College Applications

Tips to get you started!
Objectives:

- Understand the different college applications types - similarities, differences
- Add colleges to your application list in Naviance
- Determine best tool for applying (Common App, Coalition, college’s website)
- Create login credentials
- Begin a college application
- Link Common App and Naviance – if applicable
- Overview of procedures for beginning of school - senior assembly, requesting transcripts, letters of recommendation, senior meetings
By the numbers:

Last year...

- 170 students applied to Pennsylvania State University → 97 accepted
- 138 students applied to West Chester University → 63 accepted
- 122 students applied to Temple University → 51 accepted
- 95 students applied to the University of Pittsburgh → 58 accepted
- 51 students applied to Drexel University → 28 accepted
- 27 students applied to the University of South Carolina → 16 accepted
Application Types:

- **Common Application (CA)**
  - Approx. 700 colleges
  - 57 colleges in PA - Ex. Temple, UPenn, Lehigh, Bucknell, Drexel, Gettysburg
  - [http://www.commonapp.org/](http://www.commonapp.org/)

- **PASSHE – Pennsylvania State System Schools**
  - Ex. Bloomsburg, Shippensburg, Millersville, West Chester
  - [http://www.passhe.edu/answers/Pages/start_now.aspx](http://www.passhe.edu/answers/Pages/start_now.aspx)

- **Coalition Application (CO)**
  - Usually overlaps with Common App meaning the college will accept either type
    - If both CO and CA are offered, we prefer CA!
  - 3 CO Exclusive colleges: University of Maryland, University of Florida, University of Washington
  - List of CO colleges: [http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/alert.html](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/alert.html)
Application Types (cont.):

- College’s Website Application
  - Some colleges will allow you to apply directly on their website
    - You have an option. Ex. PSU is website or CO; Temple is website or CA
  - Some will require it as the only way to apply - Virginia Tech, Georgetown, DCCC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>How are you applying?</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UC Berkeley</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>Direct to institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware County</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>Direct to institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown Univ</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>Direct to institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Univ</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>I'm not sure yet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>Direct to institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Must choose CA or TUPortal
How to choose:

- You want to save time so if you have CA or CO exclusive schools and then some that are CA optional, use CA for as many as you can since you already have to do it.
- Colleges do NOT have a preference. Choose what is best for you.

Ex. Applying to UMD, Pitt, PSU, West Chester, and Temple

UMD – CO only   Pitt & PSU – CO or website   WCU – website only
Temple – CA or website

Recommendation is CO for UMD, Pitt, PSU & specific websites for WCU and Temple. Doesn’t make sense to complete CA for only one college.
What is SRAR?

- SRAR stands for Self Reported Academic Record
- Student enters their entire high school transcript with grades and credits
- Honor system
- Most times it replaces the high school from sending a transcript
- If you are admitted and accept to attend, we will send an official final transcript which the college will check against what you self reported
  - If there are discrepancies, your admissions offer may be rescinded.
- Some colleges that accept SRAR include Pitt, Penn State, South Carolina, Rutgers, UC schools
- SRAR is incorporated into the Common App called, *Courses & Grades*, but it will only be required for a handful of schools like GW, USC, WVU, Ohio State.
Recommenders & FERPA (CA)

- Our school uses Naviance eDocs to submit recommendation forms. Counselors and teachers will complete the recommendation process in Naviance.
- Please make sure you enter Downingtown East correctly in the Education section of the Common App tab. Use CEEB code 391-341.
- If the high school was entered correctly, you will see a message under Counselors and Recommenders that says, “Your school is using Naviance eDocs for transcripts, school reports, and teacher recommendations.”
NAVIANCE eDOCS

Recommenders for George Mason University

Note: All dates are Eastern Time

- Counselor
  Your school is using Naviance eDocs for transcripts, school reports, and teacher recommendations. Please contact your counselor directly and they will provide instructions specific to your school regarding these documents. If your counselor wishes to submit forms via mail, you can download printable forms that can be completed on paper and mailed to each institution to which you apply.

PDF Forms
  - Fee Waiver
  - School Report
  - Counselor Recommendation
  - Optional Report
  - Mid Year Report
  - Final Report

- Teacher
  Your school is using Naviance eDocs for transcripts, school reports, and teacher recommendations. Please contact your counselor directly and they will provide instructions specific to your school regarding these documents. Once your teachers submit their recommendations online you will see the status below. If your teacher(s) wish to submit forms via mail, you can download printable forms that can be completed on paper and mailed to each institution to which you apply.

PDF Form

Required: 0  Allowed: 2
Matching Common App & Naviance:

- Must have your high school entered and have at least one college on your Common App list
- Under the My Colleges tab in Common App, click on Recommenders and FERPA and complete the FERPA Release Authorization (see handout)
  - This only needs to be completed one time and will automatically save for all other Common App colleges.

- Log into Naviance. There is a blue box under Colleges I’m Applying to. Enter the email address you used to create your Common Application. Matched!
College-Specific Applications
Upcoming SAT & ACT Tests:

- ACT - September 9, 2017
  - Register by August 4th
- SAT - October 7, 2017
  - Register by September 8th
- ACT - October 28, 2017
  - Register by September 22nd
- SAT - November 4, 2017
  - Register by October 5th

*You must send all score reports directly to colleges from your account on CollegeBoard. Four free score reports each time you register for an exam.*
What’s Next?

- Save usernames and passwords in one place
- Work on essays and writing supplements
- First week of school = Senior Assembly
  - Sending transcripts (approx 3rd week of school) after any course changes
  - Requesting teacher letters of recommendation
- After the senior assembly, schedule your senior meeting with your counselor
- Sign up for college visits on Naviance! Most held in the Career Center
- Be mindful of your application deadlines. You can submit your applications whenever you want, independent of transcripts and letters of recommendation
- Check your email frequently and respond to college emails