profile Sent in by your School Counselor, upon an (includes class rank & GPA for 9th, electronic request through Scoir, by the student.

10th & 11th grade)

The student is responsible for requesting that College Board (SAT) and/or American College Testing (ACT) send their scores to the colleges they are applying to. (The School Counseling Department does not have the ability, nor the legal right to send official scores!)



## **How Many Colleges Should I Apply To**

With the cost of college application fees ranging anywhere from \$10.00 to \$100.00, most seniors typically apply to 4-6 colleges and categorize their potential colleges into three categories:

**Realistic** More than a 50% chance of admittance.

**Reach/Stretch** Less than a 50% chance of admittance.

Safety/Back-Up Without a doubt, no questions asked, you have beyond what the

college is looking for.

When finalizing your list, the majority of the colleges should fit into the "Realistic" category.

Always be sure to have at least one "Safety/Back-Up" college on your list for the following reasons:

▶ Academic requirements

► Financial Considerations

▶ Proximity to home

# **College Acceptance Criteria**

C = Course Selection

R = Recommendations

= Interests

Test Scores

**E** = Essay

Rank/GPA

= Interview

= Awards, Recognitions, Extracurricular Activities

## Students on an IEP's or 504's

- ▶ All colleges offer some type of support to students on an IEP or a 504 Accommodation Plan.
- ▶ Some schools offer alternative admissions or specialized programs.
- ▶ Visit the Office for Students with Disabilities.
- ► You must be a strong advocate for yourself.
- ▶ Pick-up a handbook in the School Counseling Office on post-secondary planning for students with disabilities.

## Types of Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary so be sure to check your dates and deadlines. If you are planning on applying Early Action or Early Decision you should begin working with your School Counselor during the spring of your junior year to ensure they are prepared to meet an earlier deadline. It is important to note that colleges/universities do not necessarily use all of these different application deadlines.

#### There are five different types of college/university application deadlines:

Non-Binding. You may apply to as many colleges as you would like **Early Action** Nov. 1st-Dec. 15th to. If accepted, you may wait until you receive the replies from the

other colleges that you have applied to.

Legally Binding. You may only apply to one college for Early **Early Decision** Nov. 1st-Dec. 15th

Decision. I accepted, you must withdraw all of your Non-Early Decision applications and enroll in the college that you were

accepted Early Decision to.

Non-Binding. Similar to Early Action, but usually specific to the **Priority** 

individual college.

Non-Binding. Regular Decision

Jan. 1st-Apr. 15th

Varies

Rolling Admissions Non-Binding. No deadline, but don't wait too long, if the college

No Deadline fills up early, you may be out of luck.













# Important Information Needed To Complete Your College Applications

#### Middleborough's CEEB Code

221405

### Middleborough High School Address

Middleborough High School 71 East Grove Street Middleborough, MA 02346

#### **School Phone**

(508) 946-2010

#### **School Counseling Dept. Fax**

(508) 946-8852

#### **Principal**

Mr. Paul F. Branagan, Jr.

School Counselors				
Counselor's Name	<u>Title</u>	Phone Ext	<u>E-Mail</u>	
Mrs. Amy B. Beirne	School Counselor	3110	abeirne@middleboro.k12.ma.us	
Mrs. Colleen Breton	School Counselor	3221	cbreton@middleboro.k12.ma.us	
Mr. Stephen E. Goldman	School Counselor	3111	sgoldman@middleboro.k12.ma.us	
Mr. Andrew R. Swiderski	School Counselor	3133	aswiderski @middleboro.k12.ma.us	

**Class Size** 

**TBA** 

Years Attended Middleborough

\*09/2022-06/2026

**Anticipated Date of Graduation** 

06/06/2026

\*Unless you transferred in at a later date

# The Essay



## \*\*Start Early\*\*

The essay is one of the most significant parts of the application package. It offers the college a glimpse into the person behind the transcript.

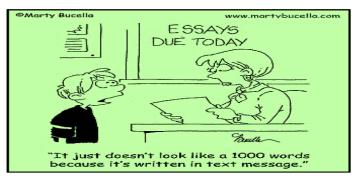
The essay is the most time-consuming part of the application. You should have a rough draft by the time you return to school in September.

The seriousness of your application is partially determined by your essay. A sloppy, quickly written essay indicates that you don't take the application seriously!

