

School & College Counseling

Junior Parent Night 2025



**CHRISTIAN
BROTHERS
ACADEMY**

Agenda

- Who We Are
- Academic & Non-Academic Life
- Mental Health Overview
- Basics of the College Admissions Process
- College Admissions Support & Tips
- Upcoming College Admissions Events





Academic & Non-Academic Life

JUNIOR YEAR ACADEMICS

Course Selection

- Counselors will meet with juniors in Semester 2 to discuss their senior year schedule choices
- Using the prerequisite course requirements from last year, Junior students can set academic goals towards elective and higher level courses
- If juniors have a college major in mind, they can explore course offerings as senior that align with their interests

National Honor Society

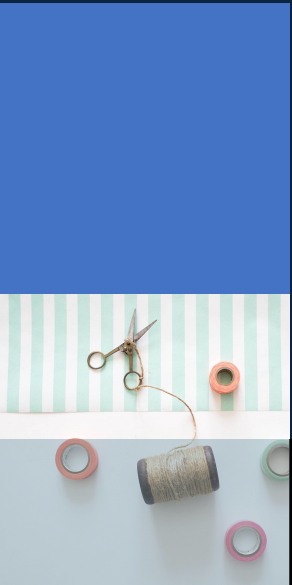
- The first opportunity to apply is in February of junior year
- The GPA requirement is cumulative average of 92 (as of the end of Semester 1 junior year)
- For questions regarding NHS please contact Mrs. Biloholowski



**FOCUS
ON
GROWTH**

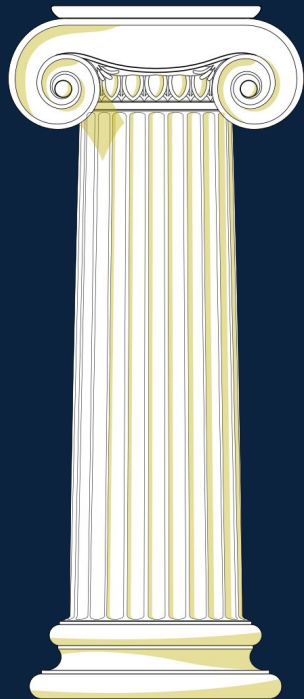
Junior year
can be the
time when
students hit
their stride

