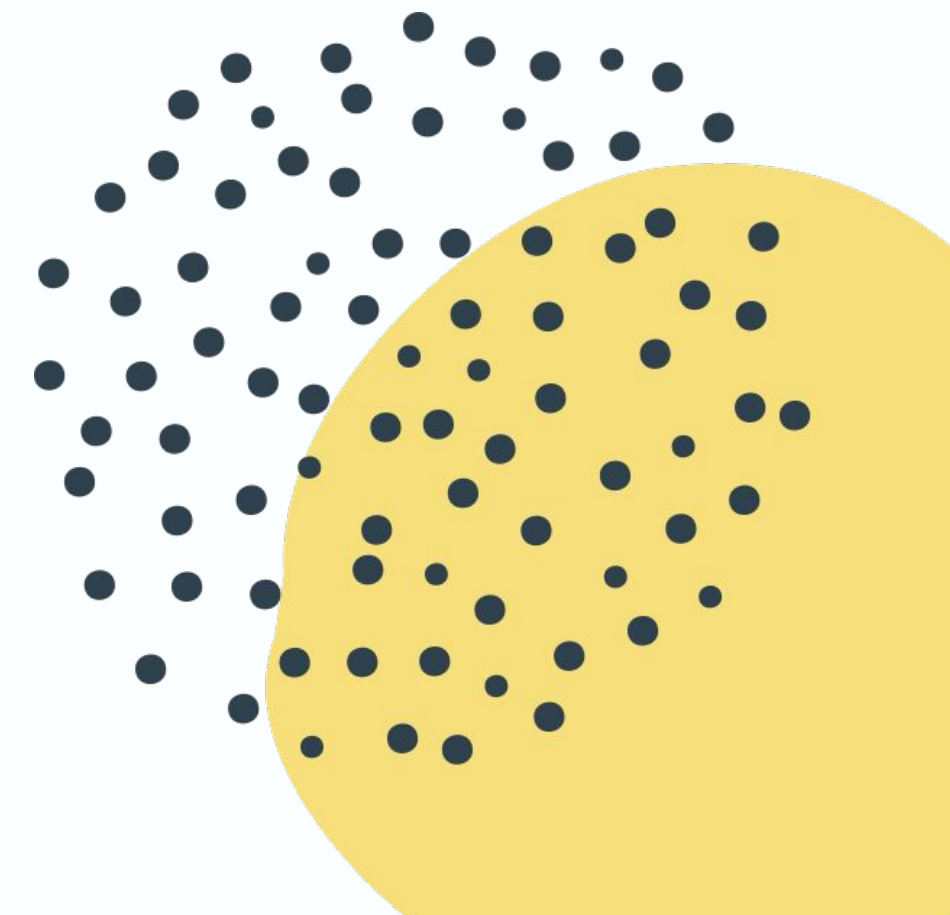


**Junior  
Parent / Guardian  
Night**

**Class of 2027**



# **Junior Class Auction**

Class of 2027 Class Auction Information - Announcement by the Class Officers

# School Counselors

Ms. Vuona

A - Di

Ms. Kennedy

Dj- Je

Ms. Coughlin

Ji - O

Ms. Bagnall

P - V

Ms. Chaykowski

W - Z

*Ms. Benman*

*School Counseling Assistant*

*Olivia Pelletier*

*School Counseling Intern*



# Agenda

- Post-secondary plans
- Upcoming events
- College visits
- College Rep Visits
- Organizing the process
- SAT/ACT
- Letters of recommendation
- Brag sheet
- College essay
- Admissions policies
- Interviews
- Senior events
- Additional Info
- Naviance



# Post Secondary Plans

- College
  - 2-year and 4-year
- Technical/Vocational schools
- Gap year
- Employment
- Military
- Post-graduate year