The essay is typically between 250-650 words in length.

#### **Tips for Writing Your Essay**

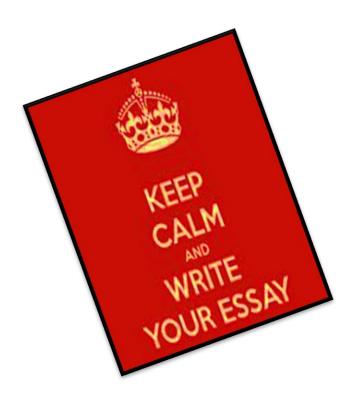
- ► Focus on using this space to introduce yourself, or a piece of yourself, to the admissions committee. Answer the question posed, but keep in mind that the experience or event described should be secondary to the main purpose of providing a personal introduction
- ► Answer the question and demonstrate how well you think in addition to your written communication skills. Remember to use "spell-check" on the computer.
- ▶ Be concise, specific, personal and honest. Don't lose yourself in your answer or the admissions counselor won't be able to find you in your essay.
- ► Write in your own "voice" whether that is realistic, witty or imaginative this speaks to who you are as much as the subject you write about.
- ► <u>Use proper grammar</u>! Capitalize the beginning of sentences and proper nouns and use appropriate punctuation.
- ► Teachers and counselors are an excellent resource for students whether it is getting started or finishing up that seems to be difficult. Please do not hesitate to ask for help.
- ► Ask your English teacher to proofread your essays.

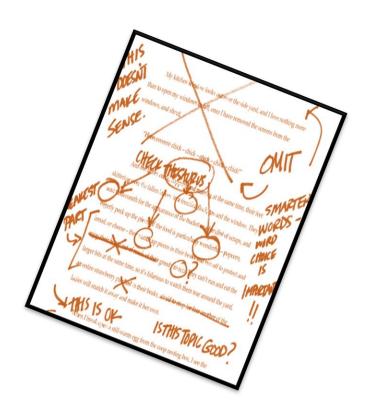




#### 2025-2026 Essay Prompts

- 1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- 2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- 3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
- 4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
- 5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
- 6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
- 7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.





# College Application Boot Camp

The Middleborough High School English and School Counseling Departments partner to offer a College Application Boot Camp program which assists students in writing their college essay and completing the Common Application.

This program is designed to prepare students who will be applying to 4-year colleges and/or universities during the fall of their senior year.

During the week-long program, the main goals are to assist your student with the following:

- ★ Writing their college essay.
- \* Revising the essay.
- \* Setting up and completing the Common Application.
- ★ Officially requesting a teacher recommendation.

The Common Application essay will be the main focus, and students should be prepared to write multiple drafts. Students will receive feedback from an English teacher and will meet with the teacher in both small groups and one-on-one to discuss their essay. Additionally, students will have access to college essay and application resources through Google Classroom, and these materials will be posted the week before Boot Camp begins for the student's review. Students should review the 2025-2026 Common Application essay prompts (located on page 18), in advance of the workshop.

It is important that students check the email they provide the week before Boot Camp starts, as the session facilitator will be in contact regarding what information the student should prepare ahead of time and bring to the Boot Camp.

At the completion of the College Application Boot Camp, students will be about 95% complete with the college application process and will be able to focus on their senior year classes and activities.

## **How to Prepare for Boot Camp**

Listed below are a few things to prepare you for the Monday session:

- ★ Reminder, Monday sessions are three hours, not two and run from 8:00am-11:00am and 12:00pm-3:00pm.
- \* Have a narrowed down list of colleges that you are applying to.
- \* Have your Scoir user name and password at hand.
- ★ Bring your completed Activities Sheet.
- \* Bring your Social Security Number (you will need this if you plan on applying for Financial Aid).
- \* Bring he names/addresses of other High School(s) you may have attended.
- \* Bring a list the courses you have completed at the college level (including Dual
- \* Enrollment) and the dates that you attended.
- \* Bring a list of honors you have received related to your academic achievements beginning with 9th grade.
- ★ Bring the following family Information:

#### Both Parent/Caregiver All Sibling(s) Full Legal Names Full Legal Names Phone Numbers Age(s) Email Addresses Education Level(s) Occupations College(s) Attended Job Position/Titles Degree(s) Expected/Received Education Levels College Start Date All College(s) Attended College End Date Number of Degrees and the year(s) they received them

On the Monday of the Boot Camp week, students will meet with their school counselor, set up and complete a Common Application account, and link it to their Scoir account in preparation to request, transcripts, letters of recommendation and other supporting documents that will need to be prepared by the school counselors and submitted to the colleges.

