

# Class of 2026



Becton Regional H.S. Guidance Dept.  
Future Planning Presentation

# Junior Year Review

1

**Transcript Review**

2

**Grades**

64 or lower means you will fail the course

3

**Credits**

You need to earn at least 90 credits by the end of your junior year in order to be considered a senior.

4

**Attendance**

Full year course: 18 absences  
½ year course: 9 absences  
5 tardies=1 absence

# Typical Junior Year Schedule

<b>English requirement</b>	English 11
<b>Math requirement</b>	Mathematics (Algebra 2 or Pre-Calculus)
<b>Science requirement</b>	Physics
<b>Social Studies requirement</b>	U.S. History 2
<b>Physical Education requirement</b>	Phys. Ed./First Aid
	Elective (Academic) *not Culinary, Art or Communications courses
	Elective
	Elective

# Next Year's Schedule

## Dual Enrollment

Earn college credit through Bergen Community College, Ramapo, or St. Thomas Aquinas by taking approved courses at Becton

## Internship

Begin career experience during your senior year by visiting a job site during the school day

## BCC Prep

Earn up to 18 college credits through Bergen Community College by taking courses on their campus

# What should I be doing during my junior year to help me prepare for my future?

- ★ **Academic Achievement**-overall GPA, course rigor, transcript improvement, test scores
- ★ **Extracurricular Involvement**-sports, clubs, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.
- ★ **Character/Leadership**-captain, president, mentor, etc.
- ★ **Community Service**-soup kitchen, food pantry, religious org., camp, teach, etc.

## College Readiness Webinar Series

for students & families of Henry P. Becton Regional High School



Join us for a series of live, virtual events & get the info you need for your college readiness journey!

Scan the QR codes or click the links below to register!



### **SAT®, ACT®, or Both?**

Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 7pm

In this presentation, we answer one of our most asked questions: Should I take the SAT or ACT? We'll discuss both tests and share how to prepare for and get a great score on the SAT, the ACT, or both.

### **SAT® & ACT® Practice Tests**

Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 9am

(or anytime after this date)

Take a free, virtual, full-length practice SAT and/or ACT. After the test, you'll receive a comprehensive, interactive score report detailing your strengths and areas for improvement so you can be ready for the official exam.



### **Finding Your Best Fit Colleges**

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7pm

There are thousands of colleges across the country AND there are best fit colleges out there for everyone. This presentation will help students discover what a dream college means for them, and help them learn how to find their best fit.

### **Essays That Kicked Apps:**

#### **Crafting Your College Essay**

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7pm

In a more competitive than ever admissions landscape, college application essays are a great way to stand out from other applicants. In this presentation, we will discuss why these essays are important, some editing basics, and how to make your essay memorable in the minds of the admissions committee.



For more information, contact Lisa Richter at [lisa.richter@review.com](mailto:lisa.richter@review.com)

## The Princeton Review Webinars

*\*Also on X and on the  
Class of 2026 Guidance GC Page*

Prep Help:  
Khan Academy  
BCC

Follow their Twitter handles!  
@OfficialSAT  
@ACT & @ACTStudent

# SAT or ACT

Comparison of  
both tests

[collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)

[act.org](https://act.org)

# SAT vs. ACT

- May be used for a graduation assessment
  - Many students take both- but not recommended
  - The ACT is not easier than the SAT or vice versa
  - ACT tests students' reasoning and logic; questions based on science passages, data & graphs
  - SAT: 400-1600 scoring, 3 hours
  - ACT: 1-36 scoring, 3 hours
-



# Upcoming SAT/ACT Dates

## SAT

March 8

May 3

June 7

August 23

September 13

October 4

## ACT

Feb. 8

April 5

June 14

July 12

# Test Optional Schools

**About 2,000 schools are currently test optional**

To find a list of test-optional schools, visit [fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org).

## FAQ's

Q: If the school I'm applying to is optional should I take the test?

A: YES! Take the test because the school will be using your scores to make a decision about your acceptance.

Q: Should I send my scores if the school is test optional?

