#### Post Secondary Planning Class of 2024





- Ms. Heather McVay
- Ms. Jodie Walsh
- Mr. David Soulard
- Ms. Abby Leone-Murphy Ms. Joanna Kaplan





Our goal for this evening is to present a broad overview of what you and your student can be doing now to prepare for their post secondary lives. We will be discussing:

- 1. Timeline, what should I/we do?
- 2. Standardized testing
- 3. College visits, searching for colleges
- 4. NAVIANCE



#### **TIMELINE for FHS juniors:**

As students are well into their junior year, it's time to begin to consider post-secondary options:

- 4 year college
- 2 year college
- Gap year/ Deferral
- Military
- Trade schools

#### **Fall: Career Development Focus**

**Self Reflection**- Students are encouraged to take time to consider their interests, skills, strengths, and goals

**Career Research and Exploration**- Students are encouraged to utilize all the information readily available through college websites and naviance

**Support team** - Students are encouraged to utilize their supportsparents/guardians, guidance counselors, coaches, employers, family friends

**Google Classroom -** Timeline of events for college and career research

## FALL and WINTER: Research Careers and Majors

In addition to their support team, students can use resources such as:

- Naviance: Take the **Career Interest Profiler**.
- MassHire Career Information System: <u>https://portal.masscis.intocareers.org/</u>-
- O'Net: <u>https://www.onetonline.org</u>



#### WINTER: Meeting with Counselor & Admissions Testing

• PSAT results will be released by <u>The College Board</u> on December 5, 2022.

- Students will meet in January March with their guidance counselor to discuss goals and career planning and will learn how to complete a college search.
- Students will organize an outline for spring and summer activities which includes a testing plan (dates) for the SAT and/or ACT.
- Students will need to create accounts and register for the tests from home.

## WINTER and SPRING: Research in more detail

- Following the individual meeting with their counselor, students will have an initial list of schools and can continue to identify additional schools in Naviance. February and April breaks are good opportunities for campus visits as well as attending college fairs.
- In February, students will schedule senior year courses and can continue to discuss post high school plans in meetings with counselors. In late spring (following April vacation) students should request letters of recommendation from teacher(s).
- Students considering playing Division 1 or 2 athletics must register through the <u>NCAA Eligibility Center</u>.

#### **Spring: Tentative Choices**

- As students further identify their career interests, values, and skills/strengths, this often leads to revised ideas for careers, college majors, and to schools that offer and meet the criteria they are looking for.
- This is an exciting time! The choices and pace of decision-making are different for every student (i.e., developmental)
- Once career research, exploration, and tentative choices are in mind, the college process can be less stressful and better meet students' unique needs and goals.

## **Summer : Opportunities**

#### <u>Common App Boot Camp/ College Essay Writing Bootcamp</u>

• Sessions are offered in August through the Lifelong Learning Institute

#### <u>Volunteer</u>

• Take advantage of opportunities available to gain experience in field of interest

#### Internships/ Job Shadow

• Speak with friends and family to establish and build connections.

#### Pre-College Summer Programs

• Many colleges offer programs online and in person.

## **Testing Updates**

# Will colleges require test scores for the Class of 2024?

Many schools are implementing test optional admissions policies, but not all schools have committed to going test-optional permanently.

Visit <u>www.fairtest.org</u> for an updated list of test optional colleges and universities.

- TEST OPTIONAL: students can choose to submit/not submit SAT/ACT scores...be careful!
- TEST BLIND: test scores are not factored into admissions at all, even if a student submits them

#### **SAT vs ACT: Similarities and Differences**

SAT

Math-heavy:

- 2 math sections (one no calculator section)
- Math questions are typically multi-step
- 1:15 and 1:26 per question

No science section, BUT...