Positive
Academic
Progressions
&
Consistency
tell a great
story

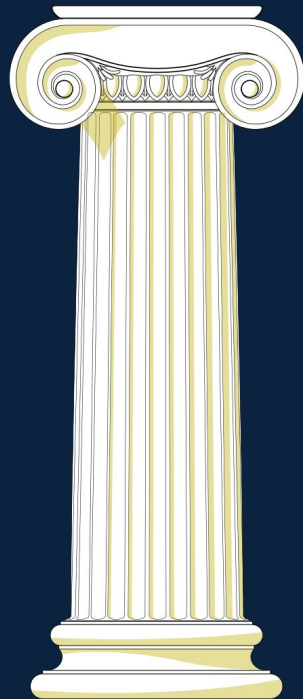


Pillars of Involvement

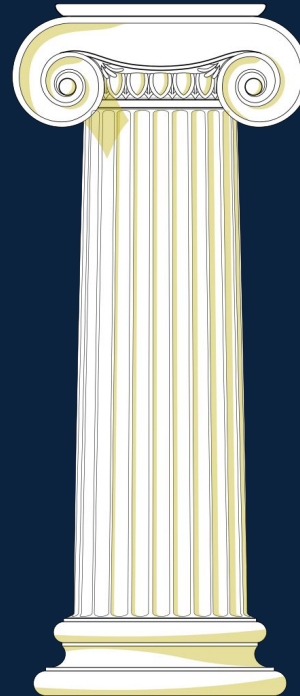
Athletics



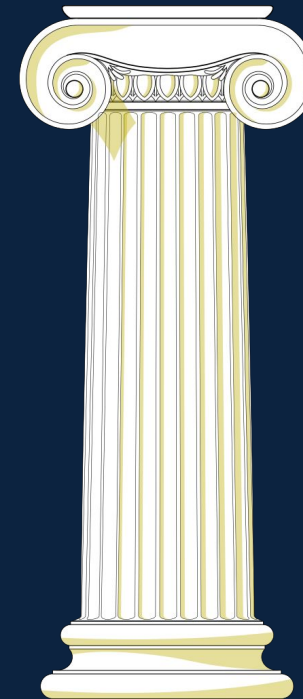
Service



**Education/
Extra**



Arts



**52
CLUB &
ACTIVITY
OFFERINGS**





Where to Get Maps

Good maps are in general extraordinarily easy to find by gas stations are generally pretty good. Sectional maps, particularly those government publications, are inexpensive in the extreme. Furthermore, most suppliers will furnish upon request free detailed lists of exactly what they have available.

Maps of these portions of the United States from the U. S. Geological Survey, in Washington, DC. For maps of areas west of the Mississippi contact the U. S. Geological Survey, Federal Center, Denver, Colorado. The maps of national forest areas, write the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC. Maps of the Great Lakes and connecting waters may be obtained from the U. S. Lake Survey, Federal Building, Detroit, Michigan.

Canadian maps may be secured from provincial public offices located in the various provinces, from the Government Travel Bureau in Ottawa, and from the Map Distribution Office, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, which is also located in Ottawa, Ontario.

For governmental maps of Mexico, write: Dirección de Geografía y Meteorología, Tacubaya, D. F., Mexico. Two private sources for foreign maps are: The National Geographical Society, 11th and M Streets, Washington, DC; and International Map Company, 90 West Street, New York, NY.

Why colour Maps are Preferable

Colour maps are by far the most valuable for wilderness use, indicating as they do valleys, canyons, mountains, and other such geographical features in terms of elevations. Consulting such

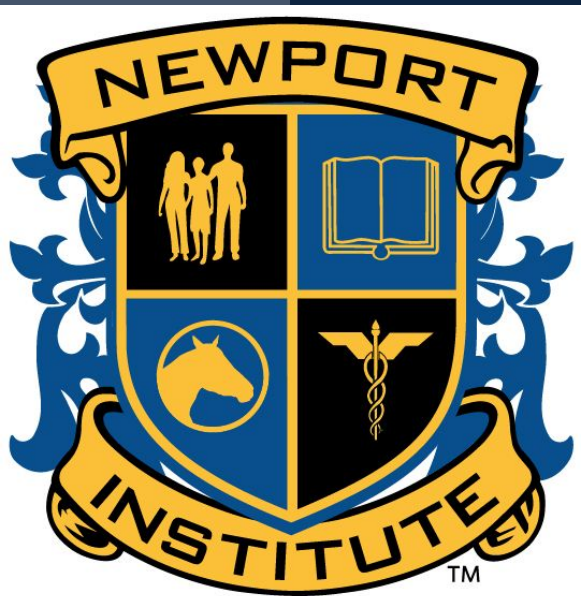
ORIENTATION
A map in strange country can save one an exhausting amount of unnecessary climbing, descending, and then scaling again. Traveling by compass in a straight line, even when possible, is often not advisable. In mountains for example, we soon learn that on more than one occasion both time and strength can be conserved by circling several miles along an open ridge instead of striking a small fraction of that distance straight across a deep ravine to the one destination.

Mental Health



What are some of the main mental health concerns for teenagers?

- Perfectionism
- Social Media/Screen Time
- Isolation
- Academic Pressure
- Burnout
- Relationships
- Anger

