FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
INNOVATION
ACADEMY



Senior Information Night Class of 2027

INNOVATION ACADEMY COUNSELING



MS. JACKSON
LAST NAMES **A-E**



MS. HARRISON
LAST NAMES **F-La**



MS. BUTLER
LAST NAMES **Le-Re**



MS. CHILSON
LAST NAMES **Rh-Z**



MS. MORAN
DEPT. CHAIR & COUNSELING PROGRAMMING

Innovation Academy
Counseling Team Introductions

Student Support Team



Niki McKenzie (College & Career Advisor)



Melissa Balser (MTSS/Grad Coach)



Brady Varga (Social Worker)



Beth Hudec (IST)



Robert Shultz (School P sychologist)



Allison Herndon



Samantha



Gina Danner & Bev Shiotelis (Virtual Support)

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IA Counseling Updates

Senior Bootcamp was August 14th

- **Session with GARN (Greater Atlanta Regional Network) representatives:**
  - Vanderbilt, U of Oklahoma, U of Wisconsin, Johnson & Wales, Purdue
  - GARN Admission Panel Attendance 280/324
- **Session with IA Counselors**
  - Counselor Info Session Attendance 190/324
- **LinkedIn Session**
  - Attendance 176/324



Graduation Requirements

Students must earn 23 credits in order to graduate from high school:

Area of Study	Units Required
English/Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
CTAE and/or World Language/Latin/Fine Arts	3
Health/Physical Education	1
Electives	4
Total	23

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Track Your Status

Graduation Status Report

23 Credits Required for Graduation

Name:

Total Credits Earned to Date:

Cohort:

English 4 Credits	Math 4 Credits	Science 4 Credits	Social Studies 3 Credits	Health/Personal Fitness 1 Credit	Electives 4 Credits
☐ Lit/Comp I (H) or 9th Lit/Comp (H)	☐ Algebra I C&C (H)	☐ Biology (H)	☐ American Gov. / AP American Gov.	☐ General Health	☐☐ Intro to HC Science A / B
☐ Lit/Comp I (H) or 9th Lit/Comp (H)	☐ Algebra I C&C (H)	☐ Biology (H)		☐ Personal Fitness ☐ Waiver? *See electives	☐☐ Fund of Engineering A / B
☐ Lit/Comp II (H) or 10th Lit/Comp (H)	☐ Geometry C&C (H)	☐ Physical Sci (H) / Physics (H)	☐ World History / AP World History	**World Lang, Fine Arts, or Career Tech - 3 Credits**	☐☐ Intro to Software Tech A / B
☐ Lit/Comp II (H) or 10th Lit/Comp (H)	☐ Geometry C&C (H)	☐ Physical Sci (H) / Physics (H)	☐ World History / AP World History	☐	☐☐ Pathway Class #2 A / B
☐	☐ Adv Algebra C&C (H)	☐ Chemistry (H) / Envi Sci / Earth Sys	☐ US History / AP US History	☐	☐☐ Pathway Class #3 A / B
☐	☐ Adv Algebra C&C (H)	☐ Chemistry (H) / Envi Sci / Earth Sys	☐ US History / AP US History	☐	☐☐ Research – IA Requirement
☐	☐	☐	☐ Economics / AP Micro / AP Macro	☐	☐☐
☐	☐	☐		☐	☐*
				☐	

Magnet Pathway Planning

☐ *Engineering (ENG)*
- Pathway Course 1: Foundations of Engineering
- Pathway Course 2: _____
- Pathway Course 3: _____

☐ *Healthcare Science (HS)*
- Pathway Course 1: Introduction to Healthcare Science
- Pathway Course 2: _____
- Pathway Course 3: _____

☐ *Information Technology (IT)*
- Pathway Course 1: Introduction to Software Technology
- Pathway Course 2: _____
- Pathway Course 3: _____

Notes

HOPE Rigor Courses
4 required by graduation

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Students need a minimum HOPE GPA of 3.0 + 4 HOPE Rigor Courses to qualify for the HOPE Scholarship. See GaFutures.org for more information, including full eligibility guidelines.

- Check transcripts after every semester for accuracy in Infinite Campus
- HOPE Rigor (four courses)

Calculating Your GPA

- Core vs. Cumulative
- Weighted vs. Unweighted
- HOPE GPA – www.gafutures.org
  - *Report **Cumulative Weighted GPA**, unless application tells you different*
- Fulton County does not rank students

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Applying To College - GPA

- The GPA used for college admission is calculated by the college NOT by IA or Fulton County
- Always report the weighted numerical average listed on your transcript for all applications and scholarships
- Colleges Admissions will recalculate and determine what your GPA is
  - *Contact the college to inquire about how they determine your GPA*
- *Do not recalculate to a 4.0 GPA scale*

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Applying To College

- **STEP 1:** Research colleges and schedule campus tours – Academic, scholarships, freshman index, deadlines and test requirements. IA Visits
- **STEP 2:** Complete applications to the colleges. Make sure you track your application and materials status at www.commonapp.org
- **STEP 3:** Order your SAT/ACT to be sent from the testing website if applicable.
  - ***This is the STUDENTS responsibility. Counselors cannot send test scores.***
- **STEP 4:** Request teacher (if required) at least 15 days before the deadline. Weekends and holidays are not included. Majority of these requests are electronic
- **STEP 5:** Request transcript if not applying through Common App or ScribOrder. Please request 10 business days prior to the deadline (continue to check your college student portal to ensure all schools have received your documents)
- **STEP 6:** Request Mid-Year Report if applicable – January
- **STEP 7:** Request Final Transcript – May Senior Exit Activities

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Applying To College - Admissions

- Rolling Admissions
- Early Action/Admission Non-binding
- Early Decision – Binding
- Regular Decision

DEADLINES WILL NOT BE EXTENDED

- UGA EA deadline is October 15th
- GT EA deadline is October 15th
- GSU Honors College and Priority deadline is November 15th

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Requesting Transcripts

- Counselors will begin sending transcripts on September 8th
- If you are applying through Common App, Coalition, SENDedu and Common Black College Application you do not have to request your transcript to be sent to colleges
- If you are not applying through above application portals, please request your transcript to be sent through Scriborder https://fultonga.scriborder.com
- Requests can take up to 3-5 business days
- Please check your college portal to ensure your transcript was delivered

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Alternative Routes



GWINNETT TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Guided Gap Year

Travel Abroad

Mission

Peace Corps

Trade

Construction

HVAC

Mechanic

Military

ASVAB Test

Certificate Programs

Cosmetology

Medical or Dental Assistant

MRS. MCKENZIE - COLLEGE AND CAREER ADVISOR

FLIGHT SCHOOL (115) MONDAY- FRIDAY

How does Mrs. McKenzie support you?