5 Reading Comprehension passages:

- Vocabulary-heavy
- Language in passages is more challenging
- 13:00 per passage (10-11 questions)

Grammar:

- 44 questions
- Quite similar to ACT grammar section
- 0:47 per question

Easier math with a focus on speed

- 1 math section (with calculator)
- Math questions typically require 1 or 2 steps

ACT

• 1:00 per question

Nominal science section

4 Reading Comprehension passages:

- Very fast-paced
- Language in passages is less challenging
- 8:45 per passage (10 questions)

#### Grammar:

- 75 questions
- Quite similar to SAT grammar section
- 0:36 per question

#### **SAT vs ACT: Similarities and Differences**

SAT

ACT

Score is the sum of all 4 sections

Score is the average of all 4 sections

Usually 600-900 perfect scores annually (pre-COVID)

• 2.1 million test-takers in 2018

Usually around 3,750 perfect scores annually (pre-COVID)

• 1.9 million test takers in 2018

154 questions total:

- 141 multiple choice
- 13 free response

Accommodations for students with disabilities

215 questions total:

All multiple choice

Accommodations for students with disabilities



#### So...which test should my student take???

## SAT and ACT Test Dates (Spring 2023)

#### SAT

#### ACT

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Reg. deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Reg. deadline</u>
March 11*	Feb. 10	February 11	Jan. 6
May 6	Apr. 7	April 15	Mar. 10
June 3*	May 4	June 10	May 5

July 15

Additional Dates Anticipated in August October, November and December

\*FHS is a testing site for the March and May SAT

Additional Dates Anticipated in September, October, and December

June 16

FHS is not a testing site for the ACT

# How to register for the SAT and/or ACT

- Registration is quick once a student has created their account
- Register directly through The College Board and/or SAT
- REGISTER EARLY!
- Fee waivers are available for eligible students

#### **Register for the SAT:**

www.sat.collegeboard.org

Fee: \$60

**Register for the ACT:** 

www.actstudent.org

Fee: \$63 without optional writing test \$88 with optional writing test

#### **Test prep options**

*PRO TIP:* Spend time reviewing your PSAT score report before making any decisions about enrolling in a prep course!



- Practice test on The College Board and ACT websites
- Khan Academy (link your PSAT score report)
- Self-study with practice guides/books, flashcards, QOD, etc.
- Private 1:1 tutoring
- Private test-prep course
- YouTube (yes, seriously!)

## The Foundation of the College Search: "Why are you going to college?"

• "Where do you want to go to college?" is often asked too early in the process. A student cannot answer *where* they want to go to college until they have answered *why* they want to go to college.

#### • "Why?" encourages introspection:

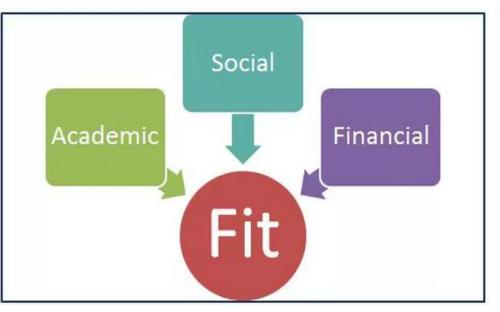
- Why invest this much money into a college education?
- Who do you hope to meet, connect with, and learn from in college?
- How and in what setting do you learn best?
- Is a sense of community important to you?
- Do you want a balance between academics and social life?

## Finding Your Fit: Continue College Exploration

Students can start creating their college list by combining their career inventory results with their personal preferences.

Identify Personal Preferences:

- > Location
- ≻ Size
- Campus Setting
- > Majors
- Learning Environment
- ≻ Cost



#### **Academic Fit**

**Safety**: The student's GPA and SAT/ACT scores are **above** the admissions averages for the college's most recent freshman class.

**Target**: The student's GPA and SAT/ACT scores **match** the admissions averages for the college's most recent freshman class.

**Reach**: The student's GPA and SAT/ACT scores are **below** the admissions averages for the college's most recent freshman class.

## **Admission Criteria:**

#### > Transcript

• GPA, Strength of Schedule

#### Standardized Test Scores

- May be required at some colleges/universities.
- Currently, there are over 1800 Test Optional or test blind colleges/universities.
- Extracurricular Activities and Leadership Roles
  - How does a student spend their time outside of their academic day?
    - Clubs, Volunteer Opportunities, Work, Athletics, Art, Music, Internships, etc.