*All students should set up a meeting with their school counselor*

# Upcoming Events

- **Junior Seminar 1**
  - MHS college process
- **Junior Seminar 2**
  - Building college list and reviewing transcript
- **Junior Parent / Guardian Night**
  - Wednesday, January 14th, 6pm @ MHS
- **MHS College Admissions Panel**
  - Thursday, April 9th, Magic Block
    - *UMass Amherst / Syracuse University / Boston University / Quinnipiac University / Union College*



# Upcoming Events Continued

## **VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIR**

via NACAC

- February 1 | 1 - 6pm
- March 15 | 1 - 6pm
- April 19 | 1 - 6pm

## **IN-PERSON COLLEGE FAIR**

@ Hynes Convention Center, Boston

- April 27 | 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- April 28 | 8:30 am - 12:30 pm



NACAC COLLEGE FAIR  
REGISTRATION PAGE

# College Visits

- Register on college websites
- Attend informational sessions, open houses, and tours
- It is helpful to visit colleges while in session
  - Speak with students about their experience
- See College Visit Questions handout on School Counseling website
- Attend In-Person & Virtual College Fairs
  - Students should keep their camera on
  - Be prepared to ask questions
- Students are allowed 4 absences/year to attend college or postsecondary visit



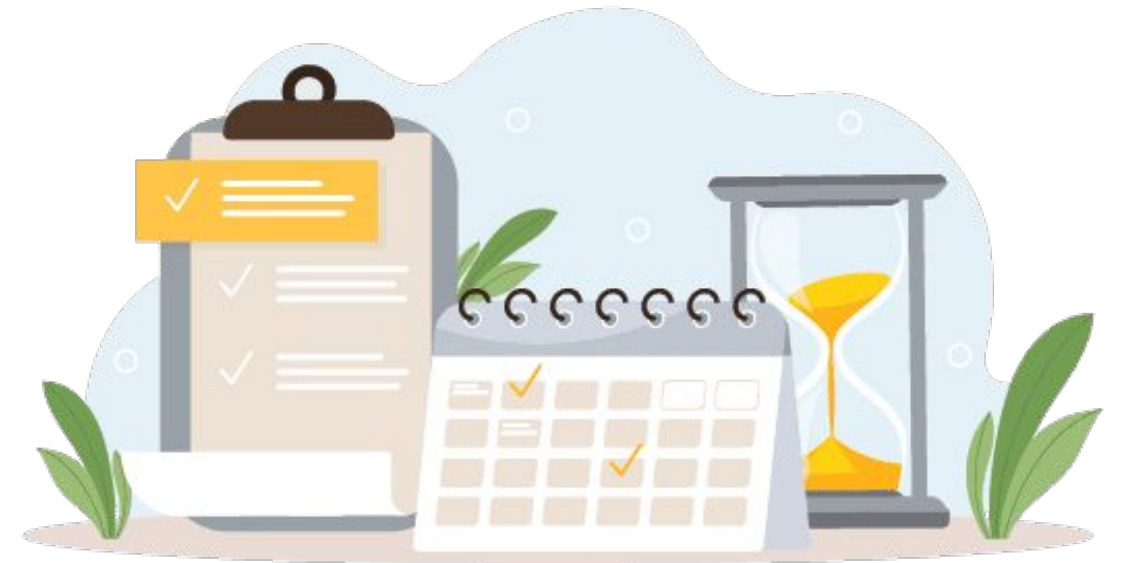
# MHS College Admissions Counselor Visits

- Over 100 colleges visit MHS in the fall
- Contact is important
  - Attend info sessions
  - Ask thoughtful questions
  - Students can show colleges they are interested!