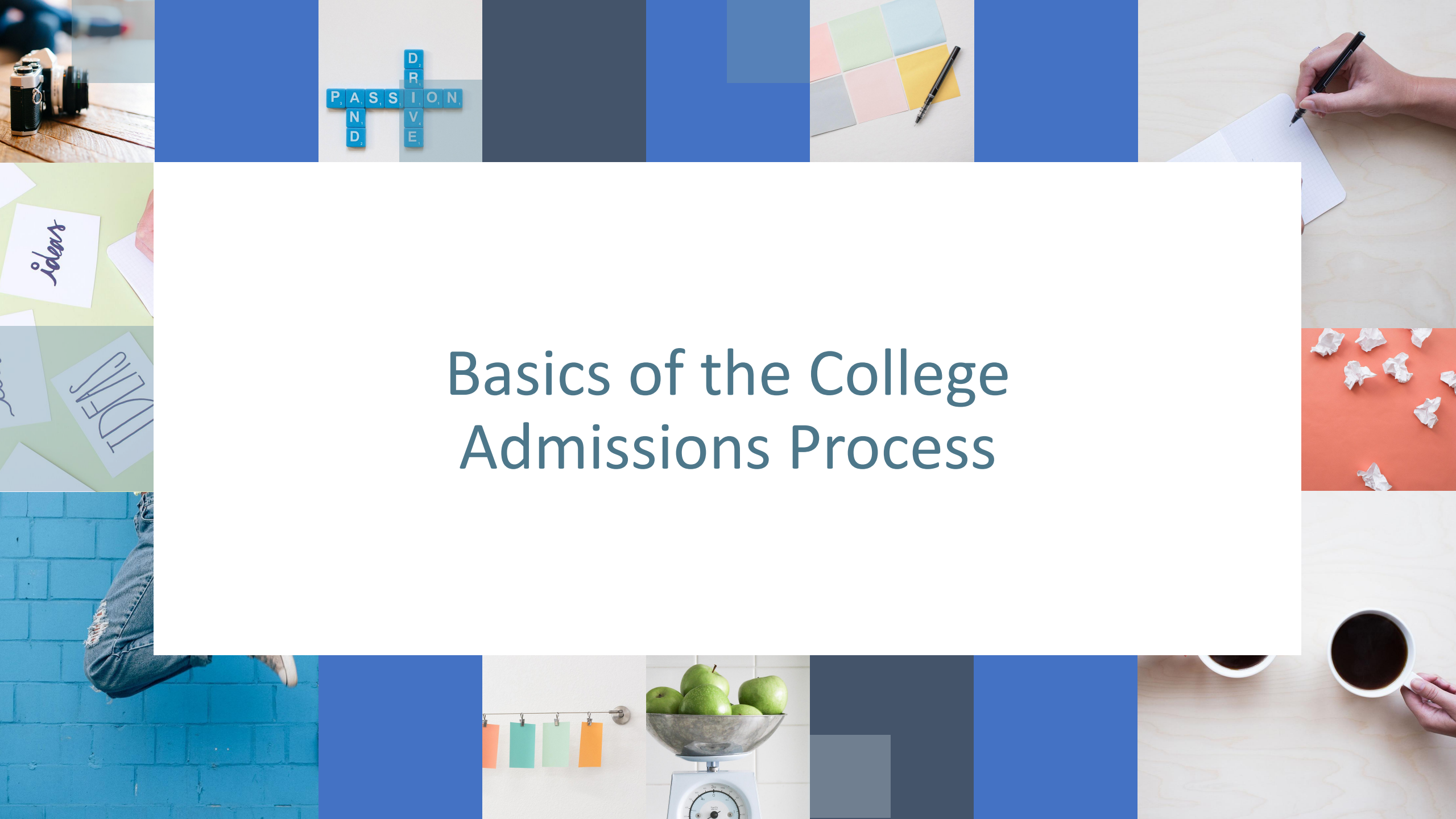


What We are Doing at CBA

PROACTIVE & PREVENTATIVE

- Individual & Cohort Meetings with Counselors
- Lifelines Curriculum Partners
- Training for CBA Faculty & Coaches
- Wellness Week for CBA Community leading up to midterm and final exams
- Assemblies and Class Presentations
- Monmouth County Youth Summit with Society for Prevention of Teen Suicide
- Mrs. Gina Morisano - Counselor: SEL & Mental Health
- Mr. Bryan Smith - Licensed Social Worker (part-time)
- Referral List: Local Providers, Facilities, and National/State Hotlines



