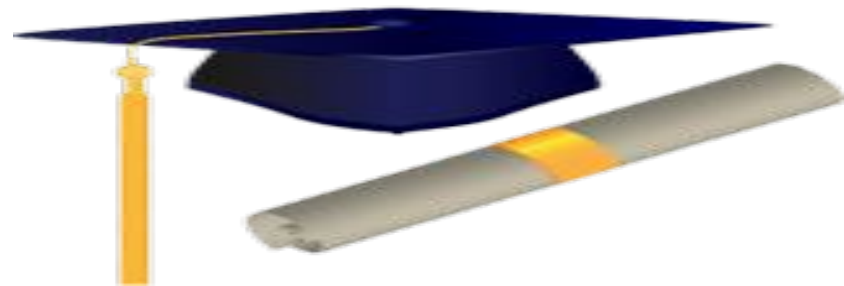


Graduation Requirements

- 4 years of English, Social Studies and PE
- 3 years of Math, Science
- 1 year of Art/Music, Health, World Language
- Electives (3)
- Minimum 22 credits
- Regents (5 exams) vs. Advanced Regents (8 exams, 3 years World language and checkpoint B exam or 2 years CTEC)



Junior Meeting

● Spring

- *Transcripts*
- *Graduation requirements*
- *College application process*
- *Naviance tools*
- *Senior packet (due Sept.)*
- *Select Courses for Senior Year*
 - *Prerequisites (Ex. Minimum of 85 GPA & 85 in course or on Regents Exam for College Courses)*

● Fall (Senior Meeting)

Important Information

❑ Senior Packet (Google Form)

- ❑ *Senior Profile Questions*
- ❑ *Detailed Student Activity sheet (grades 9-12)*
- ❑ *Parent Brag sheet (Optional, but appreciated)*
- ❑ *Due 1st week of Sept.*

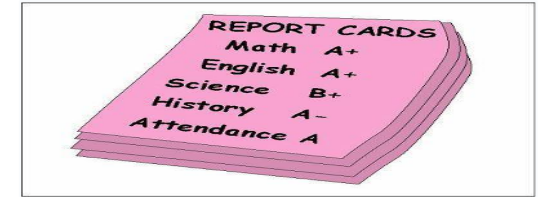
❑ 2 Letters of Recommendation

- ❑ *For 4 year colleges*
- ❑ *2 teachers (Request in person in September & in Naviance)*

❑ Essay & Draft

- ❑ *Choose Topic in Common App (draft Summer)*

First Steps



- *Keep doing your best: every grade counts*
- *GPA is finalized at the end of 11th grade (average of final grades)*
- *SAT Accommodations are not automatic – must request (sign consent form/return to Guidance – takes 6-8 weeks for decision)*
- *Prep and Register for **SAT** college entrance exam if required by college at www.collegeboard.org*

- *Prep and Register for **ACT** college entrance exam if required by college at www.act.org*
- ***Student athletes: register at NCAA website***
- *Always **use personal email – not school email** - when creating Common App, College Board and NCAA accounts*
- ***CEEB Code: 331360***
- ***ACCES-VR: outside services for students with IEP (see Mrs. Sternemann for packet). Students must request testing accommodations for college they will attend (not automatic).***

SAT/ACT College Entrance Exams

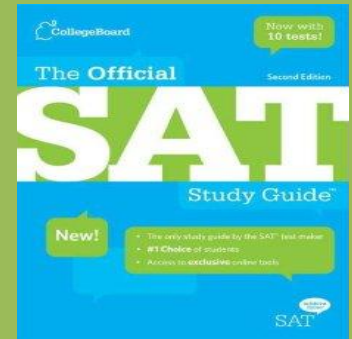
Our school is not an SAT or ACT test center. Students will register to take either exam at a local high school test center.

SAT (now digital): www.collegeboard.org
(practice also on www.khanacademy.org;
<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/practice>).

Bluebook app on chromebook.

