

# JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT

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*School Counseling Department*

*January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

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# AGENDA



01 *Supporting your  
Child through the  
Process*

02 *Factors in College  
Admission*

03 *Timeline*

04 *Conclusion*



# AGENDA



01 *Supporting your  
Child through the  
Process*



# Why are we here?

## *College & Postsecondary Planning as a Process*



# OPTIONS

## Post-Graduation Plans

	2025	2024	2023
<b>Graduates</b>	205	226	198
<b>4 - Yr. Colleges</b>	83%	82%	86%
<b>2 -Yr. Colleges</b>	10%	7%	5%
<b>Career Education /Postgraduate</b>	3%	4%	3%
<b>Other (Employment, Military, etc.)</b>	4%	7%	6%

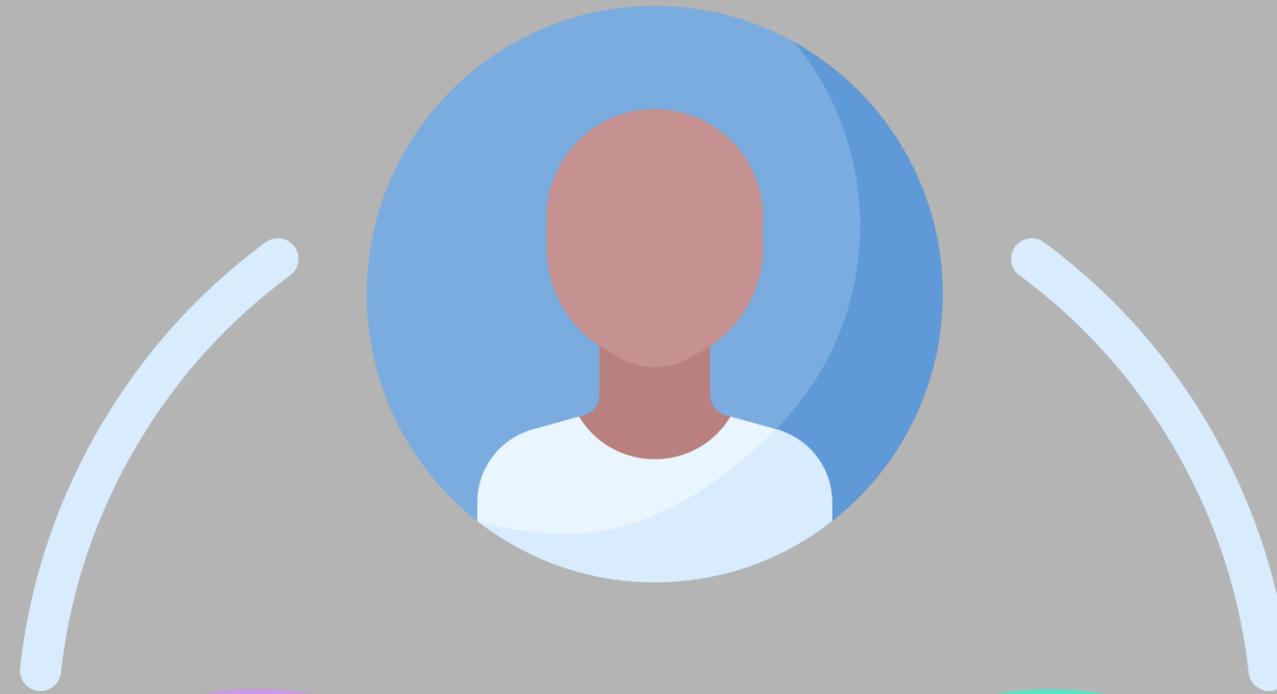


# Forging New Paths

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Student



Family

School

# AGENDA

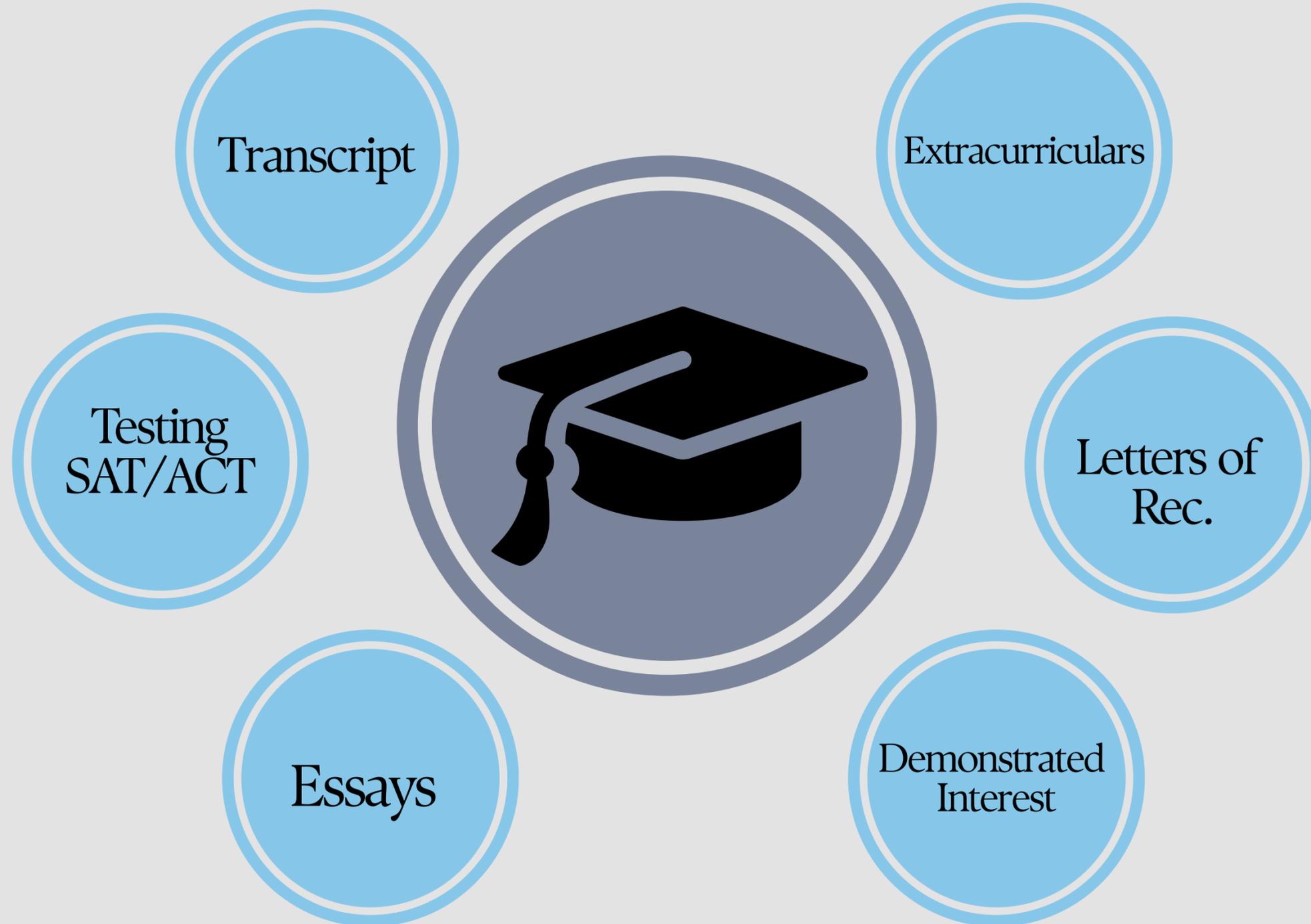


01 *Supporting your  
Child through the  
Process*

02 *Factors in College  
Admission*



# FACTORS IN COLLEGE ADMISSION



# Mahwah High School

50 Ridge Road Phone: 201-762-2300  
Mahwah, NJ 07430 Fax: 201-512-0949



# Student Transcript

CEEB Code: 310-742  
Accredited: NJ State Department of Education

**Sample, Sally**

Student ID: 3522545

NJSID: 738750888888

42 Holiday Court  
Mahwah NJ 07430

Counselor: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Graduation Date:

Cumulative Weighted GPA: 101.370

Cumulative Credits: 128.50

Parent/Guardian:

Sal & Samantha Sample

DOB: 04/19/06 Gender: F

District Entry Date: 09/07/2011