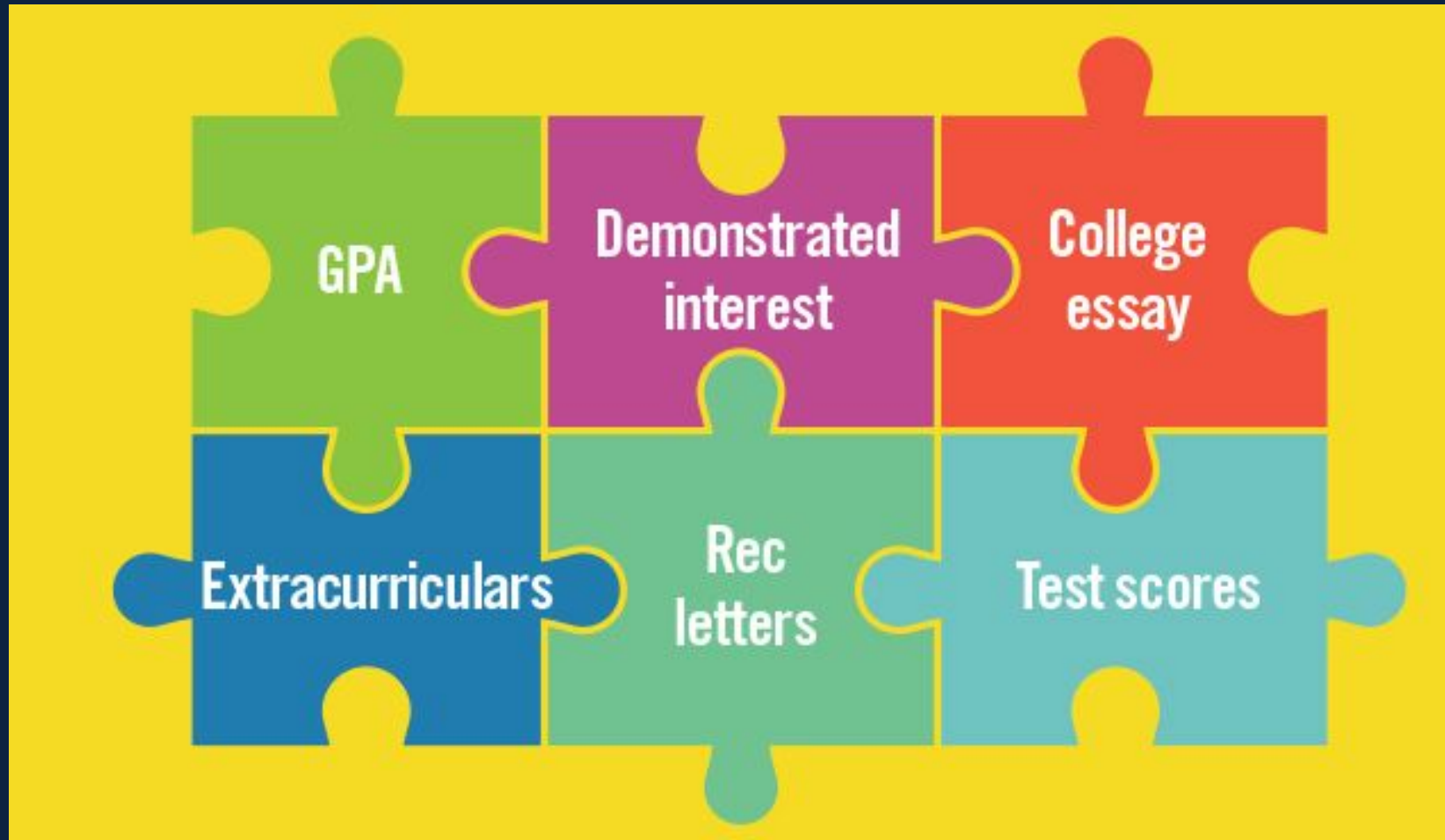


Basics of the College Admissions Process

Admission Options

Admission Plan	What does it mean?	Deadline	Answer By	Decide By
Early Action	Apply to colleges at an earlier deadline to get answers sooner <i>Can be done at multiple colleges</i>	October or November	December - February	May 1
Early Decision	Apply and if you get in you are committed to attending <i>Can only be done at 1 school</i>	November	December - February	ED is binding: If you get in, you go
Regular Decision	Traditional college application process	December - February	March - April	May 1
Rolling Admission	Applications are reviewed as they are received	July	6-8 weeks after applying	May 1