- Coordinates **College Visits and Fairs @ IA,**
  Provides student assistance with the **college application process**(Common App, FAFSA, essays, etc.),
  Assists students with **all post-secondary options**-trade school, employment opportunity, military track,
- Researches and shares **scholarship** information,
- Promotes college commitments in the spring ,
- Provides general support for the counseling department.

Reminders:

- **Book an appointmen**t to help with upcoming applications, essays and scholarships,
- Follow the College and Career Center **@ia.college.career**,
- Follow our College Commitments at **@ia_seniors**.

STUDENTS can Book an Appointment

GEORGIA MATCH

GSFC/GAfutures will mail GEORGIA MATCH letters in October to the current seniors - Class of 2027!

The colleges listed on your GEORGIA MATCH letter and your GAfutures Student Dashboard are an academic match based on your HOPE GPA and they are holding a spot for you in their Fall 2027 Class.



GEORGIA MATCH

How do I apply to the colleges and universities that are holding a spot for me?

Once you have signed in to your GAfutures account, select the "Claim Your Spot!" button next to the institution you are interested in. GAfutures will submit your details* to the institution you selected. The institution will communicate with you about the college's steps to apply and enroll to pursue a major. Please be aware there may be an individual institutional fee to submit an admission application. You have not committed to any fee just by claiming your spot.
*Details shared with the institution for "Claim Your Spot" include:

- Student Name
- Address
- Email Address
- Most recent transcript GAfutures has (if requested by student)



ASVAB Testing @ IA-

Did you know that the ASVAB test is not just for military placement? It also helps students explore their career interest.

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is a test that measures your current abilities and predicts future academic and occupational success.

The test is open to **sophomores, juniors and seniors**.
If you are interested, email Mrs. McKenzie (mckenzien1@fultonschools.org).



College Visits @IA

Johns Hopkins University -8/26- 4th period
Cornell University -9/1- 4th period
University of Georgia-9/3- 5th period
Kennesaw State University-9/8 1st period
Ga Tech-9/9- 1st period
University of Florida- 9/9-4th period
South Florida University-9/15-1st period
Stony Brook University-9/15-4th period
NYU Shanghai- 9/16- 1st period
Auburn University-4th period
Agnes Scott University-6th period
Mercer University- 9/29- 4th period

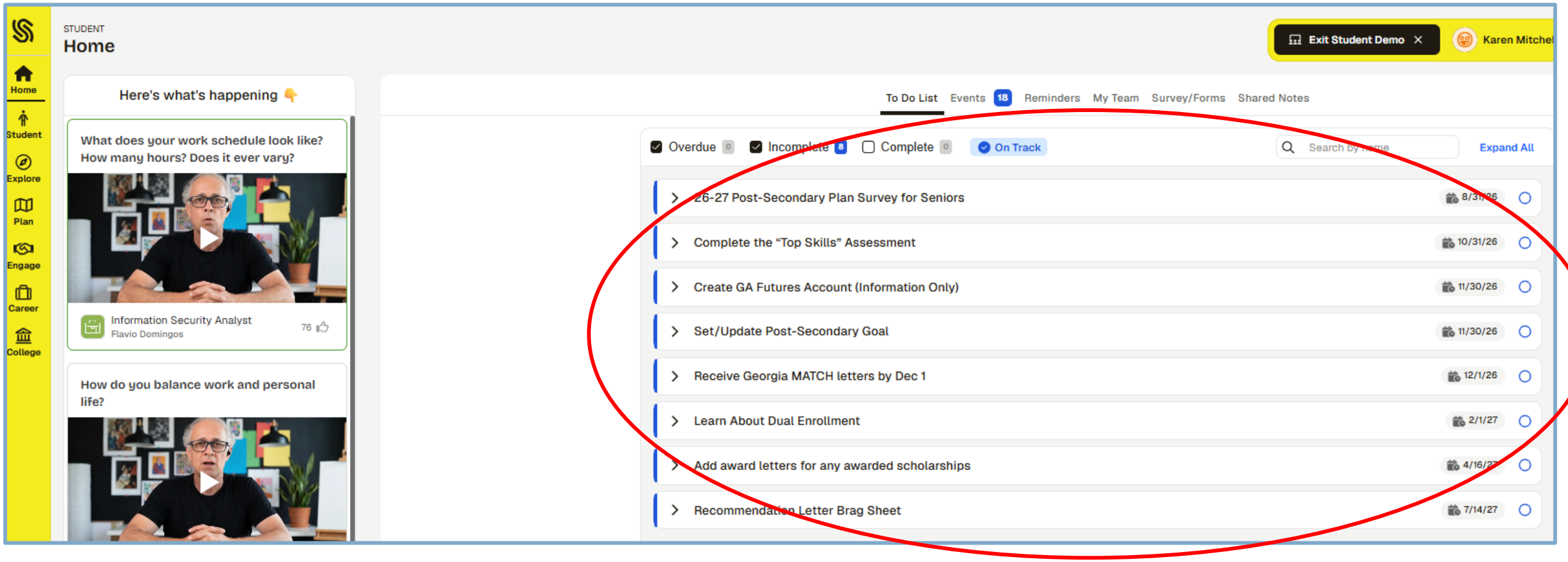
Sign up in Schoolinks-EVENTS
Teacher permission is required to attend
Open to sophomores,juniors and seniors
Reach out to Ms.McKenzie
if you have questions.

