

Welcome to College Night
October 7, 2025

*School
Of The
Arts*

Agenda

- Welcome
- SOTA Counselor Presentation
 - SOTA Website
 - College Application Process
 - College Admission Process
 - SchoolLinks
 - Financial Aid Overview
- Financial Aid Presentation
 - Renee Swift
Scholarship Supervisor
New York State Higher Education Services
Commision

Counselor Arrangement

Name	Grade Assignment	Student Last Name	Phone Number/ Email (585) 242-7682
Mrs. Kelly • Newsletter	Grades 7 - 8	A - L	x4320 heather.kelly@rcsdk12.org
Mrs. Everts • Newsletter	Grades 7 - 8	M - Z	x4240 sabrina.everts@rcsdk12.org
Ms. Adams	Grade 9	All	x2492 nadia.adams@rcsdk12.org
Mrs. Sirianni • Newsletter	Grades 10 - 12	A - F	x2493 talya.sirianni@rcsdk12.org
Mr. Murphy • AP & SSD Coordinator • NCAA Eligibility Center • Student Council	Grades 10 - 12	G - N	x1791 michael.murphy@rcsdk12.org
Mrs. Rossette • Restorative/Mosaics Advisor • Gender Sexuality Alliance	Grades 10 - 12	O - Z	x3490 julie.rossette@rcsdk12.org

Counseling Fax Number (585) 256-6580

SOTA Website

- www.sotarochester.org
 - **Counselor Corner**
 - Counselor Contact Information
 - Scholarship Application Downloads
 - Important Web Links
 - College Recruiter Visit Calendar
 - Newsletter

College Application Process

Nuts & Bolts...

Nuts & Bolts...

- What do Admissions Counselors consider when reviewing applications?
 - Quality of the high school transcript
 - Level of coursework
 - AP
 - Honors
 - Regents
 - Grades
 - Senior schedule

Nuts and Bolts...

- Standardized College Entrance Exams
 - SAT*- SAT School Day- Tuesday 10/21
 - ACT*
 - Check college websites for test optional policies post-COVID.
- * College requirements vary. Most will accept the SAT and/or the ACT. Check with an admissions representative or visit the college website for clarification.

Nuts and Bolts...

- Recommendations
 - Generally 1- 2, varies by institution
- Extracurricular Activities
 - Consistent, substantive, demonstrations of talent and leadership
 - Community Service
- College Essay
- Interviews
 - May not require, but many encourage.
 - Demonstrated Interest

Nuts and Bolts...

- Portfolios and Auditions
 - Very important for students continuing with art at the college level. Work closely with your SOTA art teachers to ensure you are meeting all of the criteria and deadlines for college admission.

The Admissions Process

- 1) Complete College Applications
- 2) Add Colleges to SchoolLinks
- 3) Work with Counselor to Submit Supporting Documents
- 4) Submit SAT/ACT Scores through testing agency if required
- 5) Complete FAFSA for Financial Aid

The Admissions Process...

- Admissions Deadlines
 - Early Decision
 - Early Action
 - Rolling Admission
 - Regular Decision
 - College Application Fee Waivers

The Admissions Process

- Application Options
 - SUNY Application
 - www.suny.edu/student
 - Institutional Application
 - Common Application
 - www.commonapp.org
 - Common Black College Application
 - www.commonblackcollegeapp.com



The Admissions Process...

- Basic Student Application Form
 - Personal Information
 - Essay
 - Secondary School Report
 - Teacher Recommendations
 - Test Scores (if required)
 - Audition / Art Portfolio
 - Supplemental Application Forms
 - Fee Waivers

FAFSA

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](#)
 - Application Open Now
- FAFSA Events
 - [Rochester College Access Network](#)

FAFSA FEST



REF CITY-WIDE FAFSA FEST

 Saturday, October 18th
10:30 am -12:30 pm

 Rochester Central Library
115 South Ave,
Rochester, NY 14604

 • FAFSA help
• Financial aid Info

SIGN UP! IT'S FREE!



Any Questions?
 (585) 910-2675

www.rochestereducation.org



HEOP/EOP

- Academic and Financial aid program at colleges within New York State
 - Standards vary by institution
 - Talk with your counselor about options when completing college applications

SchooLinks

- College and Career Platform
- Access through ROConnect Dashboard
- Connect SchooLinks and Common App accounts to send school supporting documents
- Any colleges not on Common App will need to be added into SchooLinks to send supporting documents

Class of 2026 Google Classroom

Join Code: 452xqyv

Counselors post the monthly Newsletter and other important updates in the Google Classroom.

Questions?

- Any questions?
 - If you have questions that are not answered this evening please reach out directly to your student's school counselor