A: It depends on your score vs. the average score of students accepted

# Helpful Resources for Future Planning

## Bectonhs

- Counseling tab
- College, Career, Military Planning tab

## Naviance

- Inventories
- Needed for College Application Process

## College Board Big Future

- Inventories & College Planning
- Scholarships

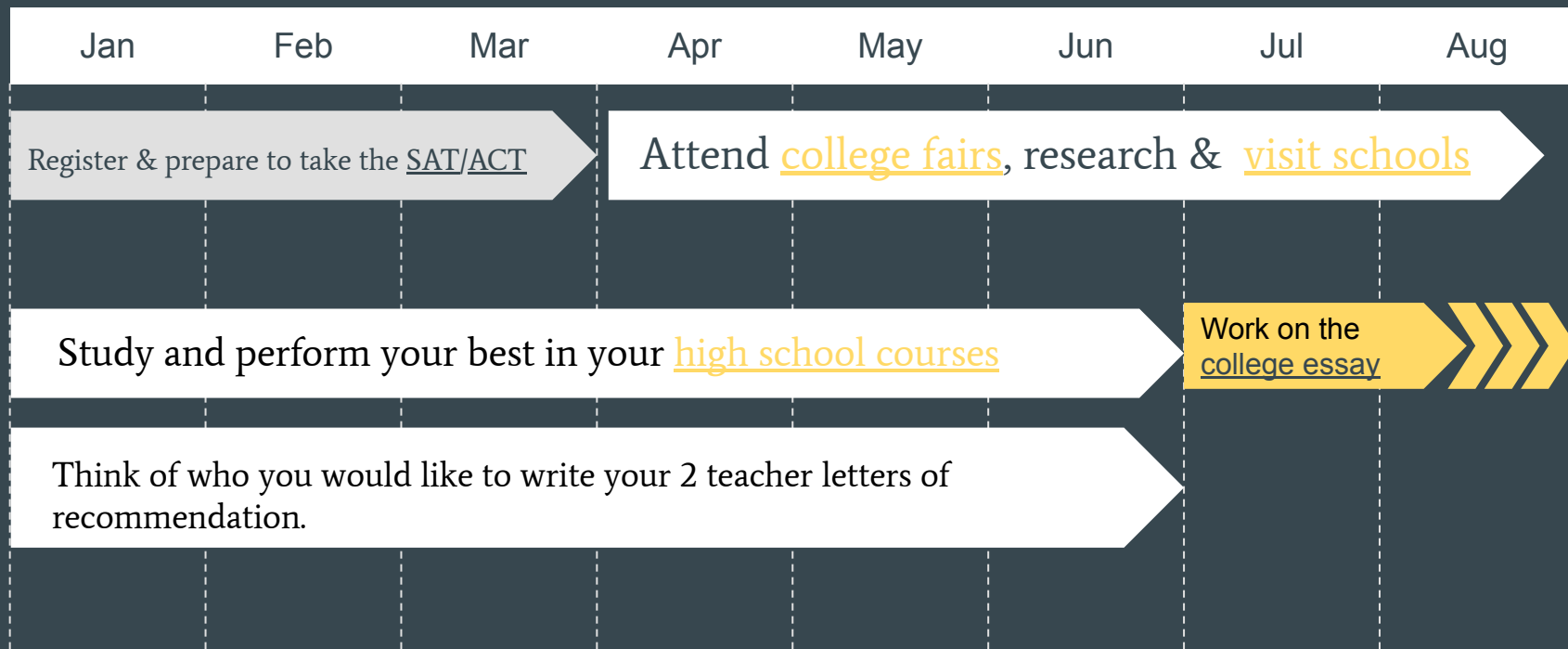
## Guidance Class of 2026 GC Page

- Code: **23vb4oi**
- Important Announcements & Resources

# Trade School or the Military

Trade School Resources	Military Planning
Eastwick College	Army, Navy, Airforce, Marines, Spaceforce Coast Guard, Merchant Marine
Berkeley College	<a href="#"><u>West Point</u></a>
Universal Technical Institute (UTI)	<a href="#"><u>United States Naval Academy</u></a>
Lincoln Tech	<a href="#"><u>Norwich, Valley Forge</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>List of Local Trade Schools</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Today's Military</u></a>

# Junior Year Timeline



# College Process Timeline

\*\*Please access the Google Doc above for our Guidance Department's College Process Timeline to help keep you on track.

# When do I begin applying to college?

Every school is different in terms of college applications, but the short answer is to check the school's website for deadlines and how to apply. If they participate in the Common App, then that will open on Aug. 1 for you to begin the application process. However, some schools do not participate in the Common App, and you must apply through their website. Again, it is important for you to please check the school's website for all application requirements and deadlines.

2-3 **Reach** Schools

2-3 **Target** Schools

2-3 **Safety** Schools

# How do I find the best fit college for me?

## Academics

Does the college you're considering offer classes and learning opportunities that interest you? Assessing your chances of admission can be a good way to identify a strong academic match.