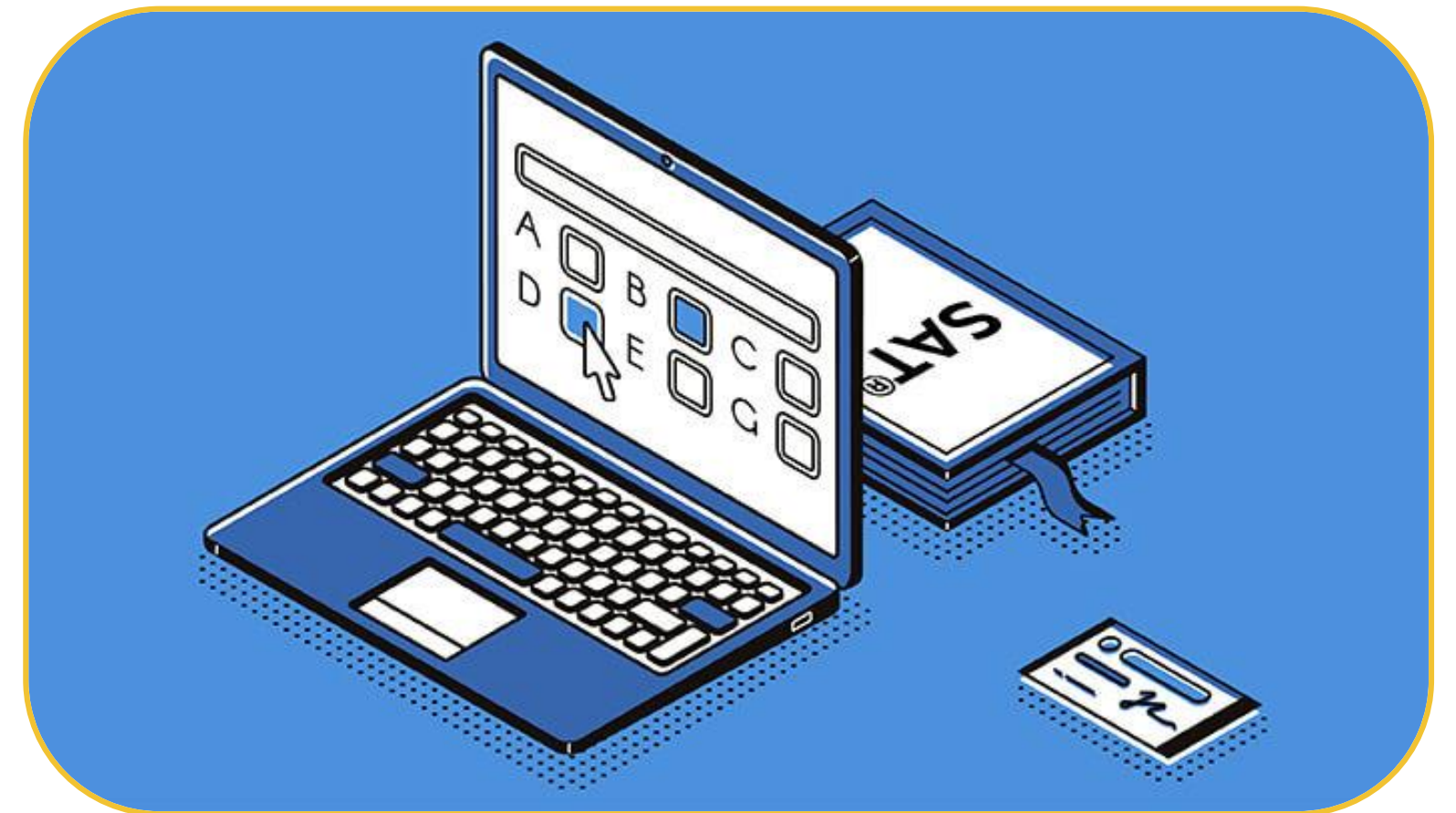
# Organizing the Process

- Start early!
- Time management
- Junior checklist will be provided
- Find a system that works for your family
- Track application and financial aid deadlines
- Know application requirements for each college
  - Auditions, portfolios, interviews, testing, etc.
- Identify how the student will apply - Common App versus college application
- Process is designed for all junior and senior students to do independently  
(Parents/guardians and school counselors are here to support)