#### > College Essay

• Admissions counselors want to hear the student's voice

#### Special Talents

• Music, Sports, Art etc.

#### Letters of Recommendation

- Teachers, School Counselor, Coach, Employer
- Demonstrated Interest (In person and virtual)
  - Official campus visit, Interview, Communication with admissions counselor

## **Visiting Colleges - When & How**

- ➢ FHS Policy- 6 excused absences for college visits
  - Total allowed in 11th & 12th combined
  - Notify House Office before attending and submit documentation from college to House Office after attending.

- > Open House vs. Tour/Info Session
  - Depth & Breadth of Info
  - Availability of Faculty
  - Length of Session
  - Register Early on College's Website



## Visiting Colleges - Making the Most of the Time

Before you go:

- Register online in advance  $\succ$
- College Website: "Visit" Tab or "Undergraduate Admissions" tab
   Research the college before attending, develop questions important to you
- Review the website for:  $\succ$ 
  - Major Info (ie. Do they offer yours?) Ο
  - Application Requirements (Major Specific) Ο
  - Student Life  $\cap$
  - Interview opportunities 0

While you are there:

- Take Notes  $\succ$
- Take in Surroundings On & Off Campus
- $\succ$  Take Pictures
- $\succ$  Eat lunch in the Cafeteria



## **Virtual and In-Person Experiences**



- Visit a Campus Virtually
  - You can find virtual tours by going to the school specific websites.
  - <u>www.youvisit.com</u> access to hundreds of virtual tours
- Connect with Current Students
  - Get a student's perspective on academics, student life, and extracurricular activities.
- > Engage with Admissions Counselors in one-on-one meetings
  - Have questions about the admissions process or general questions? College admissions counselors encourage prospective students and families to engage with the admissions office.



#### **College Fairs**



- Research and attend college fairs in the area
   National College Fair through NACAC
   Providence- March 14, 2023  $\succ$ 
  - - Boston- May 2, 2023 and May 3, 2023
- Virtual College Fairs

   NACAC virtual college fairs offer a new digital meeting space that connects counselors, students and families with colleges and universities.



## Naviance



- ★ College & Career Exploration platform
- $\star$  Search for schools and careers
- ★ Find information on areas of study, student life, and admissions
- ★ Will walk through with students during individual meetings starting in January

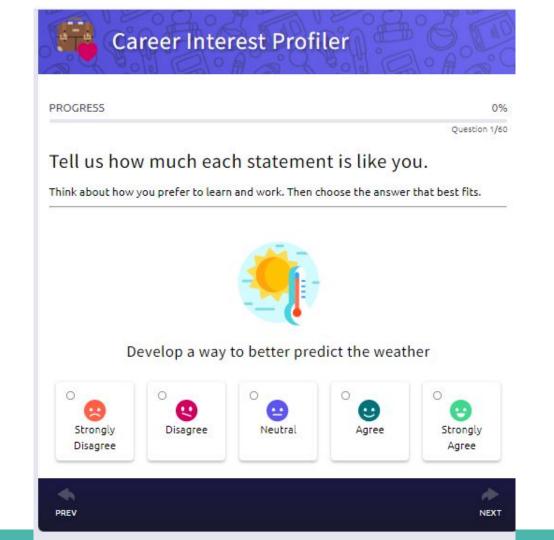
#### **Naviance Home Screen**

elcome, sample!			
Search for Colleges 💙	<b>Q</b> Type a college name		SEARCH
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getting involved in a new activ	ity, thinking about what to do after high school, or lin your classes, this will be a very busy year.	I'm thinking about	We work with our juniors when we meet with them
We are expecting that PSATs v	vill be happening for all interested 11th grade	COLLEGES	
	e some time to prepare. The PSAT is a practice test		Seniors need to make sure
	lleges but taking a few minutes to get familiar with	CAREERS AND CLUSTERS	their colleges are all in here
		I'm thinking about	