<u>Do not register for a Common Application account</u> prior to College Application Boot Camp!

## **Boot Camp Details**

#### **Dates & Times**:

Students who are interested in participating will sign up for one of the four groups listed below (based on space availability). Each group has five required meeting times.

		Group 1				Group 3	
Day	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	Day	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Mon	08/04/25	8am-11am	Common Application	Mon	08/11/25	8am-11am	Common Application
Tue	08/05/25	8am-10am	Essay	Tue	08/12/25	8am-10am	Essay
Wed	08/06/25	8am-10am	Essay	Wed	08/13/25	8am-10am	Essay
Thu	08/07/25	8am-10am	Essay	Thu	08/14/25	8am-10am	Essay
Fri	08/08/25	8am-10am	Essay	Fri	08/15/25	8am-10am	Essay
		Group 2				Group 4	
Day	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	Day	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Mon	08/04/25	12pm-3pm	Common Application	Mon	08/11/25	12pm-3pm	Common Application
Tue	08/05/25	12pm-2pm	Essay	Tue	08/12/25	12pm-2pm	Essay
Wed	08/06/25	12pm-2pm	Essay	Wed	08/13/25	12pm-2pm	Essay
Thu	08/07/25	12pm-2pm	Essay	Thu	08/14/25	12pm-2pm	Essay
Fri	08/08/25	12pm-2pm	Essay	Fri	08/15/25	12pm-2pm	Essay

#### Cost:

The cost of the program is \$75.00 per student and payment should be submitted to Mrs. Holmgren in the MHS Main Office via cash or money order payable to the "Town of Middleborough"

#### Registration Deadline:

Registration and payment are due by August 1, 2025.

If you have not submitted payment before Boot Camp, you will not be admitted.

#### To Register:

Please click on the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSe5Fc7txbyLvE2HAWRckpZQKKIfOTTzIQ0vopPsHb-p\_50O9g/viewform

# Mark Your Galendars

#### COLLEGE APPLICATION BOOT CAMP August 2025 Group 1 Group 3 Date **Activity** <u>Date</u> <u>Time</u> Activity Time <u>Day</u> Day 08/04/25 8am-11am Common Application Mon Mon 08/11/25 8am-11am Common Application Tue 08/05/25 8am-10am 08/12/25 Essay 8am-10am Essay Tue Wed 08/06/25 8am-10am Essay Wed 08/13/25 8am-10am Essay Essay Thu 08/07/25 8am-10am Thu 08/14/25 8am-10am Essay Fri 08/08/25 8am-10am Essay Fri 08/15/25 8am-10am Essay Group 2 Group 4 Day Date <u>Activity</u> Day Date Time Activity <u>Time</u> 12pm-3pm Common Application Mon 08/04/25 08/11/25 12pm-3pm Common Application Tue 08/05/25 12pm-2pm Essay Tue 08/12/25 12pm-2pm Essay 08/06/25 Wed Essay Wed 08/13/25 Essay 12pm-2pm 12pm-2pm 08/07/25 Thu 12pm-2pm Essay Thu 08/14/25 12pm-2pm Essay 08/08/25 08/15/25 12pm-2pm Essav 12pm-2pm Essay



#### COLLEGE PLANNING FOR SENIORS & THEIR FAMILIES

The Nuts & Bolts of Applying to College

Fall 2025 6:00pm



#### Financial Aid Workshops

Fall 2025 / Winter 2026



#### Scholarship Information Night

February 2026 6:00pm



#### NATIONAL COLLEGE SIGNING DAY

May 1, 2026

This is the deadline date in which students must formally notify one college that they are accepting its offer of admission -- and seal the deal with a deposit.