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Upcoming
College and Career Center Events

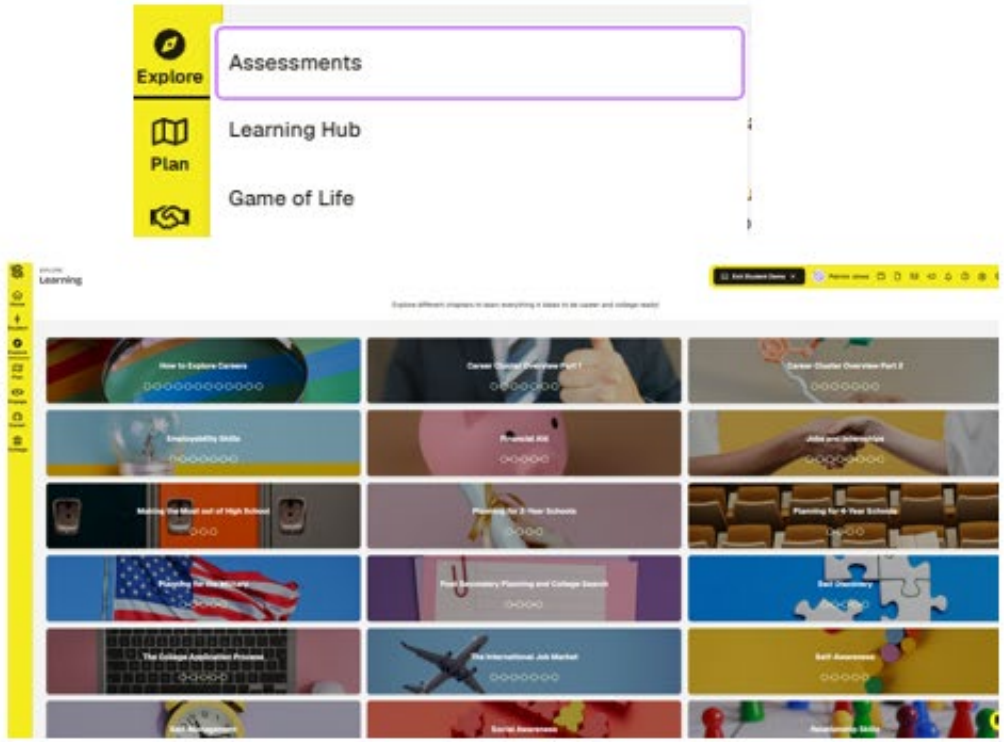
SchooLinks

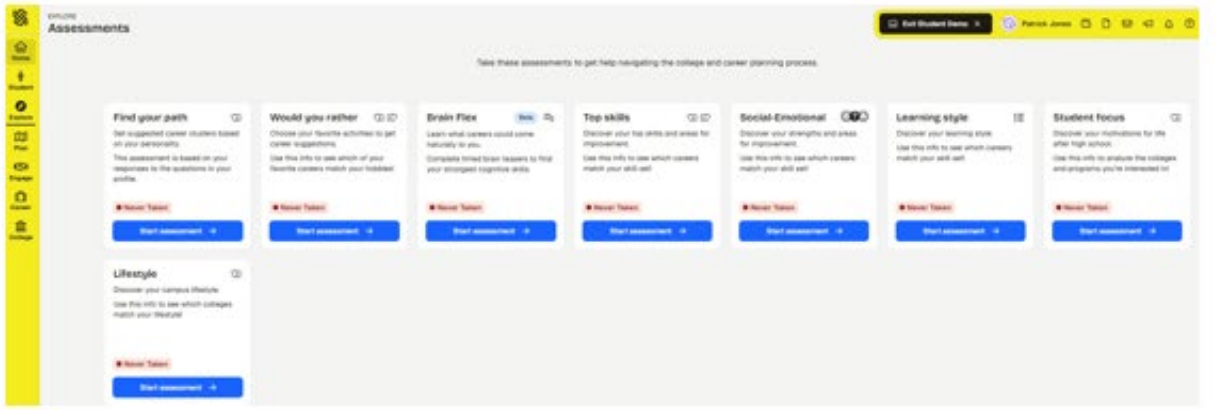
All students have access to SchooLinks through ClassLink