Course	Grade	Credits	Course	Grade	Credits	Course	Grade	Credits
Mahwah High School Grade: 2020			Mahwah High School Grade: 09 2021			Mahwah High School Grade: 10 2022		
Algebra 1 (Opt. 2)	94	5.00	Freshman Advisory			Business & Personal Law	97	2.50
Credits Attempted: 5.00	Earned: 5.00		1:45-2:15: Lunch=Cafe	P	1.00	Chemistry CPE	93	6.00
Unweighted Average: 0.00			TUESDAY 2			Hnrs. Algebra 2	94	5.00
			Biology CPE	96	6.00	Hnrs. English 10	96	5.00
			English 9 CPE	92	5.00	Hnrs. Spanish 3	92	5.00
			Geometry CPE	97	5.00	Hnrs. US Hist 1	94	5.00
			Hnrs. Spanish 2	91	5.00	Intr Wood & Furn Design	99	5.00
			Hnrs. World Hist.	96	5.00	Marketing & Advertising	97	2.50
			PE / Health 9	100	4.00	PE (Opt.2) MP3 LD3	P	1.00
			Social Media in Business	99	2.50	PE / Dr. Ed.10	100	3.00
			Sports and Entertainment Management	97	2.50	Credits Attempted: 40.00	Earned: 40.00	
			Visual Arts	97	5.00	Unweighted Average: 95.33		
			Credits Attempted: 41.00	Earned: 41.00				
			Unweighted Average: 95.78					

Course	Grade	Credits	Course	Grade	Credits
Mahwah High School Grade: 11 2023			Mahwah High School Grade: 12 2024		
AP Eng Lang/Comp	96	5.00	AP Calculus BC		0.00
AP Statistics	95	5.00	AP Eng. Lit/Comp		0.00
AP US History	95	5.00	AP Govt. & Politics		0.00
Financial Literacy	95	2.50	AP Psychology		0.00
Hnrs. Physics	91	6.00	Biotech Engineering		0.00
Hnrs. Pre-Calc	95	5.00	Forensic Science		0.00
Hnrs. Spanish 4	93	5.00	Hnrs. Spanish 5		0.00
Journalism: A Study in Print Media	95	2.50	PE/Health 12		0.00
PE/Health 11	100	4.00	Credits Attempted: 38.00	Earned: 0.00	
Peer Leaders ALL LEADERS!	P	2.50	Unweighted Average: 0.00		
Credits Attempted: 42.50	Earned: 42.50				
Unweighted Average: 94.79					