Components to the Admission Review Process



Understanding the PSAT

The PSAT is scored on a scale of 320-1520

The score report will give the overall score and the score in each section

- The Evidence Based Reading & Writing Section and Math Sections are both scored on a scale of 160-760

The score report will also show percentile rank. This indicates how a student's test score compares to others (nationally) who took the PSAT.

***Students should link their PSAT score to Khan Academy for free specifically tailored test preparation.*

During JUNIOR year your son will have the opportunity to take an official in-school SAT on October 9.

Test Optional Policies

Test Optional Policies do not require students to send SAT or ACT Scores in order to be considered for admission.

Currently over 1800+ colleges are Test Optional

When is it a good idea to submit a standardized test score?

- If the score is within or above the reported middle 50% of the previous applicant pool

Do colleges assume I have "bad" score if I don't submit?

- No. Many colleges now have freshmen classes where up to 50% of admitted applicants did not submit scores.

The PSAT is now a digital assessment.

All students must download **BLUEBOOK** to their device in preparation for PSAT day.

Should I Submit My Test Scores?

Test Optional Policy

- Student has ability to determine best path
- 1800+ colleges have adopted this policy
- Application review vs. Merit Scholarship review
- May be in student's best interest to apply test optional

Submitting Test Scores

- Test Scores are NOT on your transcript
- Submit OFFICIALLY
- Self-report

The ACT logo is displayed in white on a dark blue rectangular background. The letters 'ACT' are in a bold, sans-serif font, with a red horizontal line underlining the letter 'A'. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the right of the letters.The CollegeBoard logo features a white acorn icon to the left of the text 'CollegeBoard' in a white, sans-serif font, all set against a dark brown rectangular background.The SAT logo consists of the letters 'SAT' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a bright blue rectangular background.

Niche Processes

Athletic Recruitment

- Division I or II - must be cleared by NCAA clearinghouse
- Test scores
 - NOT required
 - If sending use clearinghouse code 9999
- Division III



Fine Arts

- Music, Art or Theater
- Audition - could be required
 - part of admission and scholarship review
- Portfolio - could be required
 - part of admission and scholarship review



PAYING FOR COLLEGE

FINANCIAL AID
FUNDS TO HELP YOU AFFORD THE COST OF COLLEGE

TYPES

- GRANTS**
FREE MONEY!
- LOANS**
MUST PAY BACK
- SCHOLARSHIPS**
AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENTS
- WORK-STUDY**
HOLD A JOB WHILE IN SCHOOL

HOW TO ACCESS

- ✓ **FAFSA**
MAIN FORM TO FILL OUT
- ✓ **CSS PROFILE**
REQUIRED BY SOME SCHOOLS
- ✓ **SEARCH ONLINE**
FIND YOUR OWN SCHOLARSHIPS

MERIT BASED
QUALIFY WITH ACHIEVEMENTS:
• ACADEMICS • ATHLETICS • OTHER

VS.

NEED BASED
QUALIFY BASED ON YOUR FAMILY'S FINANCIAL DETAILS

Napkin Finance

- FAFSA opens on 10/1 of Senior Year
- Utilize the Net Price Calculator
- CSS may be required
- No reason you shouldn't fill out the FAFSA.... unless

CBA Financial Aid Night, Thursday, 10/2

PASSION
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College Admissions Support



Different Roles Defined

Primary Role: *Student*

- Drives the process
- Takes ownership over their college admission process
- Communicates with parents and counselor

Supportive Role: *Parents*

- Sets realistic goals/expectations
- Discusses costs/financial aid
- Facilitates conversations

