

Juniors: Where will you be in the Fall of 2015?



Verona High School Counseling Department

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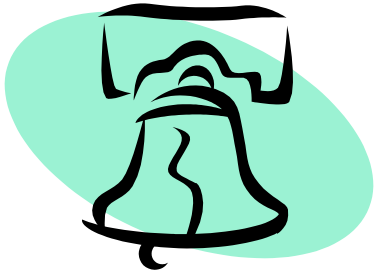
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Life's Transitions:

Helping Your Child Prepare
For Their Future





Countdown to Independence

Soon you may have to manage things on your own.
Consider:

- Medical Appointments
- Car Repairs
- Budgeting/Banking
- Social/Friend/Roommate Issues
- Time Management
- Prescription Medication





FINDING THE RIGHT PATH: THE FAMILY DISCUSSION

✓ Self-Reflection

Where do I see myself next year?

Where do I want to be next year?

Or 5 years from now?

How about 10 years from now?

✓ Things to Consider

Academic Ambition

Finances

Career Interests

Realistic Options





Need Help Figuring It Out?

Check out Naviance

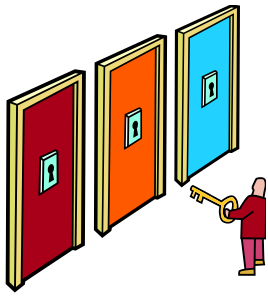
How to get there:

<http://connection.naviance.com/vhsnj>

What you can do:

- Explore Interests
- Investigate Careers
- Research Colleges





Weigh Your Options

- Career or Technical School
- The Military
- 2 Year School
- 4 Year School
- Employment
- Gap Year (year off to participate in an enriching opportunity prior to attending school)





Advantages to Career and Technical Schools

- Courses of study can be completed in 2 years or less, sometimes in just a few months
- Hands on instruction
- Financial aid available at most schools
- Potential for competitive salary upon graduation
- Less expensive than a traditional 2 or 4 year college





Career Opportunities

Ultrasound Technician

Computer Repair

Massage Therapist

Pharmacy Technician

Cosmetologist

Alarm Installer

Automotive Technician

Veterinarian Technician

Physical/Occupational Therapy Technician

Nursing

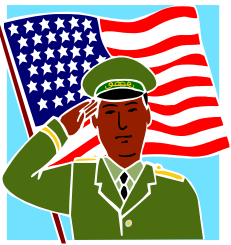




Schools to Explore

- Artistic Academy
- The Chubb Institute
- The Connecticut School of Broadcasting
- Stenotech Career Institute
- Berkeley College
- Eastwick College and the HoHoKus Schools





Have You Considered a Career in the Armed Services?

Ways to Join:

- Enlist
- Enrollment in one of the Military Academies

Other options:

- Reserves
- ROTC





Advantages to the Armed Services

- World-class training in technical fields
- Financial assistance for college tuition
- Low cost health insurance
- Possible salary
- Travel and explore the world
- Stipend for living expenses





Armed Services Career Opportunities

- Aviation Operations
- Finance
- Intelligence Analyst
- Administration and Supervision
- Graphic Design
- Broadcast Technician
- Journalist
- Criminal Investigation
- Heating and Cooling Mechanic
- Dental and Veterinary Fields
- Construction
- Carpentry
- Masonry
- Plumbing
- Air Traffic control
- Photography
- Business
- Education
- Vehicle Mechanics



Important Items if College Is In Your Future

Challenging
Curriculum

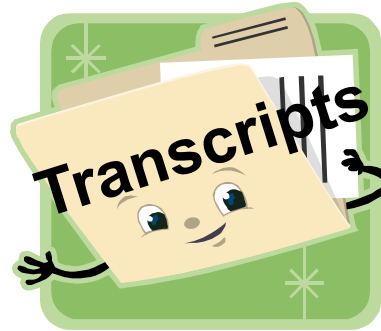
Special Skills &
Talents

Standardized
Tests

Recalculated
GPA

School Profile

Personal Essay

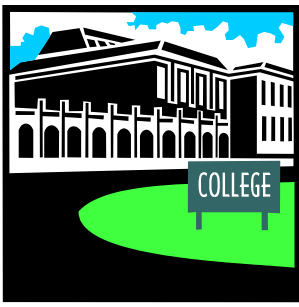


Letters of
Recommendation

Other Info

Extra Curricular
Activities





The 2 or 4 Year College Option Begins Now

- Start to narrow down your choices
- Establish your official identity on formal documents, standardized tests, and applications
- Create an appropriate, working e-mail address





