
John L. Miller - Great Neck North High School



Blazers Lead By Example

with

INTEGRITY • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCY



Sophomore & Junior Parent Orientation

2026-2027

Dr. Bruno, Mr. Hidasi, Ms. Tortorice and Ms. Corrigan



@gnnguidancedept



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Shaping Identity & Building Confidence

The Sophomore & Junior Years of High School

10th & 11th Core

10th and 11th grades form the "core" of high school.

Self & Confidence

Develop a sense of self and build confidence.

Integrity & Responsibility

Embrace integrity, responsibility, and resiliency.

Life After North High

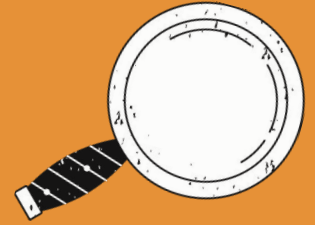
Lay the foundation for life after North High.

Active Role in Learning

- Set attainable academic goals per quarter.
- Practice self-advocacy with teachers and counselors.
- Attend extra help and writing conferences.
- Make connections for future course and letter recommendations.

A Strong College Application

Balancing academic rigor, extracurricular involvement, and personal character



Transcript

Course rigor, grades, and performance trends.

Standardized Testing

SAT, ACT, or test-optional.

Extracurriculars

Activities based on genuine interest.

Essays

Showcasing writing skills and voice.

Recommendations

Letters from teachers.

Standardized Testing Preparation

Digital PSAT

Scheduled for October 17th for both 10th and 11th graders.

Requirements

Requires the Bluebook app and a fully charged iPad.

SAT/ACT Schedule

Consider and map out your testing calendar by junior year.

Practice Tests

Utilize free practice hybrid tests through Princeton Review.

The Princeton Review®
Courses | Private Tutoring | Self-Paced | Admissions Counseling

**Free SAT® & ACT®
Practice Tests at Home**
Saturday, November 14, 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH



SCAN OR CLICK
QR CODE TO
REGISTER!

When you register, opt in for our FREE virtual SAT® & ACT® Strategy Sessions, led by expert instructors, and learn the proven strategies we teach in our prep classes to help boost your score!

- You can register for both and take one at a later convenient time.
- Tests will be available to take in your Princeton Review portal for 4 months.
- Students will receive detailed instructions on how to complete the test.
- Multiple timing options are available for students with accommodations.
- Students receive a detailed score report highlighting their strengths and weaknesses.

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The Princeton Review®

SAT® vs ACT®

Trying to decide between the SAT and ACT?
Both tests are accepted by colleges nationwide and play a key role in admissions and merit-based scholarships. Use this side-by-side comparison to see which test aligns best with your strengths and testing style.

	SAT	ACT
Test Structure	2 sections: Math Evidence-based Reading & Writing	3 - 5 sections: Required: English, Math, Reading Optional: Science, Writing (Essay)
Reading/Writing	2 Combined modules Single questions per passage	Separate sections Multiple questions per passage
Math	Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trig, Data Analysis	Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trig, Probability & Statistics with 4 answer choices
Test Format	Online only	Online or Paper & Pencil
Testing Time	2 hours 14 min	2 hours- Required Sections 3 hours 35 mins- Required + Science + Essay
How It's Scored	Total Score Range: 400 - 1600 (Sum of section scores) Section scores: 200 - 800	Composite score: 1 - 36 (Avg of English, Reading & Math) Science scored separately: 1-36 Essay scored separately: 2-12
Cost	\$68	\$68 \$4 fee to add the Science section \$25 fee to add the Writing section

Unsure Where to Start?
The best way to decide is by taking a timed, full-length practice test of each. While the SAT and ACT are similar in content and style, key differences—like pacing and question types—can help you determine which test is the better fit. Discover your strengths and choose the right path for you!

 Check out our prep options!
bit.ly/TPRprepSchool

 Explore more popular college prep events!
bit.ly/TPRprepEvents

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SAT & ACT Testing Dates Fall 2026

SAT	
Test Date	Registration deadline
Sept. 12	Aug. 28
Oct. 3	Sept. 18
Nov. 7	Oct. 23
Dec. 5	Nov. 20

ACT	
Test Date	Registration deadline
Sept. 19	Aug. 14
Oct. 17	Sept. 11
Dec. 12	Nov. 6

Fall & Winter Guidance Events

Key guidance events in the fall and winter kickstart the college and career planning process.

September

- Counselor meetings in 10th grade Advisory
- Junior small group meetings

December

- Sophomores complete Naviance Career Interest Inventories

January

- Parent Junior College Planning Night - **Jan 7th @ 7 PM**
- Juniors develop initial college lists

February

- Course registration begins; BOCES field trip.

Feb/April Breaks

- Ideal time for in-person college visits.
- April 8th @ 7pm - College Panel Night

June

- Rising Senior meetings to plan summer tasks.

Summer Breaks: Programs vs. Jobs

- “There is no single ‘correct’ way to spend time in the summer. No matter what students choose to do, we want to see **engagement, growth, and authenticity.**”

-Duke University Office of Undergraduate Admissions

- **University-hosted programs** can offer academic enrichment and an understanding of campus life, but typically does not grant an advantage in the admissions process.
- Colleges are more curious to learn about “sustained, localized impact” in their own community rather than seeing a high-cost, short-term **international service trip**. They are focused on what the student has gained and how they can use that to impact the community around them.
- “We love it when students share their **summer job** experiences! Working teaches accountability, time management, teamwork, and conflict resolution.” **Students should be encouraged to highlight these roles.**

Support Your Student's Unique Journey

by utilizing school resources and staying involved

- Utilize Parent Portal, Google Classroom, and ParentSquare.
- Attend Open Houses and Guidance Department programs.
- Follow @gnnguidancedept on Instagram
- Get involved with PTO and SEPTA.
- Reach out to teachers, counselors, and administrators for support.

Step 1:
Pay your PTO Dues

Step 2:
Donate to the Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Step 3:
Join the official PTO 9th Grade WhatsApp Chat

Step 4:
Follow GNNHS PTO on Instagram

Visit our website @ GreatNeckNorthHSPTO.org