Show Me How

#### **Career Interest Profiler**

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	Career Interest Profiler	
-Located under "Self-Discovery"	START ASSESSMENT         The Career Interest Profiler captures your interests to help identify your personality traits and suggests careers based on the U.S. Department of Labor's data.         How it Works         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on the spend at least 15 minutes on this assessment.         Image: Plan to spend at least 15 minutes on the spe	-Looks at Students' Interests -Based on interests, results of career preferences and careers will be given
	What's in it for you         Image: Source of the second provide the second provided the second provide	*We highly recommend students complete this





https://student.naviance.com/colleges

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	and Tasks lue or upcoming to-dos and tasks. Howev xt or create a goal or to-do.	ver, you can get ahead by going to My	What's New Nothing new to review this visit	:. Check back later.	
See All in My Pla	anner				

## "Colleges I'm Thinking About"

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Letters of recommendation		University of Massachusetts-Amherst	<u>CA</u>	Student	Multiple Deadlines	N/A	*	MORE :
COLLEGE RESEARCH		4						Show Me Ho

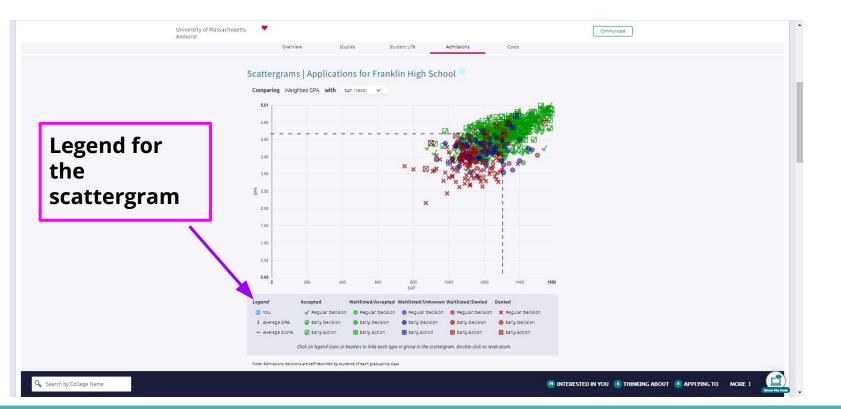
## SuperMatch College Search

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SuperMatch College Search					About SuperMatch 🔞
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criteria into the "Must Have" and "Nice to Have" boxes.				criteria for schools of best fit	
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## SuperMatch Schools of Best Fit

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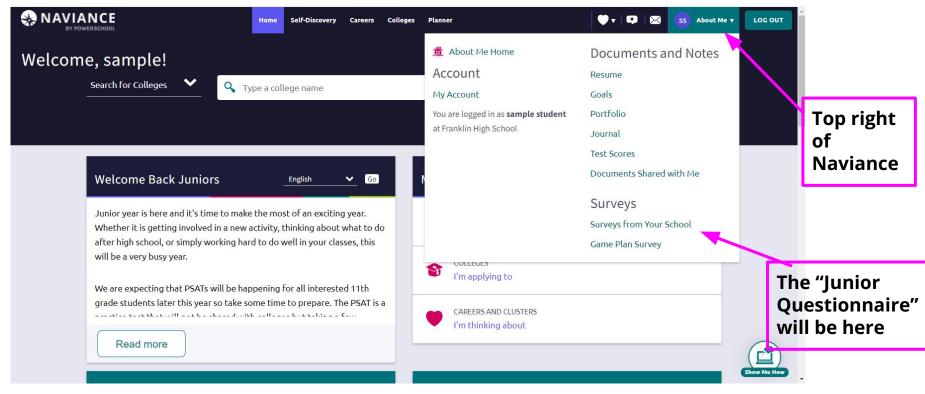
#### **Naviance Admissions Scattergram for UMass Amherst**



#### **Naviance Admissions Scattergram for Curry College**



## **"About Me" Section on Naviance**



#### **Future Meetings:**

# August/Early Fall 2023College Application ProcessFall/Winter 2023Financial Aid (MEFA) webinars

**Questions?** 

A FAQ document will be posted to our website early next week.

## Thank you for attending!