### Grades Legend

Marking System: Numerical- Passing Grade 65  
P or P-m = Pass  
F = Failing  
AUD- Audit  
N- No Credit Due To Attendance

AW- Admin Withdraw  
W- Withdraw  
WP- Withdraw Pass  
WF- Withdraw Fail  
WA-Withdraw Attendance

Sally has earned a Career Pathway endorsement in Government and Social Sciences. To earn this endorsement, Sally completed an academic concentration of study, participated in a co-curricular application of skills and engaged in a community-based learning experience. Info at: <https://www.mahwah.k12.nj.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1309>

Official Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Printed: 10/04/2023

Transcript is unofficial unless signed & sealed by a school official



# Testing

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*SAT vs. ACT*

# TEST POLICIES AT COLLEGES



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## *The Different Types...*

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- Test Optional
  - approx. 80% of all colleges (2,000+)
  - [www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org)
- Test Required
  - 21 private including some top/Ivy League
  - 42 public including military academies and some states like Georgia
  - certain programs at some universities
- Test Blind
  - UC schools and others

# HOW CAN MY CHILD GET HELP?



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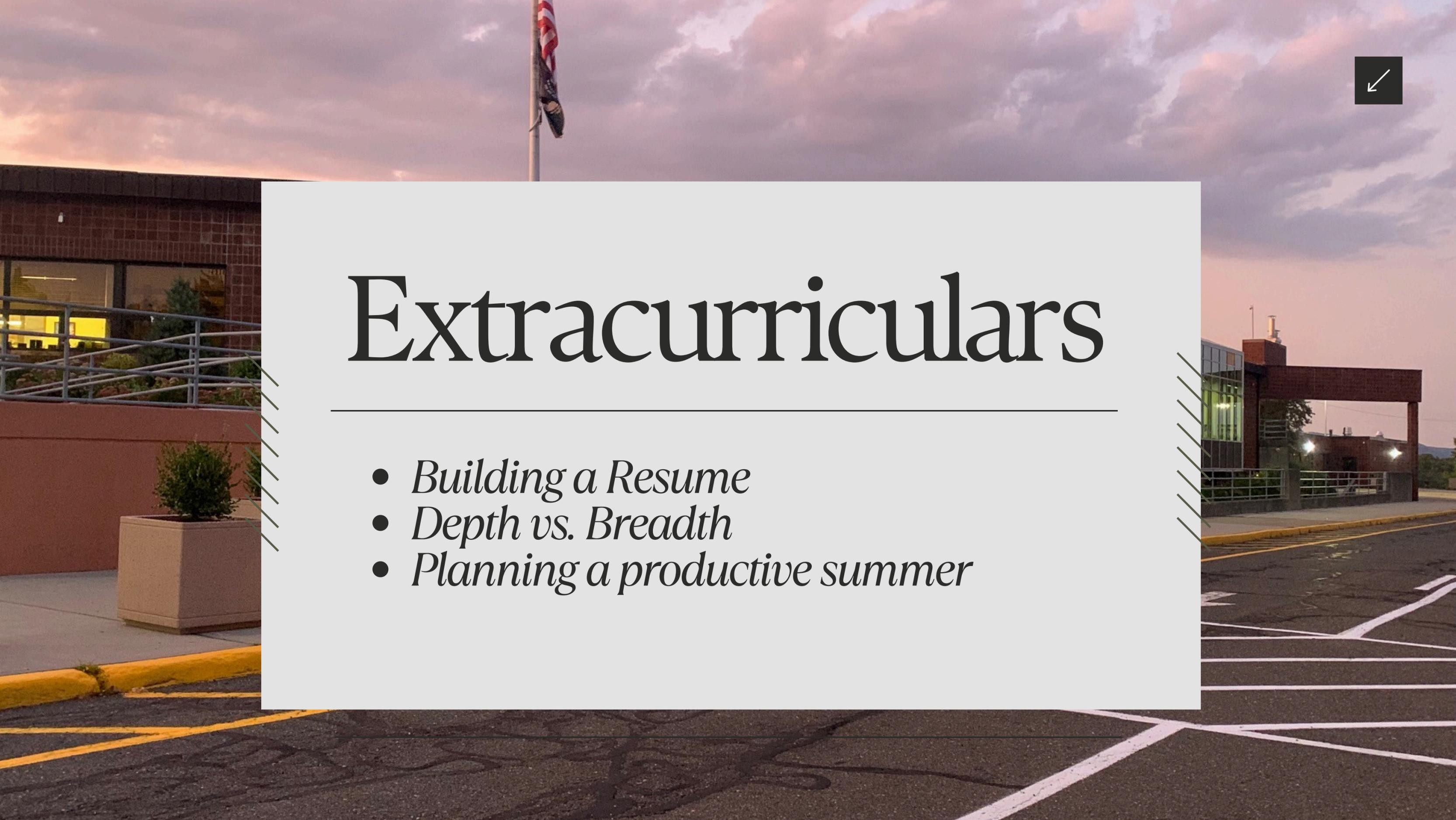
## *Test Prep Opportunities*

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- MHS SAT Courses
  - after school
  - Fall, Winter, Spring offerings
- Revolution Prep / Mahwah HS Partnership
  - Small Group Courses
- Revolution Prep FREE PRACTICE EXAMS
  - ACT - Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>
  - SAT - April 11<sup>th</sup>
- Monitor our Newsletters!