SchooLinks

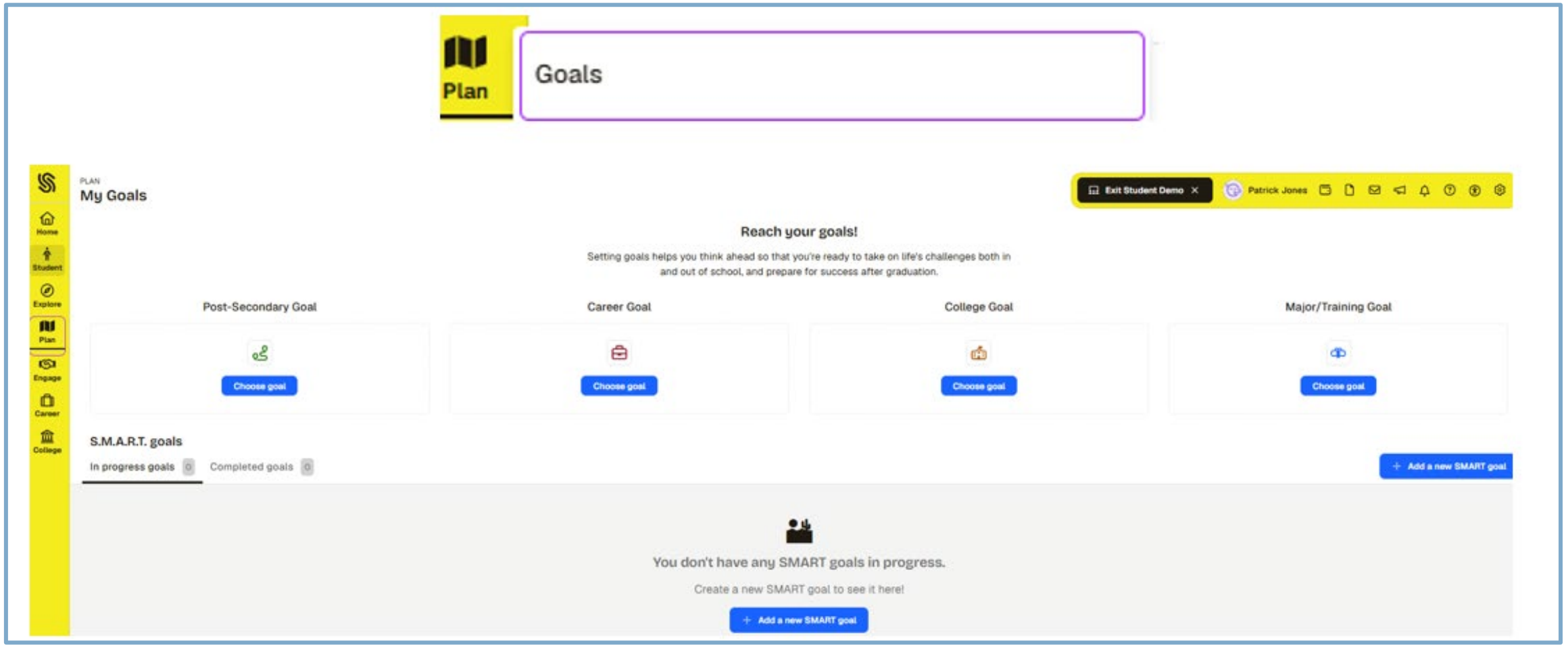
Assessments





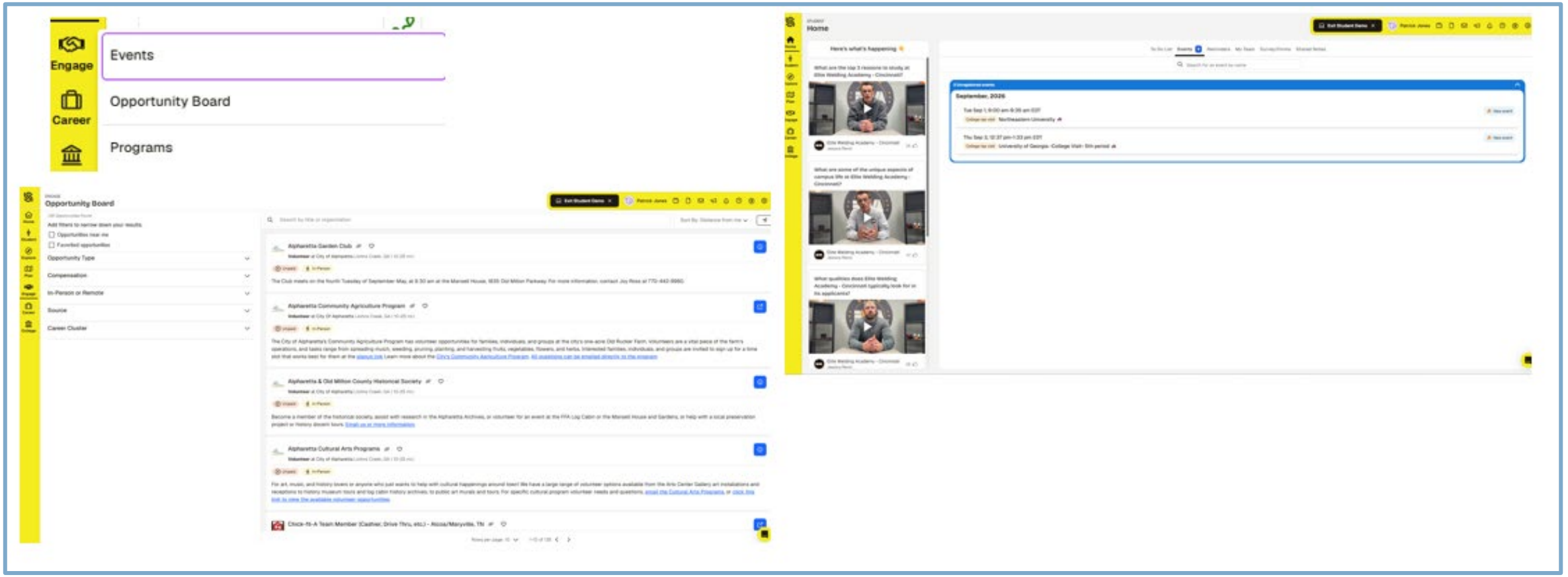
SchooLinks

Plan



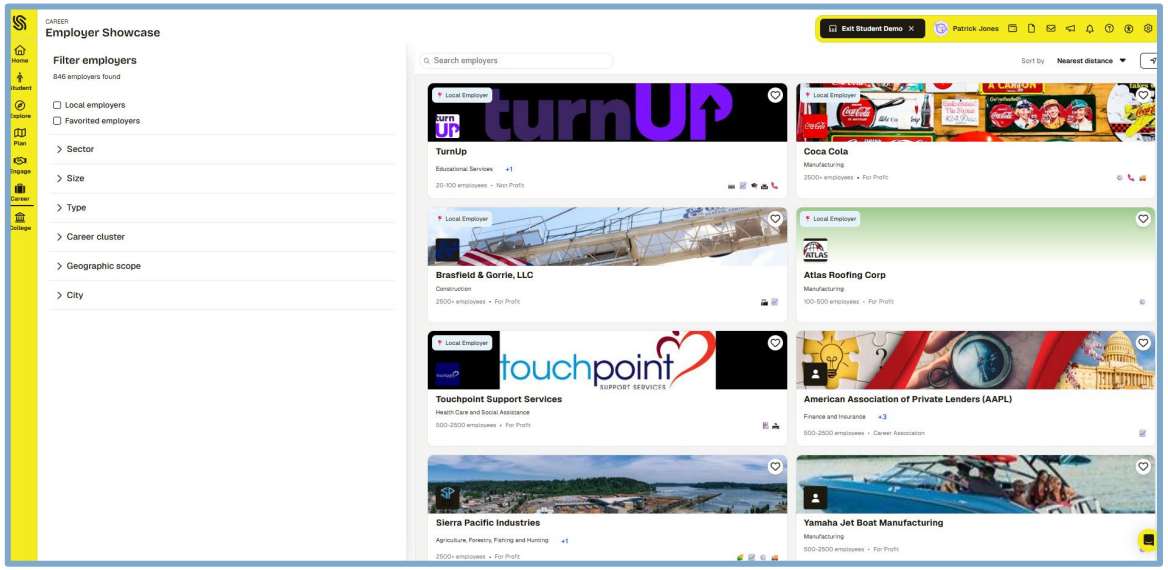
SchooLinks

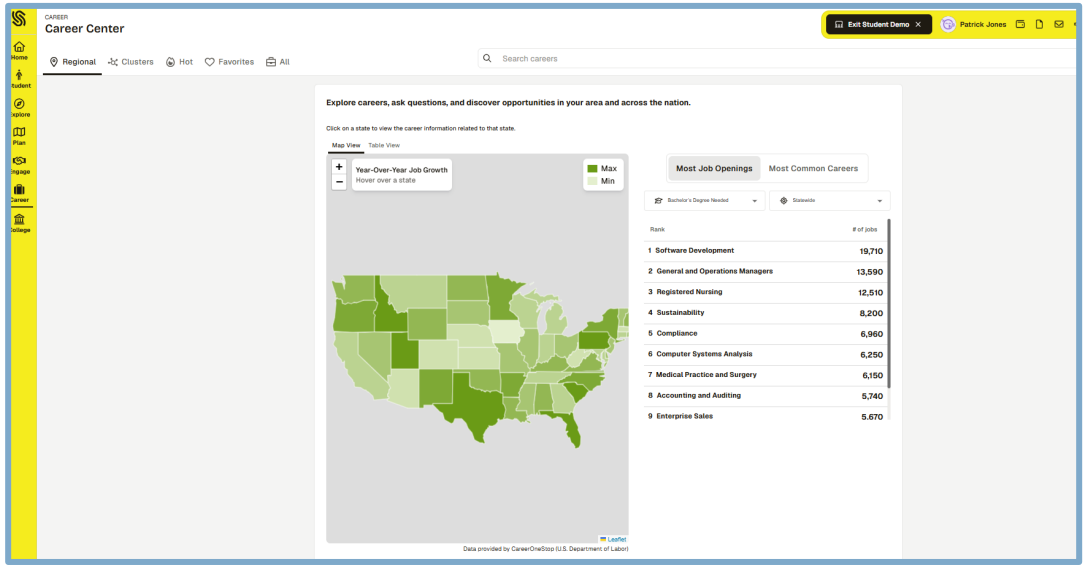
Engage

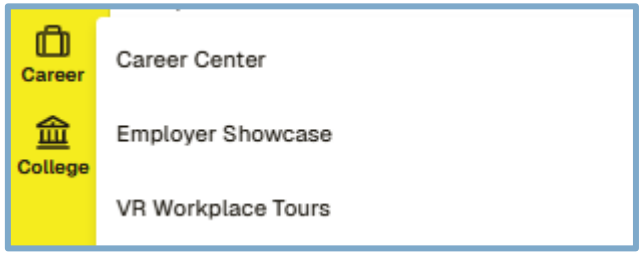