## Campus Culture

You can start narrowing down your list by making some decisions about the size of the student body and geographical location, quality of life, etc.

## Financial Aid

It is important to be realistic about the cost of college and avoid taking on an unreasonable amount of debt. Be sure to have this conversation with your parents/guardians.

## Career Development

Visit or contact the career development center at each prospective school to find out how the school supports students in preparing for the professional world.



# Several Factors in College Admission

→ Grades in All Courses	→ Demonstrated Interest
→ Academic Rigor	→ Counselor Recommendation
→ Admission Test Scores	→ Teachers Recommendation
→ Positive Character Attributes	→ Class Rank
→ Essay Writing	→ Extracurricular Activities

# When should I begin working on my college application essay?

A suggested time to begin gathering and organizing your thoughts for this essay is your summer going into senior year. If you are looking for a sample list of college essay topics, please visit <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>. The college essay will also be addressed at the beginning of your senior English class and is a topic that is covered in our College & Career Writing & Readiness elective.

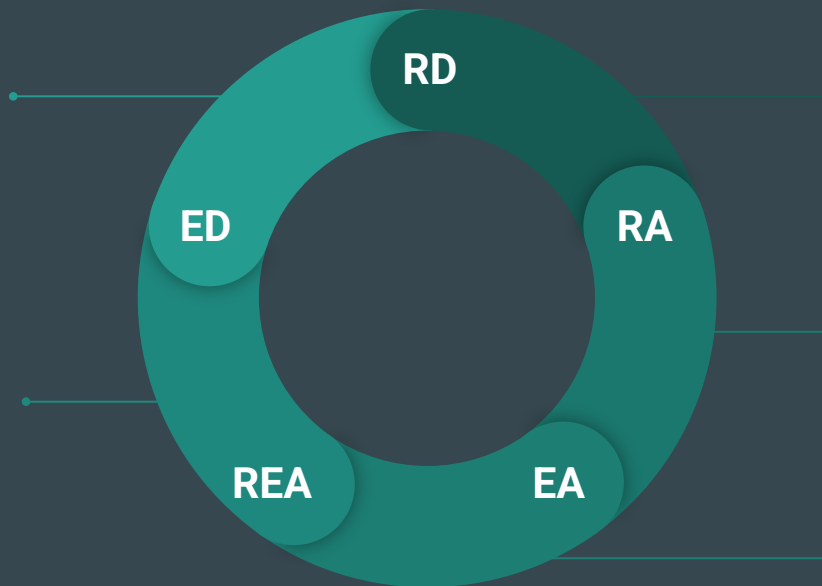
# What are the admission options in higher ed?

## Early Decision

**Binding:** Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

## Restrictive Early Action

**Non-binding:** Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.



## Regular Decision

**Non-binding:** Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

## Rolling Admission

**Non-binding:** Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

## Early Action

**Non-binding:** Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

# What is NJ Stars?

NJ residents who rank in the top 15% of their class at the end of either their junior or senior year of high school may be eligible to receive an [NJ STARS](#) award for attendance at their home county college. Students may enter another NJ county college only if their desired program of study is not offered at the county college where they reside or is oversubscribed for at least one year. Students identified as NJ STARS must achieve the required score on a college placement test to demonstrate readiness for college-level coursework prior to receiving a scholarship.

[Youtube Advertisement](#)

[All About NJ Stars](#)

# What are some helpful resources for future planning?

<a href="#"><u>College SuperMatch through Naviance</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>My Major</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Peterson's College Search</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>What Can I Do With A Major In...?</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>FISKE Guide to Colleges</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>College Data</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>National Center for Education Statistics</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>YouVisit</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>RaiseMe</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>NACAC College Fairs</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>NJ College Open Houses</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>NCAA for Athletes</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Occupational Outlook Handbook</u></a>	

# Financial Aid/Scholarship Resources

<a href="#"><u>FAFSA</u></a> (opens October of senior year)	<a href="#"><u>Fastweb</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>CSS Profile</u></a> (opens October of senior year)	<a href="#"><u>Going Merry</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Bectonhs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Scholly</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Net Price Calculator</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Local Scholarships</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>HESAA</u></a>	Parent/Guardian workplace
<a href="#"><u>CSS Profile Participating Schools</u></a>	
My Intuition	

# Financial Aid Terms

<a href="#"><u>FAFSA</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>FSA ID</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Federal Pell Grant</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>The Complete Guide to Financial Aid</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Federal Work-Study Program</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Federal Student Aid at a Glance</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Net Price Calculator</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Federal Direct Subsidized &amp; Unsubsidized Loans</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Federal Direct PLUS Loan</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Educational Opportunity Fund</u></a>	

# Proper Steps When Requesting a Letter of Recommendation

## Think of WHO

Which teachers have you developed the best relationships with? Which teachers have taught you more than one class? Which class(es) is most memorable for you, not necessarily because you earned the highest grade, but because you learned the most?