#### Senior Week

May / June 2026

Senior Memory Night • Yearbook Distribution • Senior B-B-Q • Senior Prom • Senior Breakfest • Senior Prom • Senior Last Assembly • Cap & Gown Distribution • Scholarship Night • Senior Walk



#### **CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION**

June 6, 2026 6:00pm Middleborough High School Stadium

# Sample Forms



# LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INFORMATION FOR TEACHER

- 1. Please word process this form and save as a Word Document, in Scoir (DO NOT SAVE AS A GOOGLE DOC, IT CHANGES THE FORMATI).
- 2. When completing this form, please state your answers and give some examples of why it was significant enough to list. Some examples of going deeper than one-word answers or phrases would be to explain the non-academic lessons you learned and how the experience changed or moved you. Feel free to share any creativity you used in the classroom, how you work with others and/or your level of commitment to your classes.

3. EMAIL A COPY TO YOUR TEAC	HER <u>at least 15 school day</u>	•	EST DEADLINE.
	PERSONAL INF	ORMATION	
Name:	Telephone:	Email:	
<b>-</b>			
	CAREER INT	TERESTS	
Major:		areer:	
Describe when and how you e.	rintended college major/care operiences and events which		
Ç.	The state of the s		
	COURSE INFO	RMATION	
Teacher:	Class you took with me:		Overall Grade:
REASONS FOR	ASKING ME TO	WRITE YOU	THIS LETTER
THREE WORDS	THAT DESCRIB	E YOUR WO	RK, BEHAVIOR,
PARTICIPATION AND ATTITUDE IN MY CLASS  Please explain why you chose each one.			
1.			
3.			
3.			

#### FAVORITE TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT/ACTIVITY IN MY CLASS

Please explain your answer.

## LEAST FAVORITE TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT/ACTIVITY IN MY CLASS

How did you deal with this?

#### YOUR BEST MOMENT ACADEMICALLY IN MY CLASS

Please explain your answer.

#### PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IN MY CLASS

You must be more specific than listing the grade you received! Why is this your proudest accomplishment?

## AREAS YOU FEEL YOU IMPROVED/STRENGTHENED WHILE TAKING MY CLASS

Please explain your answer.

#### **BIGGEST CHALLENGE YOU OVERCAME IN MY CLASS**

What was the most difficult situation that you had to face? How did you handle that situation?

#### **MY FUTURE GOALS ARE...**

#### **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Are there any special circumstances (during the period of time that you took my class) which had interfered with your academic performance? Consider such factors as excessive school activities, home responsibilities or difficulties, after-school job, illness or emotional stress, parental pressure or other factors.



# LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- 4. Please word process this form and save as a Word Document, in Scoir (DO NOT SAVE AS A GOOGLE DOC, IT CHANGES THE FORMATI).
- 5. When completing this form, please state your answers and give some examples of why it was significant enough to list. Some examples of going deeper than one-word answers or phrases would be to explain the lessons you learned and how the experience changed or moved you. Feel free to share any creativity you used, how you work with others and/or your level of commitment.
- 6. EMAIL A COPY TO YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR AT LEAST 15 SCHOOL DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR EARLIEST DEADLINE.

PERSONAL INFORMATION					
Name:	Advisory Rm #:				
E-Mail:					

FAMILY INFORMATION			
Name of Parent/Guardian 1:			
College(s) Attended	Degree(s)	Occupation	

Name of Parent/Guardian 2:		
College(s) Attended	Degree(s)	Occupation

Names of Siblings	Age	School or College Attending

#### COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES I AM APPLYING TO

Please list the colleges/universities that you are applying to in order of the earliest deadline to the latest deadline.

	College/University	Application Deadline (mm/dd/yy)		College/University	Application Deadline (mm/dd/yy)
1.			5.		
2.			6.		
3.			7.		
4.			8.		

TEACHER(S) WRITING YOUR RECOMMENDATION					
Teacher(s)	Course(s) taken with teacher				

ACADEMICS									
	ACT Scores								
Test Date:	EBRW	Math	Combined	Test Date:	Eng Math		Sci	Read	Combined
		Α	adamia Hanar	o Possanitisa					
		AC	ademic nonor	s & Recognition	15				

	THREE MOST ADMIRABLE QUALITIES (Please explain each)							
Quality		Explanation						
1.								
2.								
3.	3.							

CAREER INTERESTS								
Major:	Career:							
Describe	Describe when and how your intended college major/career choice evolved. Be as specific as possible, citing experiences and events which impacted your decision.							
	**** *********************************							

V	WORK EXPERIENCE What work experience has been most valuable to you? Has this experience influenced your career choice and, if so, how?