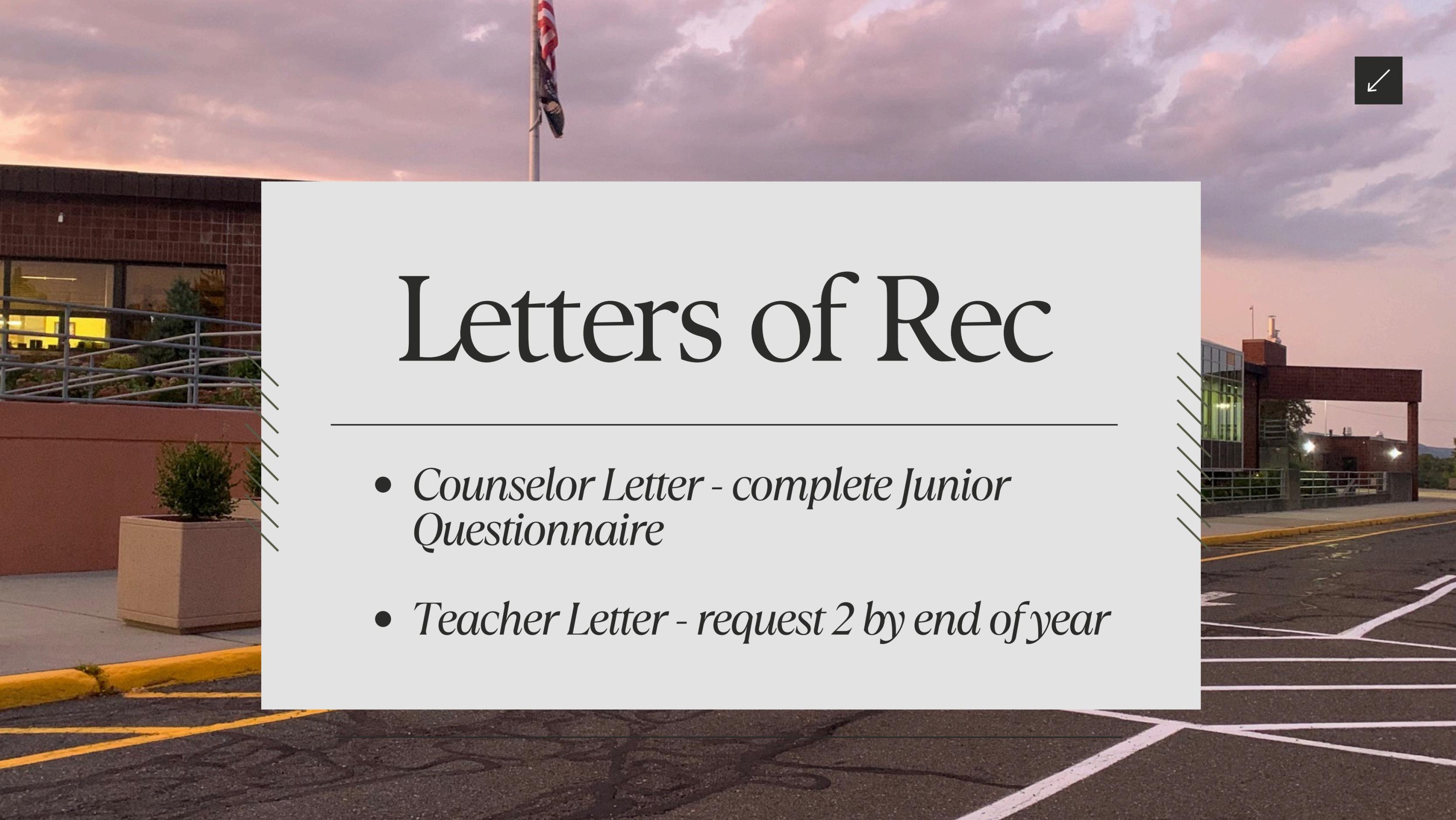
**REVOLUTION** PREP



# Extracurriculars

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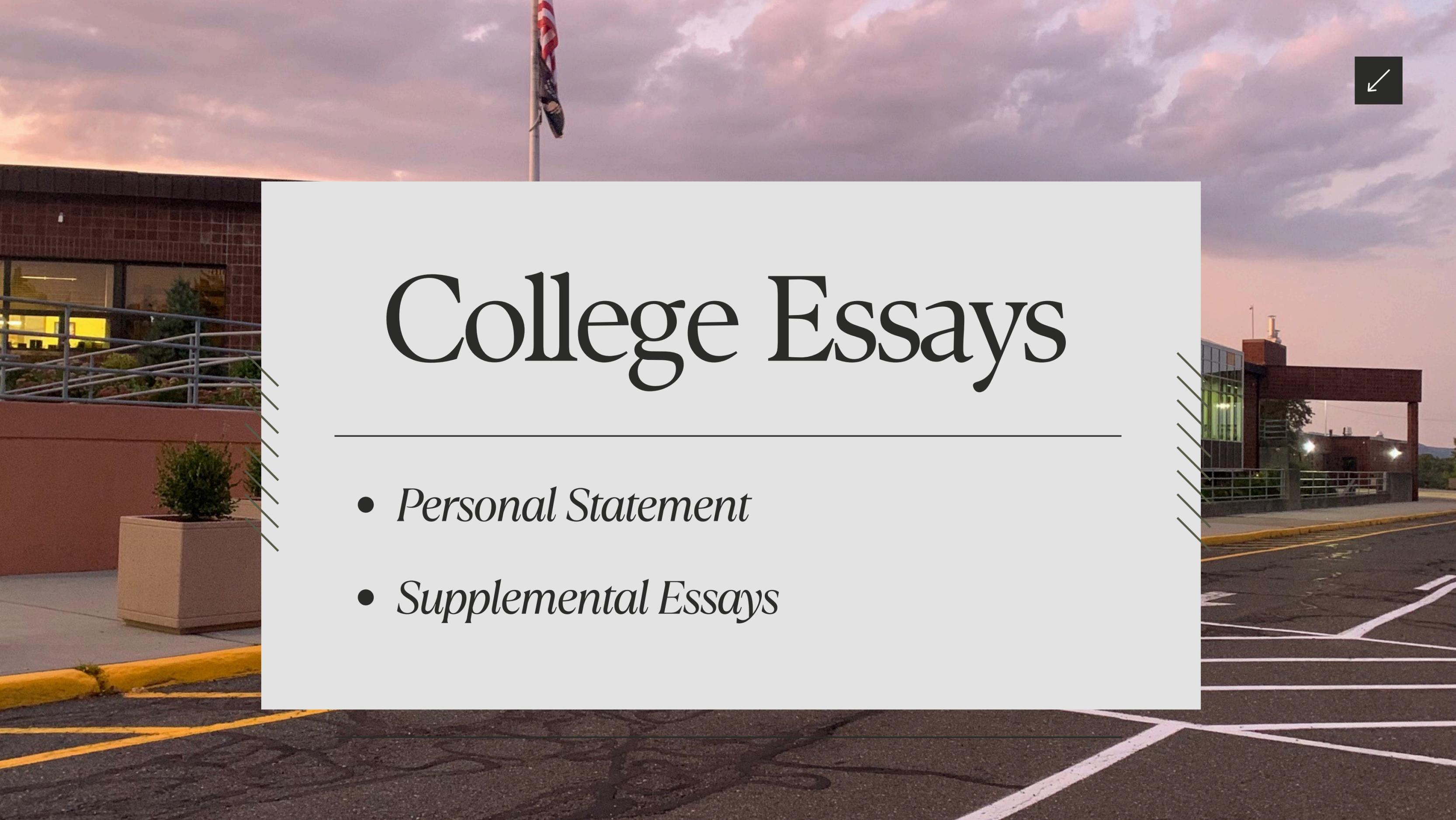
- *Building a Resume*
- *Depth vs. Breadth*
- *Planning a productive summer*



# Letters of Rec

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- *Counselor Letter - complete Junior Questionnaire*
- *Teacher Letter - request 2 by end of year*



# College Essays

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- *Personal Statement*
- *Supplemental Essays*



A photograph of a campus at dusk. In the foreground, there is a paved parking lot with white and yellow lines. To the left, a brick building with large windows is visible, some of which are lit from within. A flagpole with an American flag stands in the middle ground. The sky is filled with soft, pinkish-purple clouds. A white arrow icon is located in the top right corner of the image.