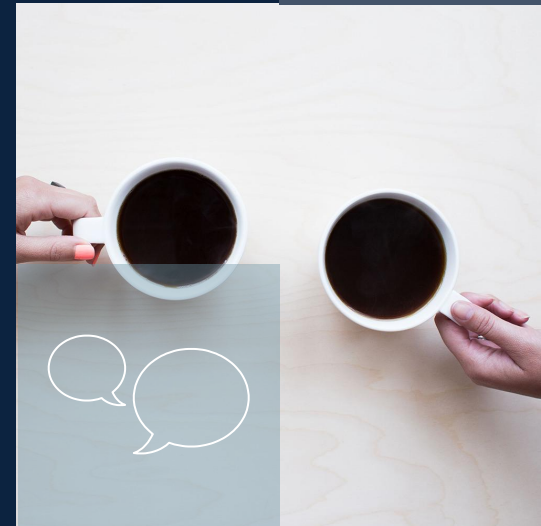
Guiding Role: *Counselor*

- Develops partnership with student and parents
- Actively listens and shares information / feedback
- Serves as a sounding board

CBA Resources for College Planning

- *Junior College & Career Class*
- *Individual meetings*
- *Junior Parent Meeting*
- *Maia Learning*
- *Mini-College Fairs*
- *College Panel*

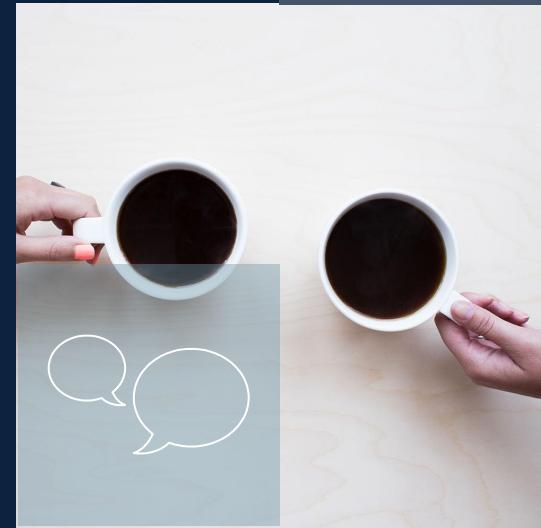
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College & Career Planning Class

- *Career Assessments and Search*
- *Review key definitions and terminology*
- *Mock Admissions Review*
- *Explore Visit Options at Colleges*
- *College Rep Presentations on the College Essay*
- *Begin the Common Application (spring)*

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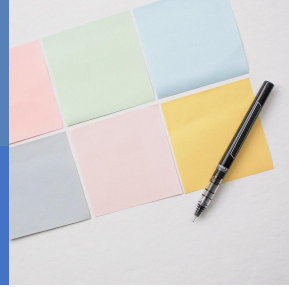


What Should Students and Parents be doing now?

- Begin searching for colleges
- Schedule visits
 - Campus tour
 - Information session
 - Open house
- Begin identifying the key preferences
- Attend college related events
- Have a financial discussion
- Trust your kid!
- Allow your son to drive the process
- Be supportive and encouraging
- Trust the process
- Be honest
- Set realistic expectations

Utilize the counselors as a resource to help guide the process.

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College Admissions Events



College Reps Visiting CBA

- Roughly 100 colleges will visit CBA in the fall
 - Parents can see the calendar of scheduled College Visits in their Maia Account
- Juniors may sign up during a free period or lunch
- Students must sign up for visit on Maia 24 hours in advance
- Mini-Fair with roughly 60 colleges in attendance

******NEW - Per the Student Handbook: Juniors are given 3 EXCUSED absences for in person College Visits (notify Mr. Villeta ahead of time)******

Upcoming Events

Financial Aid Night - October 2, 2025

CBA Mini-Fair - October 8, 2025 (during school)

College Fair at Monmouth U - October 12, 2025

College Athletics Info Night- November 20, 2025

College Kickstart Program - January 27, 2026

Junior Parent Meetings - January, February & March

