

Hot Topics and Current Trends in College Admissions



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Who We Are



Angela Wang, Allison Anderson, Sarah Graham, Ryan Jannos



Goals for tonight:

- Framing how we think about college admissions
- Explaining how the PDS College Counseling Team works with families
- Sharing trends
- Offering practical tips



Authoring One's Story

- Your students are doing this already
- One value of a PDS education = helping students find their true interests and think about why these interests are meaningful
- Transformational NOT Transactional



Philosophy and Approach

- **Minimize stress**
- **Introduce concepts early**
- **Promote self-discovery and exploration of possibilities**
- **Know our students well**
- **Help students tell their story and find their fit**
- **Tailor experience to each student and family**



What We Do / When We Do It

Freshman Year:

- We are here to answer questions as they come up
- Ryan Jannos is currently the point person for freshmen
- Some programming for parents/guardians

Sophomore Year:

- I am the point person until spring of sophomore year
- Attend class meetings for questions and activities
- Paired with a counselor in the spring
 - optional meetings with students and families



What We Do / When We Do It

- **Junior Year**

- **One-on-one meetings with assigned counselor**
- **College Seminar (spring semester)**
- **Start the Common Application**
- **Attend College Fairs**
- **Assist with list development**
- **Essay writing guidance including summer week-long bootcamp**



What We Do / When We Do It

- **Senior Year**
 - **Frequent one-on-one meetings**
 - **Application workshops**
 - **Support on all written materials in application**
 - **College rep visits to PDS**
 - **Mock interviews**
 - **Financial aid support**



Closing Thoughts

- 1) Explore what's out there today
- 2) Educate yourself about financial aid
- 3) Get information from a range of sources
- 4) Have fun!



Thank you for coming!

**We look forward to working with
you in the years ahead**