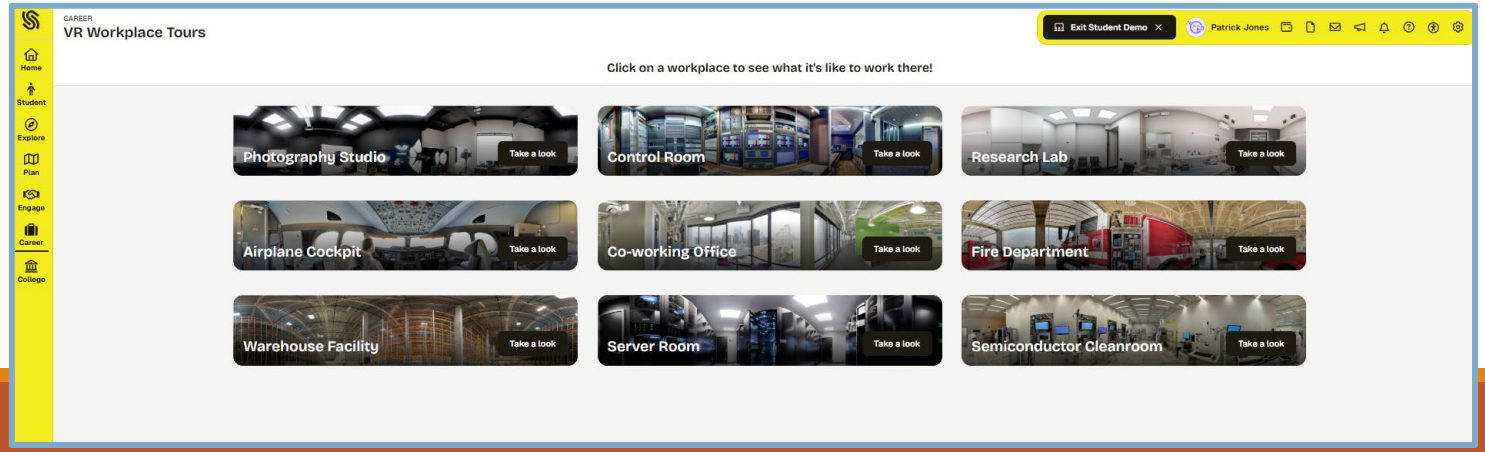
SchooLinks

Career



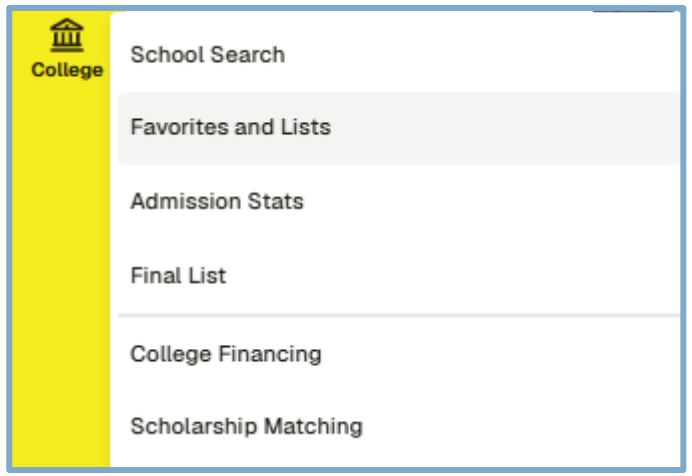


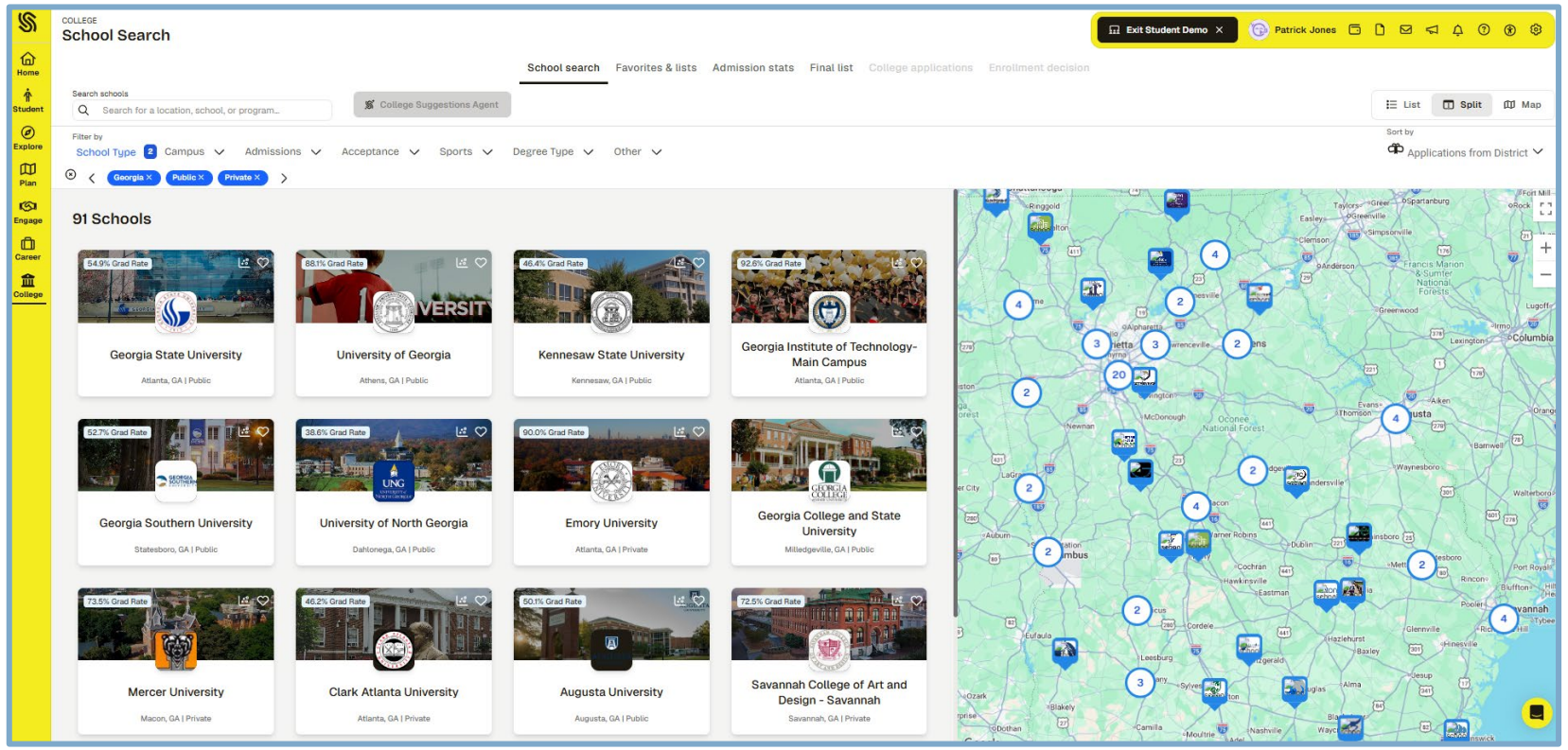




SchooLinks

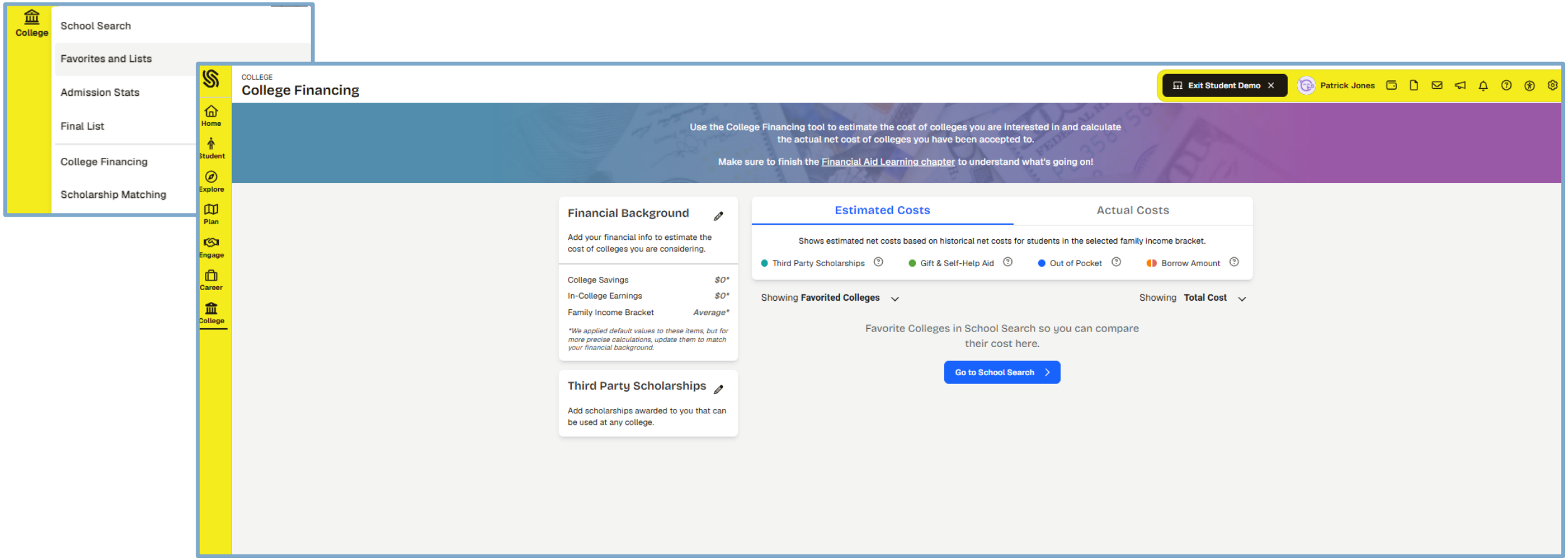
College



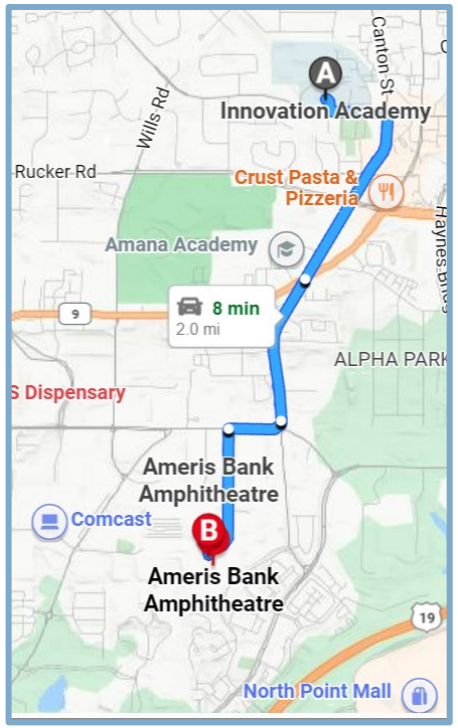


