Senior Presentation

Downingtown High School West
Counseling Department
Counselors

- Ms. Farnesi
- Mrs. Mastrangelo/Ms. Yost
- Mrs. Stephens
- Mrs. Ernest
- Mrs. Lipkin
- Mr. Borkowski

A-Cov
Cow-Gos
Got-Lan
Lao-N
O-Sim
Sin-Z
Keys to Senior Year

- Grades and Courses
- Testing
- College Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Financial Aid
- NCAA (student athletes)
Graduation Requirements

- 24 Credits
- Graduation Project
GPA and Grades

- Many colleges use Senior grades in their admissions decisions
- GPA by year
- Cumulative GPA
Course Selection

Rigor of Senior year schedule is highly considered by colleges in the admissions process.
College Admissions Tests

**The ACT**
- Register September 8th *
- No longer accepting registrations
- October 27th
- December 8th

* Offered @ DWHS

**SAT**
- Register October 6th *
- Late registration only
- November 3rd
- December 1st

* Offered @ DWHS
Score Reports

- Students are responsible to send score reports directly from the testing agency to each college, scholarship program and to the NCAA

- 4 score reports are included at no charge with each exam when selected during exam registration

- If you feel you may qualify for a fee waiver, please see your counselor
SAT Subject Tests

- Be sure to consult college admissions sites directly. These are only required or recommended by the most competitive colleges and can vary by major.

- Taken in addition to SAT Reasoning or ACT exams
  - Many schools will accept the ACT with Writing in place of both the SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests
Selecting Colleges to Apply

Compare your grades and test scores with college data on Naviance
Visiting Colleges

- Visit a variety of schools
- Sign up for visits on college websites
- Sign up on Naviance for all colleges visiting WEST
- Attend college fairs
Types of Schools

Common Application Schools
- Requires letters of recommendation & Common App form be completed and sent electronically

eDocs Schools
- Requires letters of recommendation be submitted electronically

Paper Schools
- Requires letters of recommendation be sent through the mail
Common Application

One application for over 770 colleges and universities

www.commonapp.org

*Works in Firefox or Chrome, not Internet Explorer
Coalition for Access

One application for 120+ member schools
Must use this application for the following schools only:

University of Maryland
University of Florida
Virginia Tech
University of Washington – Seattle

www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/
Using Naviance

- Log on to your Naviance account
  - Username: Student ID
  - Password: Birthday (xx/xx/xxxx): include the slashes, but not 0’s for single digits

- Select the Colleges Tab at the top

- Select “Colleges I am applying to”

- Complete the FERPA waiver if using the Common Application

- Select “Add Colleges to this List”
  - find and select your colleges
Common App + Naviance

Naviance | Student

Colleges I’m applying to

🚫 It looks like you are not currently able to apply to Common App schools.
Match your Common App account to Naviance Student account to get started.

Match Accounts

Manage Transcripts

Naviance | Student

Colleges I’m applying to

✔ Your Common App account has been matched.
Your FERPA status is waived. You’re ready to apply to colleges using Common App.

Manage Transcripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Expected Difficulty</th>
<th>Transcripts</th>
<th>Office materials</th>
<th>Submission Type</th>
<th>Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Delaware</td>
<td>RD</td>
<td>Regular Decision</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>no request</td>
<td>Pending</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letters of Recommendation

- In the Letter of Recommendation screen, check to see if colleges that you will be applying to require or recommend letters.
- Ask two teachers who know you well.
- Provide teachers and counselor with an Activities Resume.
- Determine with teachers whether they will submit letters online through Naviance or by mail.
- Pros and Cons of Waiving your FERPA rights.
- Make sure to thank your recommender.
All Letters and Transcripts are sent through Naviance!

When completing the Common Application, NEVER put in a teacher as an outside recommender!
Letter of Recommendation Form

Student Name: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

Dear: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Thank you for agreeing to write my letter of recommendation. I am applying to the following colleges/universities. I have checked the column that indicates how the letter of recommendation should be sent (Common App Online – through Naviance; eDocs School – through Naviance; or by US Mail). If my letter of recommendation requires submission via the US Mail, I have attached addressed and stamped envelopes for the respective schools.