# SAT Info

- **Register at [www.sat.org/register](http://www.sat.org/register)**
  - Marblehead School Code: 221-325
  - All tests are digital format
- **Test length and scoring**
  - Test used to determine college readiness
  - Evidence-Based Reading & Math
  - Score is out of 1600
    - 800 for Math & 800 for EBR
  - Roughly 3 hours
- **Students responsible for submitting scores**
  - Most colleges superscore
  - Consider the top score for each section
  - Required to submit full scores



Free test prep at Khan Academy  
[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

# ACT Info

- **Register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)**
  - Marblehead School Code: 221-325
  - Available in digital or paper and pencil format
  - Colleges will accept either SAT or ACT
- **Students are responsible for submitting scores**
  - Some schools will superscore but not all
- **Test Length and Scoring**
  - Math, Reading, English
    - Science & Essay portion is optional - check college requirements
  - 3 hours and 35 minutes (including essay portion - 40 minutes)
  - Beginning Fall 2025
    - Fewer questions
    - Test length will be just over 2 hours
  - Scoring based on scale from 1 - 36



# SAT Dates

March 14 | registration deadline February 27

May 2 | registration deadline April 17

June 6 | registration deadline May 22



Marblehead School Code:

**221-325**

# ACT Dates

April 11 | registration deadline March 6

June 13 | registration deadline May 8

July 11 | registration deadline June 5



Marblehead School Code:

**221-325**

# Test Day Reminders

## Preparing for test day: SAT guidelines [here](#)

- *On test day, students must bring:*
  - Compatible / fully charged testing device
  - Charging cord
  - Admission ticket
  - Photo ID
  - Pencils
  - Calculator (or use the one in Bluebook)
  - Water / snack

## Preparing for test day: ACT guidelines [here](#)

- *On test day, students must bring*
  - Admission ticket
  - Photo ID
  - Pencils
  - Calculator
  - Water / snack



# Test Optional

- Check college requirements
- Test optional vs. test blind
- Test Flexible
  - Colleges/Universities allow students to choose which type of test they want to submit with their application (i.e. SAT, ACT, or AP Scores)
- Test optional college - check each major
- Sending scores vs. not sending scores
- Visit [www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org) for more information



It's better to have scores and not need them than to not test

# **Student Information / Brag Sheet & School Counselor Recommendation**

- Class of 2027 School Counseling Google Classroom
  - **Due May 8th**
- Student can update it over the summer and fall
- Used by the school counselor to write recommendation letter

## **School Counselor Recommendation**

- School counselors write letters for each student on their caseload

# Letters of Recommendation

*All recommendations are confidential*

## **Primary Teacher Recommendation**

- Student asks a teacher from a core subject area ideally from junior year (i.e. Math, English, Science, History or World Language)
- Student asks teacher prior to filling out the Primary Teacher Recommendation Google Form
  - **Due May 8th**
- Update teachers with application deadlines in the fall

## **Secondary Teacher Recommendation (if required by the college)**

- If a college requires **2 teacher** recommendations, get a secondary paper form from Ms. Benman

# Letters of Recommendation

## Outside Recommendations

- Invite recommender through Common App, if available
- Each college has a limit on how many they'll accept

## From CommonApp:

- Other recommenders are individuals students have worked with outside of school. They can provide context around hobbies, passions, and other responsibilities
- The other recommender types available in the Common App are: Arts Teacher, Clergy, Coach, College Access Counselor, Employer, Family Member, Peer, or Other
- Each college can choose which types of other recommenders they accept.



# College Essay

- Common App essay prompts are available online at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
  - Updated prompts available in the spring
- Many colleges will require additional supplemental essays/short answer questions
- Non-Common App schools may have different essay prompts
- Students should work on college essays over the summer



MAKE IT YOUR OWN!