# Demonstrated Interest

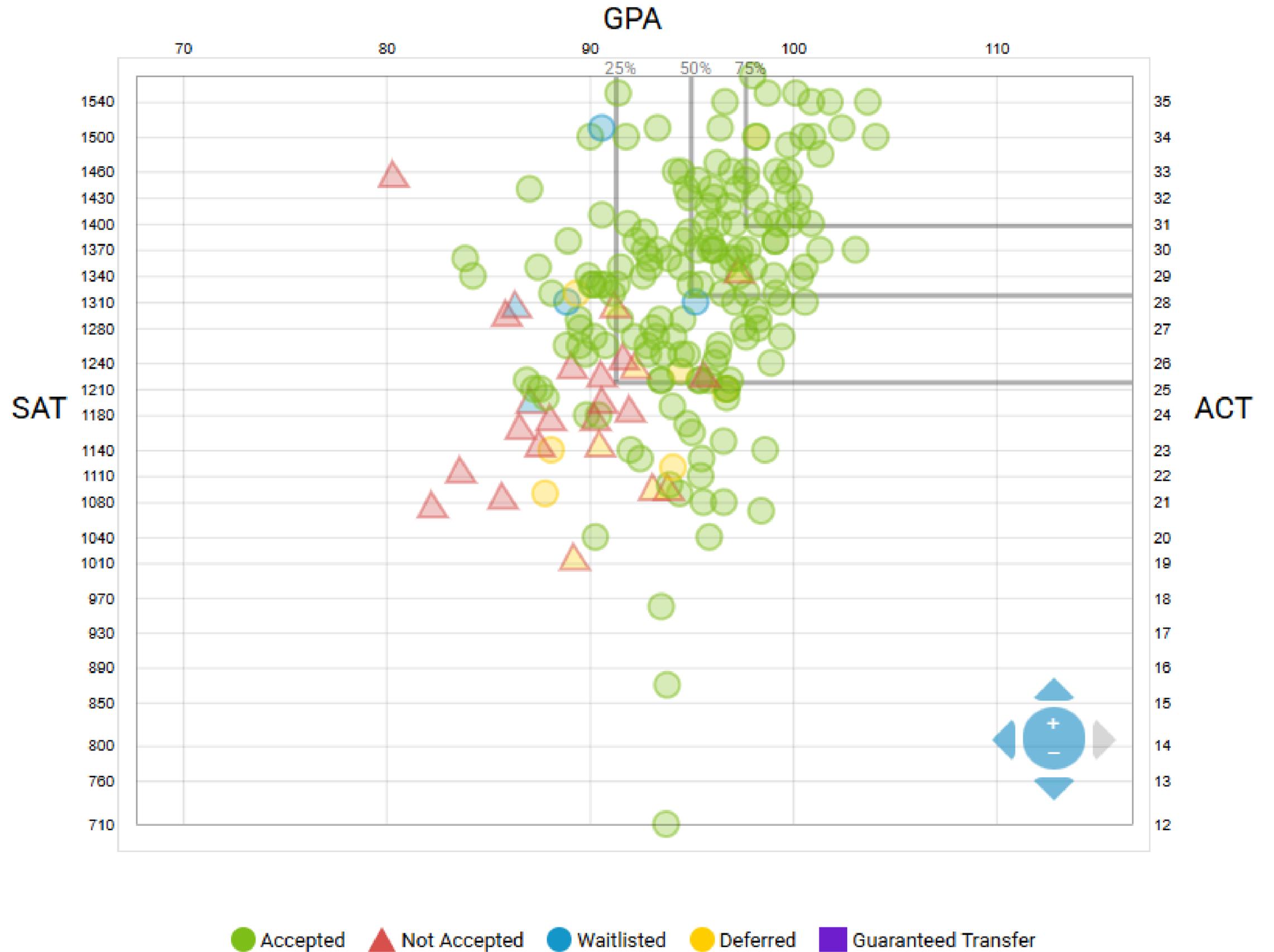
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- *Campus Tour & Information Sessions*
- *College Rep Visits*



# COLLEGE RESEARCH

- *SCOIR*
- *College Admissions Websites*
- *Common Data Sets*





The College Admissions Network

## Scattergram

Application Type ▼

Class Year ▼

Superscore ✓

Weighted GPA ✓

Hooks

Private mode

	Published Data	Accepted From Mahwah High School
Average GPA	—	95.29
Average SAT / ACT	1405 / 32	1311 / 27
Acceptance Rate	38%	68%

# RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK

**C7** Relative importance of each of the following academic and nonacademic factors in first-time, first-year, degree-seeking admission decisions.

C7		Very Important	Important	Considered	Not Considered
C7	<b>Academic</b>				
C7	Rigor of secondary school record	X			
C7	Class rank			X	
C7	Academic GPA	X			
C7	Standardized test scores			X	
C7	Application Essay		X		
C7	Recommendation(s)				X
C7	<b>Nonacademic</b>				
C7	Interview			X*	
C7	Extracurricular activities		X		
C7	Talent/ability			X*	
C7	Character/personal qualities		X		
C7	First generation			X	
C7	Alumni/ae relation				X
C7	Geographical residence			X	
C7	State residency			X	
C7	Religious affiliation/commitment				X
C7	Volunteer work			X	
C7	Work experience			X	
C7	Level of applicant's interest				X

# RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK

		Percent	Number
<b>C9</b>	Submitting SAT scores	50.9%	3,908
<b>C9</b>	Submitting ACT scores	5.4%	414

<b>C9</b>	Assessment	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
	SAT Composite			
<b>C9</b>	SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	630	680	720
<b>C9</b>	SAT Math	640	700	760
<b>C9</b>	ACT Composite	28	31	33
<b>C9</b>	ACT Math	26	29	33
<b>C9</b>	ACT English	27	31	34
<b>C9</b>	ACT Writing			

# VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

**C7** Relative importance of each of the following academic and nonacademic factors in your first-time, first-year, degree-seeking general (not including programs with specific criteria) admissions decisions.

<b>Academic</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	<b>Considered</b>	<b>Not Considered</b>
Rigor of secondary school record	X			
Class rank			X	
Academic GPA	X			
Standardized test scores			X	
Application Essay	X			
Recommendation(s)	X			
<b>Nonacademic</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>Important</b>	<b>Considered</b>	<b>Not Considered</b>
Interview		X		
Extracurricular activities		X		
Talent/ability		X		
Character/personal qualities		X		
First generation		X		
Alumni/ae relation			X	
Geographical residence			X	
State residency				X
Religious affiliation/commitment				X
Volunteer work		X		
Work experience		X		
Level of applicant's interest		X		

# VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

	Percent	Number
Submitting SAT Scores	14%	200
Submitting ACT Scores	5%	69

**For each assessment listed below, report the score that represents the 25th percentile (the score that 25 percent of the first-time, first-year population scored at or below) and the 75th percentile score (the score that 25 percent scored at or above).**

Assessment	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile
SAT Composite	1270	1310	1370
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and	630	660	700
SAT Math	630	660	690
ACT Composite	29	30	32
ACT Math			
ACT English			