SchooLinks

College



Graduation Venue & Dates



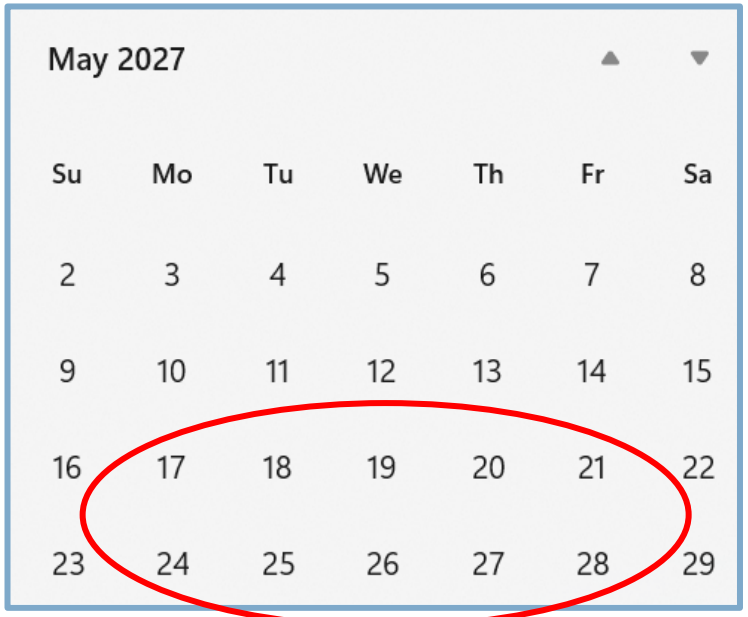


AMERIS BANK AMPHITHEATER

2200 ENCORE PARKWAY, ALPHARETTA, GA 30009.

THE FINAL DATE WILL BE CONFIRMED IN JANUARY 2027

MANDATORY GRADUATION PRACTICE WILL BE THE WEEK BEFORE



Senior Graduation Fees

GRADUATION FEE

- Your Senior Fee includes cap/gown/tassel, diploma cover, program, venue fees, 10 graduation tickets
- Graduation Fee:
  - $235 until September 30th
  - $245 October 1st-December 31st
  - $255 January 1st

HOW TO PAY THE FEE?