## Choose EARLY

Approach these teachers by the end of your junior year to ask if they would write you a letter of recommendation. Giving your teachers the courtesy of asking early on will reflect how serious you are about your future.

## SUPPLY the Information

At the start of your senior year, fill out the Teacher Survey in Naviance so your teacher has all of the information needed to construct the best letter about you. We will review this process with you at the start of your senior year. You must give your teacher at least 2 weeks time.

## Follow up on DEADLINES

Remember, just like you are busy, so are others. If you have not received your teacher's letter and the deadline is approaching, write him/her an email or approach him/her in person. Kindly ask if he/she is working on the letter and politely remind him/her of the deadline.

## Be APPRECIATIVE

Be grateful that your instructor took the time to write you a letter because he/she is not mandated to do so. Most likely, the letters are being written during after school hours. Always follow up with a thank-you note or a thank-you email.



# 4.0 Scale

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
F	Below 65	0

Source: College Board

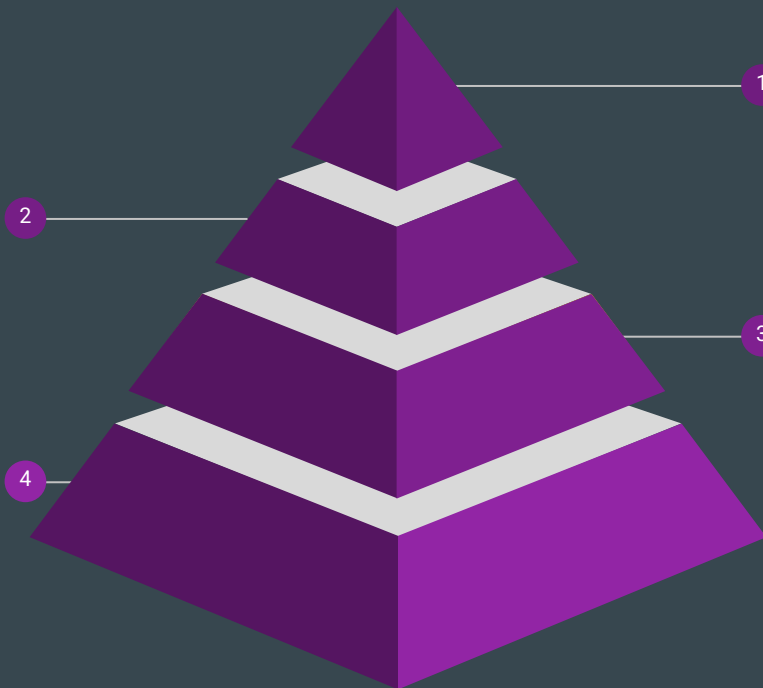
# Types of College Degrees

Associate Degree	2 year
Bachelor of Arts Degree	4 year (Ex: Communications, History, Political Science, Music, Languages, Journalism, etc.)
Bachelor of Science Degree	4 year (Ex: Biology, Geography, Accounting, Computer Science, Engineering, etc.)
Masters Degree	6 year degree
PHD +	8+ year degree

# Advice

Communicate with others who have went to college, trade school, or enlisted in the military.

Observe deadlines.



Your future is your responsibility, not your parent's/guardian's or educator's.

Check your email on a regular basis.

# Have any questions?



Mr. Caprio

Director of Guidance

Ms. Tabaka

Guidance Administrative  
Assistant

Ext: 4015



Ms. De Santis

Last Names A-F

[vdesantis@bectonhs.org](mailto:vdesantis@bectonhs.org)

Ext: 4016



Ms. Machtemes

Last Names G-Pa

[mmachtemes@bectonhs.org](mailto:mmachtemes@bectonhs.org)

Ext: 4021



Ms. Cozza

Last Names Pb-Z

[rcozza@bectonhs.org](mailto:rcozza@bectonhs.org)

Ext: 4014