# AGENDA



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# BUILDING A BALANCED LIST

## *College type*

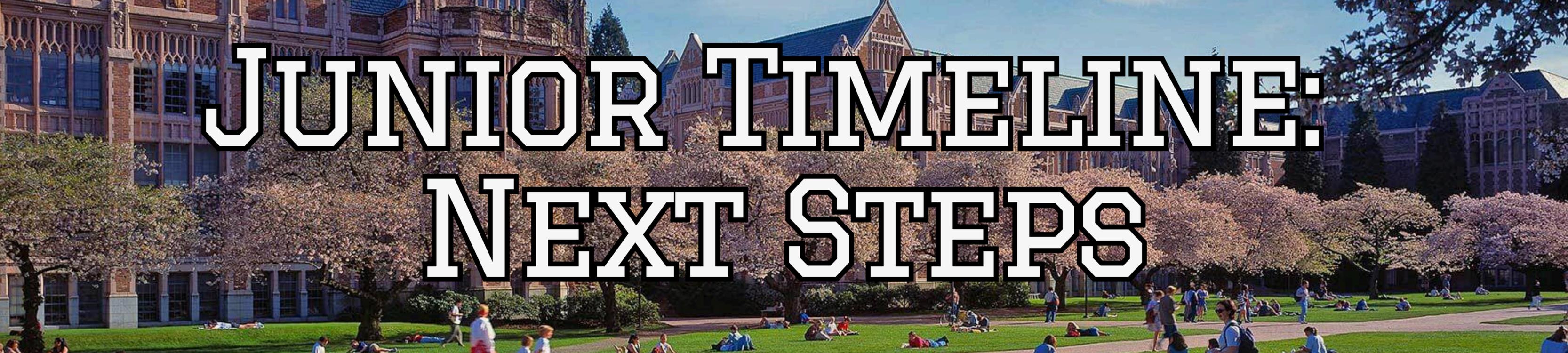
- 4 year, 2 year, career education
- In State, Out of State, Public, Private
- COST! In state, tuition match, free app weeks
- Size, location, major

## *Balance of Competitiveness*

- Likely, target, reach
- Do your research - SCOIR, Common Data Sets
- Understand nuance

## *Deadline Type*

- Early Action, Early Decision, Rolling, Regular Decision
- Pay attention to deadlines and response dates