ACT: www.act.org

- Full length practice tests on both websites
- Private SAT/ACT prep courses
- **Send 4 free score reports to colleges**
- Superscoring (check with college)



***ACT exam is given at the following area high schools:
www.act.org**

James I. O'Neill High School
Middletown High School
Minisink Valley High School
Monroe Woodbury High School
Newburgh Free Academy
Pine Bush High School
Port Jervis High School
Warwick Valley High School

***SAT exam is given at the following area high schools:
www.collegeboard.org**

James I. O'Neill High School
Middletown High School
Minisink Valley High School
Monroe Woodbury High School
Newburgh Free Academy
Pine Bush High School
Port Jervis High School
S.S. Seward Institute
Warwick Valley High School

***Exams are not given at every school on every exam date.**

College Visits

- **Basis of Comparison**

- *Campus Size*
- *Location*
- *Programs*



- **Sign up online for a Tour or Open House**

- *Tour guides are often current students*
- *In person if possible, virtual tours are an alternative*



★ (April 24, 2025)

SUNY College Fair at SUNY New Paltz

★ (May 1, 2025)

College Fair in the SUNY Orange Gym

6:30-8:30 p.m. (students/families).

**Great opportunity to speak to college representatives from public (SUNY) and private colleges!*

State University of New York Information (SUNY Admissions Summary)

SUNY Viewbook/Publications:

<https://www.suny.edu/attend/learn-more/forms-and-publications/>

SUNY 4 year/Community college information

<https://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/summary-sheets/Admission-Information-Summary-Sheets.pdf>

SUNY 4 year college Honors programs

https://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/summary-sheets/honors_programs.pdf

SUNY Campus Athletic Search Tool:

<https://www.suny.edu/attend/athletics/search.cfm>

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) - based on financial need

<https://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/eop/EOP-Student-Recruitment-flyer-2023.pdf>



How to begin the college search

- **Career Interest Profiler** in Naviance (career assessment)
- Search for colleges on **Naviance Supermatch college search** using filters (major, location, athletics); **click college link for detailed, up to date info**
- **Review admissions requirements on college website** (undergraduate, FAQ pages) re: GPA, SAT/ACT required?, etc.
- SUNY website (including SUNY viewbook):
<https://www.suny.edu/attend/learn-more/forms-and-publications>
- **Visit college campuses/attend college fairs** (in person or virtually) - check college websites
- Check to see if high school courses are prerequisite for any college courses (ex. Chemistry for Nursing, Precalculus for Engineering)

25 Questions

to ask a college representative

PRESENTED BY BERKELEY COLLEGE

How do you know if a college is right for you?

The first step is to visit and ask plenty of questions. The answers will tell you if the college you are considering meets your needs!

ACADEMICS

- 1 What majors do you offer?
- 2 Are your majors career-focused?
- 3 Do many of your programs offer an internship, job-related assignment, or clinical rotation for a valuable learning experience?
- 4 Do your professors have work-related experience?
- 5 Do you offer accelerated degrees?
- 6 Does your college have a Center for Academic Success?
- 7 What is your average class size?
- 8 Do you have an Honors Program?
- 9 Do you offer courses in various formats to fit my schedule (on site, online, and hybrid)?
- 10 Do you offer opportunities for students to study abroad?

ADMISSIONS

- 11 When is the application deadline?
- 12 What are the requirements for acceptance?
- 13 Do you require SAT or ACT scores?
- 14 When can I visit your campus and do you also offer virtual visits?
- 15 When will I find out if I am accepted?

CAREER SERVICES

- 16 Will I have help finding an internship during school, a job when I graduate, and assistance throughout my career?
- 17 Does your college host career and job fairs?
- 18 Will your college assist me in creating an online professional profile?

FINANCIAL AID

- 19 Does your college offer a scholarship to honors students?
- 20 What types of scholarships and grants are available?
- 21 How do I apply for financial aid?
- 22 Do you have Financial Aid representatives who can walk me through the process?

STUDENT LIFE

- 23 Is there a chance to participate in community service?
- 24 What type of opportunities do you provide for students to develop leadership skills?
- 25 What type of co-curricular activities do you offer?

Investigate more...

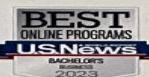
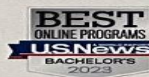
- The college website
- The college's social media sites
- Student blogs, videos, and podcasts
- Student and graduate testimonials

Call **800-446-5400**
or visit **BerkeleyCollege.edu**

Find us @BerkeleyCollege and #BerkeleyCollege



Programs offered in New York, New Jersey, and Online



 **Berkeley College**[®]
Your **potential** is our **promise**.[®]

COMMON APP vs. NAVIANCE

Common App: www.commonapp.org

(Website for four year colleges)

Naviance: [Link on district website](#)