- Please pay the fee using the link on IA Website > School > SchoolCash online:
  - **Graduation Fee Class 2027**
- Once the fee is paid, please fill out the Graduation Measurement form to input your measurements for Herff-Jones, our vendor for the graduation regalia:
  - **Graduation Measurements Class of 2027 – Fill out form**
- *Families requiring financial support can reach out to* ***Brady Varga - School Social Worker*** *VargaB@fultonschools.org*

Graduation Regalia

CAP AND GOWN

- NO ALTERATION TO YOUR CAP AND GOWN WHEN YOU RECEIVE IT IN APRIL (DATE TBD)
- IF YOU ALTER YOUR GRADUATION REGALIA, YOU WILL HAVE TO PURCHASE ANOTHER CAP AND GOWN.

CORDS AND PINS

- WE WILL COMMUNICATE ABOUT CORDS AND PINS FOR CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS LATER IN THE SEMESTER.
- ONLY CORDS AND PINS APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL MAY BE WORN AT GRADUATION.

Important Senior Portrait Information

Senior Portraits – schedule your senior portraits through Legacy Studios.

Appointments are available now for Sept. 11th, Oct. 2nd, or Nov. 3rd. Portraits will be taken on campus, but you must pre-register for a time slot on one of these days.

All senior portraits are due by **Monday, November 9th** to be featured in the 2027 yearbook. This is a hard deadline, so please plan ahead and grab your appointment!

Senior Ads - celebrate and surprise your senior with a senior ad in the yearbook! Ads are due by 11/13 - you can create these on jostens.com

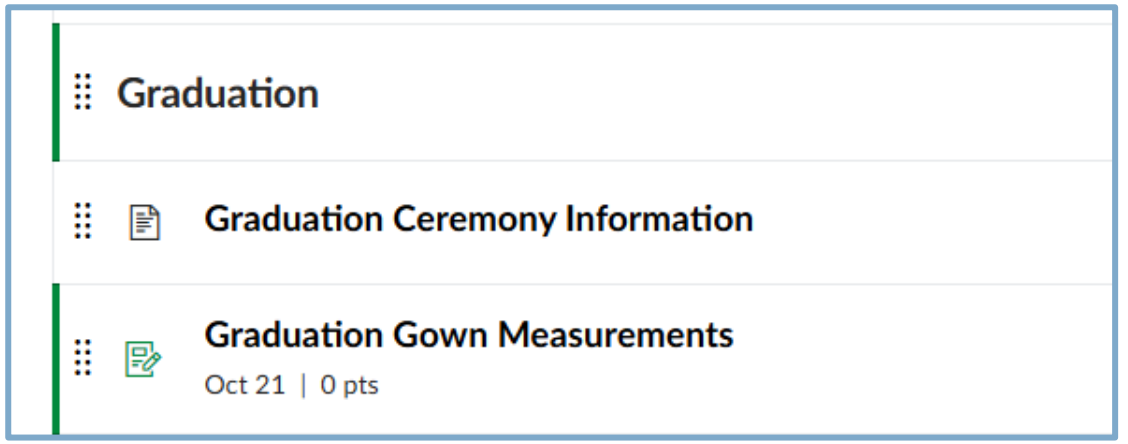
*****All formal senior portraits for the yearbook must be taken by Legacy Studios*****

IA Student Canvas Senior Module

Upcoming Due Dates:

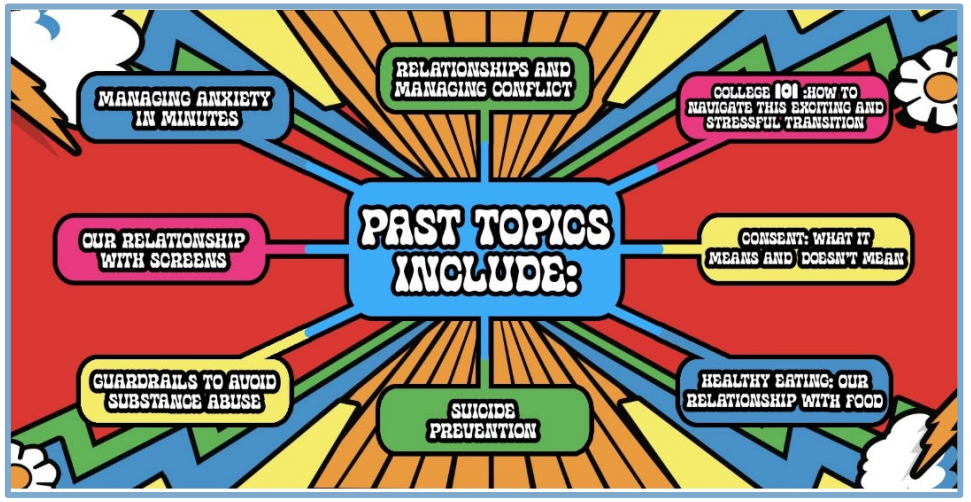
- **Recommendation Letter Request & Brag Sheet**
  - Give your recommenders at least *15 business days* lead time.
- **Graduation Fee: 9/30**
- **Graduation Order Form: 10/21**
  - **Fill out the form so we can get your proper graduation gown size**





The NEXT Conference ATL! This is a one-day event, being held March 17, 2027 at The Phase Center in Alpharetta. The day is dedicated to graduating high school seniors and the transitions they will face as they head off to college.

The NEXT Conference started in Charlotte, NC and was spearheaded by a couple who tragically lost their son to the struggles and anxiety that so many college freshmen face. Trying to understand how this happened and what (if anything) could have been done to prevent it, the family partnered with mental health professionals, educators, and students to better support college-bound seniors and created the non-profit, **For Students**. 2027 marks the seventh year for the conference in Charlotte with the second Georgia event right here in North Fulton!



- *Greek Life*
- *Using College to Create a Better Future*
- *The Dopamine Dilemma: Substances and Screens*
- *Conversation with a Professor*
- *The Life of a Student-Athlete*
- *When Things Don't Go as Planned: Learning to Pivot*
- *Self Defense and De-escalation*
- *Healthy Relationships and Dating*
- *Roommate 101*