# What extra-curricular activities have been satisfying to you during high school? Why? Did you hold a leadership position, receive any honors or awards? Office or Position

Activity	Office or Position		√ Years			Description of Experience
Activity	Held	9	10	11	12	Description of Experience

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES/HOBBIES/SPECIAL INTERESTS  What are some of your out of school activities hobbies or special interests? How long have you been involved in them? Why are these important to you?
COMMUNITY SERVICE  What types of community service have you performed during your years at Middleborough High School? What

#### **HONORS & AWARDS**

did you get out of these experiences?

Academic Achievement, All-Star, Band & Music Awards. Please include years received.

#### MY PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Either personal or academic – don't be modest and give examples of why.

#### WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE GOALS & DREAMS

HOW DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE GROWN AS A PERSON SINCE FRESHMAN YEAR



## MIDDLEBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

## **ACTIVITIES SHEET**

Name:	Ima B. Student	Year of Graduation:	2025

A adjustes	Office or Position	Office or Position √ Years				Honoro or Awarda	
Activity	Held	9	10	11	12	Honors or Awards	
Athletics							
Soccer	Defense; Captain, 12	X	X	Χ	X	MVP 11, 12; League All-Star 12	
Basketball	Forward		X	X	X		
Track & Field	400m, Shot-put			X	X	Most Improved Player, 11	

Music & Drama (Band, Chorus, School Plays or Musicals, Crew, etc.)						
South Pacific	Lead Actress				X	
Little Shop of Horrors	Chorus			Χ		
Oklahoma!	Back Stage Crew		X			

School Publications (School Newspaper, Literary Magazine, Yearbook)						
Yearbook Member 11						

Student Government/Class Offices (Student Council, Class Officers, Committees)						
Student Council	Member 10: Treasurer 11; Vice President 12		X	X	X	
Class Steering Committee	Member	X				

Honors (National Honor Society, Book Awards, etc.)						
National Honor Society	National Honor Society Member, Vice President 12 X X					
Tri-M Music Honor Society	Member				X	

Clubs or other Programs						
Key Club	Member 11, 12			Χ	Χ	
Math Team	Member 10, 12		Χ		X	
Anime Club	Member 9	Χ				
GSA	Member 10, 12; Secretary 11		X	X	X	

Community Service (NHS Tutoring, Outside Agencies, Hospitals, Schools, Athletic Programs, etc.)									
Organization Description of Volunteer Service Hours Length Service									
My Brother's Keeper Food Drive	Deliver food to homeless shelters	3 hrs x 2x/yr	4 years						
Relay for Life	Fundraised/Captained team for the American Cancer Society	24 hrs x 1x/yr	3 years						
Girl Scouts of America	Coordinated Annual Blood Drive	15 hrs x 2x/yr	2 years						
NHS Tutoring	Tutored students in Algebra & Geometry	1 hr/wk	1 year						

Work Experience								
Employer	Hours Per Week	Length Employment (mm/dd/yy – mm/dd/yy)						
3 Different Families	Babysitter	6-10 hrs	09/16-Present					
Stop & Shop	Cashier	25 hrs	12/17/23- 08/19/24					

# Glossary of Terms

**Academic Reference --** a letter of recommendation written by a teacher in one of the core subject areas of math, science, English, foreign language or social sciences.

**ACT** (American College Testing) -- a college entrance test that measures English, math, reading and science reasoning, with an optional writing section.

**Admissions Counselor –** a member of the college admissions office staff that advises and interviews prospective students.

**AP** (Advanced Placement) -- college level courses offered to sophomore junior and senior year students. Students are required to take an AP exam after completing the required course and may be eligible to receive college credit at the college they attend.

**Barron's –** the name of a publisher that indexes American colleges according to degree of admissions competitiveness.

**CEEB # --** Middleborough's code is 221405. The College Entrance Examination Board maintains a numbered registry of high schools, colleges, college majors, scholarship programs, test centers and college majors.

**Class Rank –** a numerical designation of where a specific student stands in relation to the total number of students in their class as determined by GPA (i.e. 85 out of 170)

**College Board –** a not for profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. College Board produces the PSAT, SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject and AP exams and the CSS/Financial Aid Profile.