# Admission Policies

- **Early Decision**  
Limited to applying to one school ED and EDII  
Binding Agreement - Required to attend if accepted
- **Early Action**  
Can apply to as many schools through EA  
Non-Binding agreement  
Early application review and early notification
- **Restrictive Early Action**  
Non-binding  
College specific, very few schools have this option  
Students may only apply to one college REA  
Can't apply ED elsewhere, check college requirements  
Can usually apply EA to public schools

# Admission Policies

- **Regular Decision**
  - Apply by standard application deadline
  - Allows more time to prepare application
  - Usually notified by mid-April
- **Rolling Admissions**
  - Applications reviewed as they come in
  - Decision issued as soon as application processed
  - Submit sooner rather than later

*Students must submit a deposit by May 1st*

# Interviews

- Types of interviews:
  - Informational
  - Evaluative
  - Alumni
- Dress professionally
- Make eye contact
- Always send a thank you note



# Senior Events

## Fall 2025

- Senior Parent/Guardian Night
- Financial Aid Night
- Senior Seminars
- Common App Bootcamp
- Self-Reported Transcript Academic Record (STARS) MAGIC Blocks

## Fall/Winter 2026

- College visits

## Spring 2027

- Scholarship Presentation



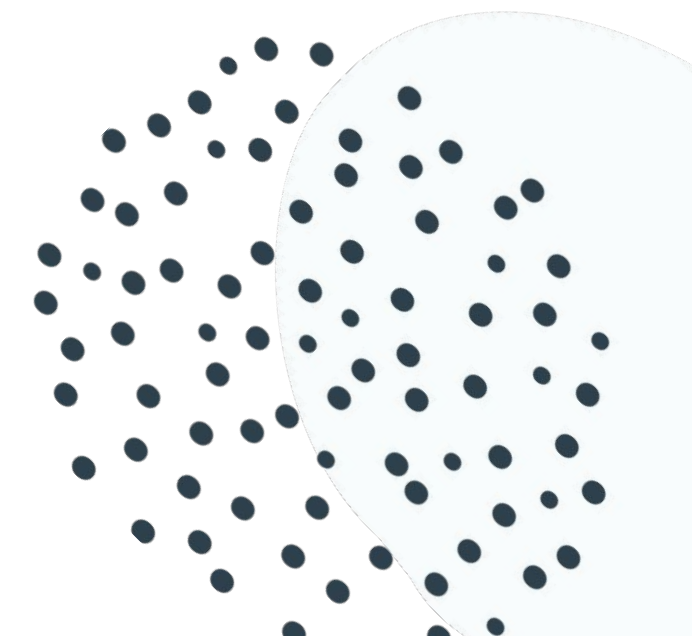
# Additional Information

- NCAA
  - Create Clearinghouse account if interested in playing division I or II athletics
- IEP/504 Plan
  - Disclosing
  - Programs
- Financial Aid
  - FAFSA / CSS Profile
  - Fall 2026 Financial Aid presentation
- Senior Seminars
  - Application Process
  - Common Application



# Helpful Links

Marblehead High School School Counseling Website- <i>Junior Handouts Available</i>	<a href="https://mhs.marbleheadschoools.org/students-families/school-counseling/juniors">https://mhs.marbleheadschoools.org/students-families/school-counseling/juniors</a>
College Board	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
ACT	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>
Common Application	<a href="http://www.commonapp.org">www.commonapp.org</a> <b>(rolls over August 1st, 2026)</b>
FairTest (List of test optional colleges/universities)	<a href="http://www.fairtest.org">www.fairtest.org</a>
MEFA (Financial Aid Information)	<a href="http://www.mefa.org/">http://www.mefa.org/</a>
Colleges That Change Lives	<a href="http://www.ctcl.org">www.ctcl.org</a>
NCAA Clearinghouse	<a href="https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/">https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/</a>
Historically Black College or University (HBCU) Resource	<a href="http://www.thehundred-seven.org/hbculist.html">http://www.thehundred-seven.org/hbculist.html</a>



# Naviance

- Web-based tool used to research colleges and develop lists
  - Students apply to approximately 8 - 12 colleges
    - 2 safeties / 4 - 8 probables / 2-3 reaches
- GPA updated & uploaded to Naviance mid-year & end of year
- GPA updated *every quarter* senior year
- Primary parents/guardians will receive email with instructions to create parent/guardian Naviance account