Advantages to Two Year Colleges

- Prepares students for 4-year college or occupation
- Articulation agreements
- Diversity of course offerings
- Much lower tuition than 4-year colleges
- Flexible scheduling
 - Allows student to work full or part time
- Close to home



NJ STARS

NJ Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship

- Top 15% of graduating class is eligible
- Student can attend community college for free
- Transfer to a 4-year public NJ school and receive a \$6,000-7,000 annual scholarship
- For more information, go to www.hesaa.org



Junior Year Timeline



Winter

- Work hard. Keep your grades up!
- Research Colleges
- Senior Year Scheduling- Be sure to select challenging courses and **plan to stay in them all year!**



Spring

- ***Attend College Admissions Panel on April 28, 2014***
- Individual Post Secondary Meetings with your counselor
- Visit Colleges (Open Houses/Campus Tours)
- Refine College Lists
- Register/Prepare for SAT, ACT and AP Exams (Some students may qualify for fee waivers. Go to www.collegeboard.com for details)
- Arrange for Letters of Recommendation (2 Teachers)
- ***Complete Senior Uniqueness Form, Parent Brag Sheet, Activity Resume and Transcript Release Form by June 13th, 2014***
- Look for Summer Opportunities (programs, jobs, internships, volunteering)



Summer

- Continue to Research and Visit Colleges
- Narrow College List to 5-7 by **End of Summer**
- Register/Prepare for Fall SAT in August
- Look at/Begin College Applications and Essays (Common Application)



Senior Scheduling

Colleges are not only looking at the classes you've already taken, but your senior year course choices, as well.

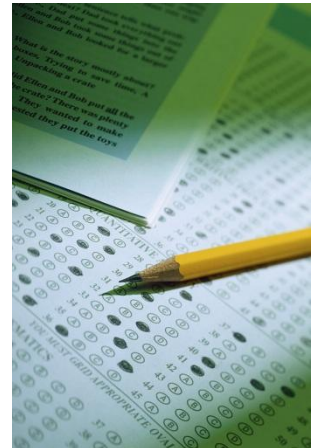
- Your teachers will be making recommendations for courses.
 - Be sure to talk to your current teachers to make informed decisions.
- Select challenging courses that meet the your post-secondary academic goals and plan on staying in the classes all year.
- You will also be discussing course selection during Junior Planning conferences.



SAT/ACT

- Standardized tests continue to be an important component of the application; however, they are only one piece of the puzzle
- Certain schools do not require SAT/ACT
 - www.fairtest.org
- Timelines
 - 11th – PSAT in fall, SAT and/or ACT in spring
 - 12th – SAT and/or ACT in fall
- For up to date test dates, visit:
 - www.collegeboard.org (SAT)
 - www.actstudent.org (ACT)

You will need to upload a photo when you register



SAT/ACT (con't)

- The best way to prepare for SAT/ACT is through your current coursework
- Read, read, read!
- Take additional Math/English courses
- SAT Subject Tests
 - More competitive schools require
 - Can be taken throughout high school
- If you have an IEP or 504, see your case manager and/or counselor to initiate the accommodation process for standardized testing
- If you qualify, you may be eligible for a fee waiver. For guidelines, go to <http://sat.collegeboard.org/SAT/public/pdf/sat-fee-waivers-guidelines-for-students.pdf>



NCAA - 16 Core Courses

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Math
- 2 years of Science
- 2 years of Social Science
- 1 additional year of English, Math, or Science
- 4 additional courses from any area above and World Language

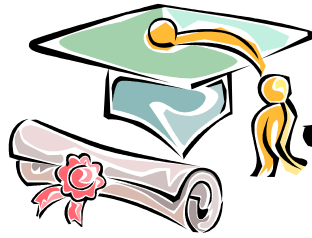


NCAA - GPA and SAT

- Only core courses are included in the GPA calculation
- For Division I and Division II requirements
 - See <http://eligibilitycenter.org>

**Consider attending the
“NCAA- Athletic Vision”
presentation next fall**





Senior Year

- Watch Senior Night ***“Navigating the College Application Process”*** in September 2014
- Take SAT’s and/or ACT’s in September, October, November and/or December, if necessary
- Attend College Fairs, College Representative Visits, and Instant Decision Days
- Complete College Applications and Essays
- Attend Financial Aid Night
- Research and Apply for Scholarships
- Don’t Forget to Keep your Grades Up!



Responsibilities in the College Process

It is the student's responsibility to take initiative in becoming the leader in the college selection process. Counselors and parents serve as resources and support. However, the student must be the one to actually engage in the college selection and decision making process.