# JUNIOR TIMELINE: NEXT STEPS

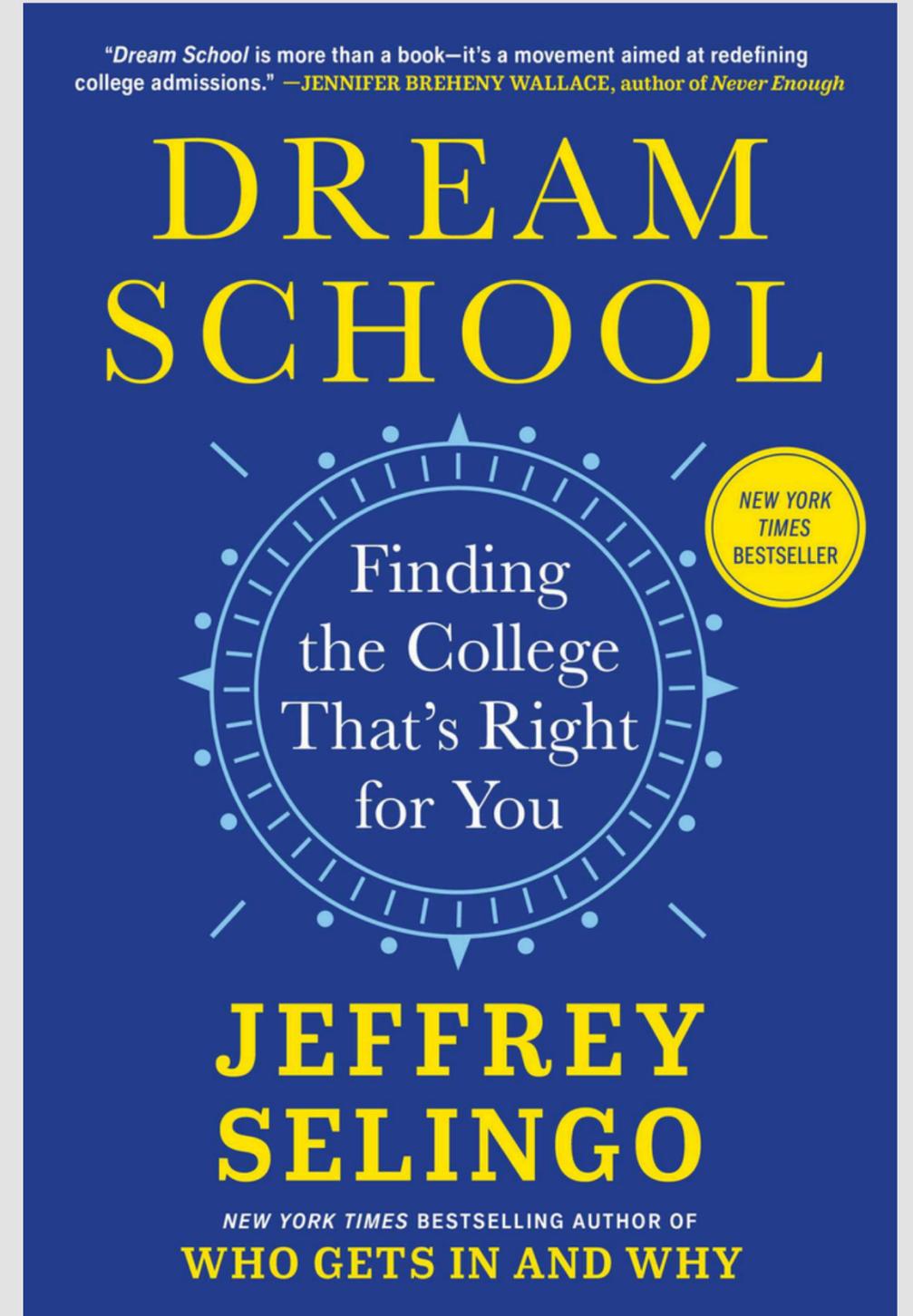
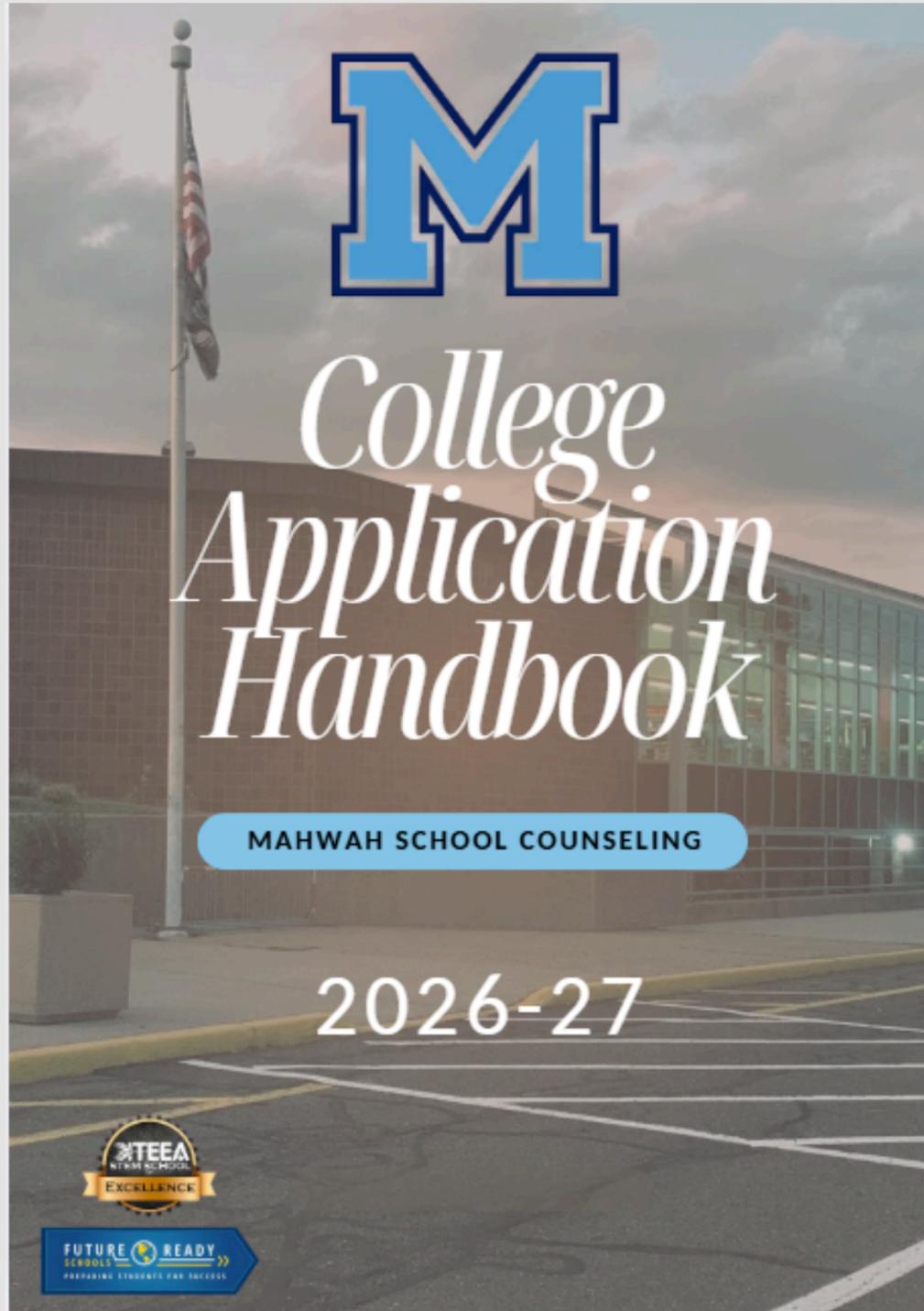
- *Junior Conference with Counselor - Feb-April*
- *Plan and Prepare for SAT/ACT*
- *Campus Visits*
- *Request 2 Teacher Letters of Rec prior to end of year*
- *Finalize Senior Course Requests*
- *Finish the Year Strong*
- *Plan to be productive this summer!*



# LOOKING FORWARD: SENIOR YEAR

- Create Common App Account
- Attend Summer Boot Camps in August - 2 sessions
- Develop draft of College Essay
- Narrow down your list of colleges
- Organize deadlines - EA, ED, RD
- College Rep Visits in the Fall - see SCOIR

# SUGGESTED READING





Thank you for attending

