

WELCOME Back to SCHOOL!

WSHS September 2026

Newsletter



WSHS Counseling Office

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Welcome Back!

We are so excited to be back for the 2026-2027 school year! Please email your counselor if you need support or guidance as we transition back to school - **We are here for you!**

All schedules are posted on SchoolTool's Parent Portal page on the HS website. From the portal, you will be able to see your student's schedule, as well as directly email their teachers. If you do not have a Parent Portal account, please email TRohl@wallkillcsd.k12.ny.us

Also, be sure to check your feed for announcements! The counselors will be posting important information there!



CLASS OF 2027

The Counselors have started Senior Meetings. These meetings include transcript review, post-secondary plans, college application information, scholarship information and college representative visits (found on Naviance).

College Process + FAFSA - Financial Aid Night

Do you want to learn more about the college process and financial aid? Come to our College Process + Financial Aid Night on November 19 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the High School!



Free SUNY Application Week

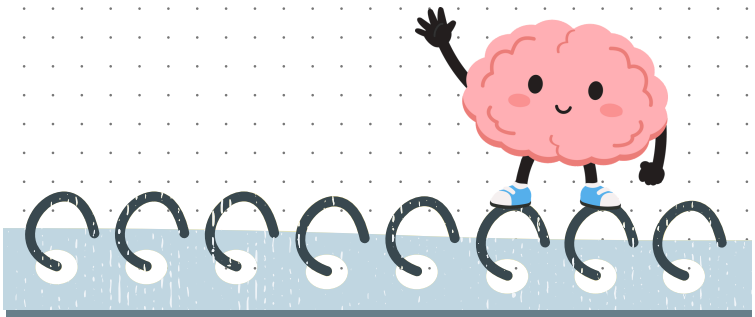
SUNY Colleges are **FREE to apply to between October 19 and November 2.** You can apply to **up to 5 SUNY Campuses with no application fee!** This is a great opportunity to get applications in! More information can be found at the end of this newsletter!

Instant Admissions

Wallkill Senior High School will host its Annual Instant Admissions Event this November! Instant Admissions is an event where students have the opportunity to meet with different college admissions representatives and receive an immediate admissions decision!

Applications MUST be submitted prior to this event!

Instant Admissions is being held on November 17, 18, and 19!



* COLLEGE VISITS *

The Counseling Dept. has booked many colleges/universities to meet with students in the high school. Juniors and Seniors are highly encouraged to join these college representative visits. Check Naviance daily for updates!

Directions to Participate:

1. Log into your Office365
2. On the top left hand corner, click the little folder and drop down to NAVIANCE
3. Use CLEVER as single sign on (no password needed)
4. Naviance Homepage
5. See “What’s New”
6. Register to meet with the college
7. Save the date on your calendar! If you have a class during the same time as your visit with the college, let your teacher know.

CLASS OF 2028: PSAT Information

- The PSAT will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the High School
- The cost to register is $20 (Please bring your payment to the Counseling Office)

To practice for the PSAT, you can use:

- Khan Academy: https://www.khanacademy.org/sat
- College Board Practice Tests https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/practice/practice-tests

The PSAT/NMSQT is being administered digitally. This format will provide an overall easier testing experience for our students and prepare them for the digital SAT they may take in the future.

We highly recommend students follow the “PSAT Readiness Checklist” (outlined below) and attend the “Digital Readiness Check” sessions.

PSAT Readiness Checklist

Registration Information

3 Required Steps Outlined Here:

1. **Students MUST create a College Board account.**

Link: How do I create a College Board account?

2. Students **MUST also register at the guidance office by Monday, October 6, 2026. The fee for this test is $20.00**.

Payment should be made through a personal check, cash, or money order. Please make checks payable to WSHS, with "PSAT - your child's name" in the memo section and **return to the Counseling Office.**

3. **A Digital Readiness check must be completed prior to testing.** Please go to https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt for more information.

The PSAT will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 7am-11:30am

Bluebook Introduction / Digital Readiness Check

Counselors will be available to help students create an account and introduce them to Bluebook on September 29 and 30 during lunch periods 4-8 during the digital readiness check. This is the program that is used to take the PSAT.

Terminology To Know!

Associate's Degree:

2 year school

Ex: SUNY Ulster, Orange, or Dutchess

Bachelor's Degree:

4 year school

Ex: SUNY New Paltz, Marist, Mount St. Mary

Master's Degree:

Usually a total of 6 years of school; 2 years after your bachelor's degree

Major/Minor:

Your concentration(s) of study during college

Early Decision:

A legally binding agreement that if you are accepted to that college, you must go and rescind all other applications

Early Action:

You apply to the colleges early (October) and find out if you are accepted early



CLASS OF 2029

Transcripts and GPA

It is NEVER too early to start looking at your transcripts and working on your GPA. Your transcript and GPA are important for:

- Improving your chances of getting into a college of your choice.
- Getting into AP (Advance Placement classes), ADV, and college level classes that will further boost your GPA.
- Getting a job after high school.
- Receiving scholarships.

If you want to know your GPA and/or get a copy of your transcript, reach out to your School Counselor!

CLASS OF 2030

Tips for our new class!

We know that starting high school can be a big (and sometimes overwhelming) transition, but we want you to feel welcome and prepared! Our tips will help you navigate your new school life!

- Never be afraid to reach out for help from a trusted adult in the building.
- Engage in your class discussions; this helps the teachers to get to know you and helps you to make the most out of your learning!
- Get involved! Keep an eye out for extracurricular activities.
- Stay on track! Use a calendar or planner to keep track of your classes and all due dates.
- Keep your workspace clean.
- Show up for ALL of your classes.
- Make memories and have fun!



SUNY's 2026 FREE APPLICATION WEEKS!

OCTOBER 19 – NOVEMBER 2, 2026

SAVE UP TO $250!
$50 saved per application

Students can apply to up to 5 SUNY campuses with no application fee!

KEY DETAILS

DATES
October 19 – November 2, 2026

OFFER
Waived application fees for up to 5 different SUNY campus choices.

HOW TO APPLY
Submit applications online through the Apply to SUNY Portal or via the Common App.

SAVINGS
Saves the normal $50 fee per application (up to $250 total).

OPPORTUNITY
Take advantage of this limited-time opportunity to apply to SUNY!

USING APPLYSUNY

1. Add up to five SUNY campuses to your application list.
2. Complete your application materials normally.
3. Go to the payment page.
4. See the first five application fees automatically show as $0 (waived by SUNY).

Easy!

USING THE COMMON APP

1. Go to the My Colleges tab for each individual SUNY school you want to add.
2. Look for the specific question: *"It is free application week with The State University of New York... Would you like SUNY to pay your application fee?"*
3. Select Yes for up to five different SUNY member schools.
4. Do not request a general standard fee waiver on the main Common App profile tab if you are using this specific promotional option.

READY TO APPLY?
Visit: www.suny.edu/apply to get started!