Student Responsibilities



- Begin process of research and selection early
- Use resources in the School Counseling Department (including the website, Naviance, and **your counselor**)
- Check the school counseling website, bulletin board, Naviance, VHS TV's, and Friday Folder regularly for information, deadlines, and college visits
- Communicate with your counselor, as needed
- Be aware of your grades, strengths, weaknesses
- Complete transcript release form and submit \$5
- Be aware of information about deadlines and special requirements for standardized testing
- Keep track of deadlines for applications, transcripts, scholarships, etc.
- Complete Senior Uniqueness Form and Resume on Naviance
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation
- Attend college visits and fairs
- Talk with your parents about their expectations, your desires, financial considerations, etc.
- Communicate with colleges, as needed
- Complete college applications
- Request transcripts
- Write thank you notes after college interviews and meetings with college representatives
- Write thank you notes to teachers who wrote recommendation letters for you



Parent Responsibilities

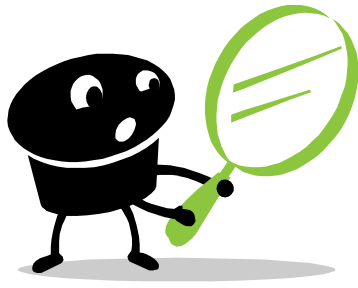
- Provide support and encourage the student as he or she learns to accept responsibility for the college process.
- Use Naviance with your student to discuss family values in the college selection process.
- Encourage student to share information with you regarding career interests and college choices
- Attend Junior Planning Conference in the spring
- Arrange to visit college campuses and encourage your student to journal his or her impressions
- Complete the Parent Brag Sheet on Naviance
- Remind your student to, and assist with, the registration for standardized testing
- Assist your student in meeting deadlines. Serve as managers to help organize the process
- Attend Financial Aid Night in December
- Encourage your student to communicate with his or her school counselor regarding any questions or concerns
- Encourage your student to contact the admissions office with any questions or to follow up
- Help foster independence in your young adult.



Counselor Responsibilities

- Share expertise regarding the college process during meetings and/or presentations
- Provide guidance and answer questions, as needed
- Hold a Junior Conference to meet the needs of each student
- Write a letter of recommendation on behalf of the student
- Send out transcript, counselor letter of recommendation, school profile, and school report in accordance with our 15 school day transcript request deadlines.





NAVIANCE

<http://connection.naviance.com/vhsnj>

- Keep Track of Your College Process
- Transcript Requests
- Electronic Transcripts
- Scholarships

To maximize the efficiency of your junior conference, students and parents *MUST* log in to *Naviance* to conduct a college search. Students should narrow down their selections to 20 and add them to the “Colleges I’m Thinking About” list on Naviance prior to your appointment.



Schedule for Submitting Transcript Requests (15 School Days to Process)



If the College/University Application Deadline is...	... the Transcript Request must be submitted through Naviance on or before the following:
November 1, 2014	October 13, 2014
November 15, 2014	October 23, 2014
December 1, 2014	November 4, 2014
December 15, 2014	November 20, 2014
January 1, 2015	December 2, 2014
January 15, 2015	December 12, 2014
February 1, 2015	January 9, 2015



Things to Consider When Researching Colleges

Distance from home

Location

Size of School

Price

Competitiveness

Strength of Desired Major

Athletics

Clubs/Activities available

Educational Philosophy





Resources

TRY...

- This Presentation
- Naviance
- College Planning 101 (on Naviance)
- The School Counseling Website at www.veronaschools.org
 - Naviance Log-In Instructions
- www.eligibilitycenter.org (NCAA)
- Your counselor



School Counseling Website



VERONA HIGH SCHOOL

Dedicated to Developing Healthy Habits of Mind, Body and Heart



Calendar



Staff
Directory

A+

Grades



Athletics

Guidance News

- Featured Guidance News
- VHS School Profile
- Naviance
- **Post-Secondary/ College Information for Juniors**
- Student Exchange Information
- Forms
- Advanced Placement Information
- Past Presentations
- VHS Curriculum Bulletin



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[ACT/SAT Conversion Scale](#)

[Advice for Selecting High School Courses](#)

[Are you ready for Early Decision?](#)

[Choosing Someone to Write a Letter of Recommendation](#)

[College Admissions Glossary of Terms](#)

[The College Interview](#)

[College Comparison Chart](#)

[College Visit Checklist](#)

[Important Information for Students w/ Learning Disabilities](#)

[NCAA Quick Reference Sheet for Athletes](#)

[Preparing for the SAT and ACT](#)

[SAT/ACT Comparison Chart](#)

[Tips on Writing the College Essay](#)

[Tour Through Naviance](#)

Valuable
Info!

QUESTIONS?