**Common Application –** an internet based application that is utilized by a growing number of member colleges and universities.

**CSS Profile –** a financial aid form that is completed in the senior year and required by some private colleges and universities. Accessed through the College Board. There is a charge to submit this form to colleges.

**Early Action –** an application made to a college under an early deadline. It is non-binding, meaning if accepted the student is not bound to attend and may apply to other colleges if desired.

**Early Decision –** an application made to a college under an early deadline. A student may only apply to one college under early decision. If accepted, the student must immediately withdraw all other applications and is legally bound to attend that college.

**FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) -- A financial aid form that is required by most colleges and universities. It is accessed through the government's website at <a href="www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>. There is no charge to submit this form to colleges.

Financial Aid -- There are several different types of financial aid:

- Pell Grants Federal funds that are free money. They do not have to be repaid
- PLUS Loans Federal funds that are repaid by the parent
- Stafford Student Loans Federal funds that need to be repaid by the student
- Work Study money that the student earns while being employed on campus

GED (General Education Development) - See HiSET.

**GPA** (Grade Point Average) -- a quantitative average of a student's grades and course levels over their high school career.

Guidance Counselor - See School Counselor.

**HiSET** (formerly known as the GED) -- By taking the HiSET® exam, you can earn a state-issued high school equivalency credential which you can use to advance your career, join the military, begin a training program or continue your education. The HiSET exam is the fastest-growing high school equivalency test.

**John & Abigail Adams Scholarship –** an award of free tuition to a Massachusetts public college or university based on MCAS scores.

Kaplan – a for profit test preparation company. www.kaplan.com

**Letter of Recommendation Info Sheet-School Counselor –** an informational form completed by the student providing background information and career interests to help their School Counselor write a letter of recommendation. Available on Naviance through the Document Library.

**Letter of Recommendation Info Sheet-Teacher --** an informational form completed by the student providing background information and career interests to help their teacher write a letter of recommendation. Available on Naviance through the Document Library.

**Mid-Year Report Form --** a part of the Common Application that the student completes. When mid-year grades become available, the guidance counselor then provides an update to the requested colleges that the student has applied to.

NCAA Clearing Eligibility Center – an initial eligibility clearinghouse in which student athletes must register if they desire to play sports at a Division I or II college. https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/

**Petersons –** an internet and print based college exploration and test preparation service. www.petersons.com

**PACT** – an assessment tool produced by the American College Testing Company that is given to sophomores to help student's measure current academic development and allows them to explore career and training options.

**Princeton Review --** an internet and print based college exploration and test preparation service. <a href="https://www.princetonreview.com">www.princetonreview.com</a>

**PSAT** (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test) – a College Board assessment that MHS administers to all sophomores and juniors that estimates future SAT results. The score report is helpful in identifying areas that may need further practice. Taken in the junior year, it is the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship Program.

**SAT Reasoning Test –** A college entrance test that measures evidence based reading & writing and mathematics, with and optional easy section.

**SAT Subject Tests –** Required by some colleges. Colleges may request a certain number of tests or in specific areas.

**School Counselor –** a professional school staff member who assists students with their academic, social & emotional needs and advises high school students on post-secondary plans.

**School Report –** a form required by colleges in the admissions package. The student completes basic information on their applications and then the School Counselor completes the evaluative information on the student.

**School Profile** – a document produced by individual high schools that accompanies a transcript. The school profile provides an overview of the community demographics, graduation requirements, mean SAT scores, explanation and determination of class rank and course of study offered.

**Scoir –** an internet based software program that was introduced to Middleborough students during their freshman year. It is utilized for the rest of the student's time at Middleborough High School to investigate career options and search for colleges.

**Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery –** an award of a tuition waiver to all Massachusetts public colleges, universities and community colleges (with the exception of Mass College of Art) based on MCAS performance and additional requirements as outlined in the program materials. If a student is eligible, they will be notified in the spring of their junior year.

**TOEFL** (Test of English as a Foreign Language) -- An internet based exam required by many colleges as an admissions requirement for students who do not speak English as their primary language. Information available through <a href="https://www.ets.org">www.ets.org</a>

**Transcript –** an official document summarizing the classes taken and grades received from grades 9 through 12.

# Notes