*(Website for **college searches**, career assessments, create resumes; **request teacher recommendation letters**; transcripts/letters to colleges)*

Common App

(create account after 8/1/25 - information does not roll over)

- *Create account using **personal email address***
- *Complete all Common App sections (you will need updated high school transcript/GPA)*
- *Add **4 year colleges** you plan to apply to*
- *Draft **college essay** over the summer*

- Upload your *essay* (when applying)
- *Complete FERPA* (we recommend you waive your right to see letters of recommendation since that is what colleges prefer)
- Submit college applications and pay fee
- **Request teacher letters only in Naviance** (not in Common App; do not request Mrs. Sternemann as Common App Advisor, please see her with any questions)

NAVIANCE STUDENT

- Create a Common App account (after 8/1/25), complete FERPA in Common App, add colleges you're applying to - then click on Students at top of Chester Academy website, then **Naviance Student** link (username: Chester student email)
- Click on **Self Discovery tab** at top, select **Career Interest Profiler** (career assessment)
- Click on Colleges at top, Find your Fit, **Supermatch College Search** - add filters like major, extracurricular, athletics. Then click on college website for most up to date info
- **After adding colleges you are applying to in Common App, Match the Common App/Naviance accounts in Naviance**
- **If a college is not listed in Common App, apply on college website and after 8/1/25 add college to Naviance** by clicking on “colleges I’m applying to”, choose & add college, click edit and **choose “direct to institution”** as how you applied
- **Request teacher recommendation letters only in Naviance** but ask teacher **in person first** (beginning of September).



Common App 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.

They will also retain the [optional COVID-19](#) question within the Additional Information section.

Write about something you feel passionate about!

Types of College Admissions

- **Early Decision:** *Legally binding document (can apply to only one college through early decision)*
- **Early Action:** *Can apply to multiple colleges, not legally binding, no obligation to go if accepted*
- **Regular Admission:** *typically January - March deadlines (check college websites)*
- **Rolling Admission:** *continuously accept applications until programs fill up - no deadline*
- (All deadlines are firm - keep track!)
- **5/1-College Decision Day for 4 year colleges.**

Community College vs. 4 year colleges

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- *Placement tests, usually no SAT/ACT exams required (exceptions-Nursing/Engineering)*
- *Recommendation letters usually not required*
- *Typically no college essay*
- *However! Taking the SAT or ACT exam once allows students to apply to 4 year colleges (Many 4 year colleges are **test optional** - check the websites)*
- ***Instant Decision Days at Chester Academy for SUNY Orange and SUNY Rockland in senior year***

Financial Aid, Scholarships

- **FAFSA financial aid form** (to apply for federal student loans/grants/scholarships)
- Can **apply for financial aid after 10/1/25**
- **Scholarship websites:**
- www.fastweb.com; www.fatomei.com
- www.scholarships.com
- www.chegg.com/scholarships
- www.goingmerry.com
- www.myscholly.com
- <https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/tools/scholarship-search/>
- https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-directory?SFMC_cid=EM886697-&rid=47738588
- Local scholarships on Guidance website; parent/student employers



College isn't the only option

- **Construction/Health careers:** Lincoln Technical Institute, Universal Technical Institute, Eastwick College, OU BOCES Adult Education programs
- **Union Apprenticeship programs** - paid to train
- **Military - ASVAB** (Armed services aptitude test) – Sign up in Guidance or with Recruiter for ASVAB exam
- **Workforce** - Job applications/create resumes



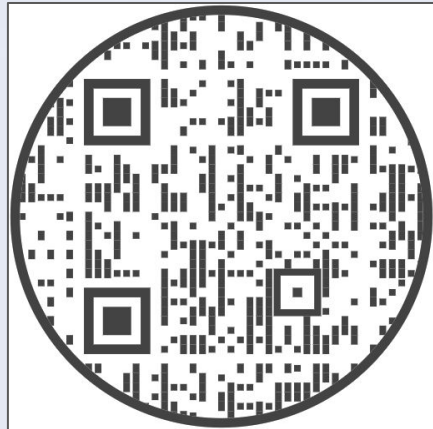
Chester Academy Workplace Learning Program

Jennifer Burretto

(Workplace Learning

Coordinator/School Counselor)

jennifer.burretto@chesterufsd.org



ANY
QUESTIONS?



Yvonne Sternemann

(Junior/Senior School Counselor)

yvonne.sternemann@chesterufsd.org