Through Naviance, I will submit to you an official request for recommendation. You will see this request when you log onto Naviance on approximately: __________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Common App (via Naviance)</th>
<th>eDocs (via Naviance)</th>
<th>US Mail (see attached envelopes)</th>
<th>College Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>YES</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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<td>8.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I am planning on submitting my application(s) on approximately: __________________________

Teacher Recommendation Form
Requesting Letters Online

- Always ask the teachers BEFORE requesting in Naviance!!
- In the Colleges Tab, select ‘Letters of Recommendation’
- Once you request a letter you will be able to see when you requested the letter, when your recommender begins working on their letter (In Progress) and ultimately when they submitted their letter to the college (Complete).
Requesting Letters Online

Apply to Colleges

- COLLEGES
  - I'm applying to
- Letters of Recommendation
- Manage Transcripts
- Test scores

Show less

Letters of recommendation

Add new request

Here you can ask a teacher to write you a letter of recommendation. If you don't have any colleges in your list yet, you may still make a request. Make sure you give your teachers plenty of time to write your recommendations!

1. Who would you like to write this recommendation?*
   
   Select A Teacher

2. Select which colleges this request is for:*

   - Choose specific colleges from your Colleges I'm Applying To list
     Looks like you don't have colleges in your Colleges I'm Applying To list yet. Click here to add.

   - All current and future colleges I add to my Colleges I'm Applying To list

3. Include a personal note to remind your recommender about your great qualities and any specifics about your request:
Transcript Timeline

Be sure to allow **at least ten days** of processing for Downingtown WEST and additional time for college processing.

Transcripts will be ready to send on Friday, 9/14. Submit your transcript forms and parent consent forms to Ms. Ryan in the Counseling Office.

Colleges cannot require your transcript before 10/15.
Transcripts

Select the ‘Colleges’ Tab

On left side, find ‘Apply to Colleges’

Select ‘Manage Transcripts’

Under Current Applications, check the box next to the schools you would like to request

Click ‘Request Transcripts’ at the bottom
Transcript Forms

DOWNTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF TRANSCRIPT & RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Each student must submit a transcript request form to the counseling department listing the colleges/universities to which he or she is applying. An electronic request form is also required. See the Counseling Department website for more information about Naviance and to view the Sharepoint.

STUDENT NAME: __________________________________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________________________

TELEPHONE NUMBER: ________________________________
EMAIL ADDRESS: _______________________________________

BIRTHDATE: ___________ EMAIL ADDRESS: ___________________

PLEASE NOTE: All SAT/SAT Subject Tests/AP/ACT test results MUST be sent directly from either College Board or ACT to the college/university.

SECTION I: AUTHORIZATION STATEMENT

I authorize the Downtownton High School Counseling Department to send an official transcript to all colleges, scholarship committees, and/or programs to which my son/daughter applies. This will include any grade reports colleges request and the final transcript to the college they plan to attend.

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if under 18 years of age)  Signature of Student (if over 18 years of age)

Date

SECTION II: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (please check)

☐ The student and parent waive the right to view any letters of recommendation written by teachers or counselors on the student’s behalf.

☐ The student and parent do not waive the right to view any letters of recommendation written by teachers or counselors on the student’s behalf.

Signature of Parent

Date

Transcript Request Form

Checklist:

☐ Included Email Address
☐ Submitted applications to Colleges
☐ Requested Records via Naviance
☐ IdentifiedCA or eDocs
☐ Matched CA & Naviance
☐ Allow 10 business days for processing
☐ Request Letters of Rec via Naviance
☐ (not Common App)

One-time $3 Processing Fee

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NCAA

- Must request initial transcript through NCAA website AND Naviance

- Any students planning to participate in college athletics should verify that they meet NCAA requirements using the NCAA Eligibility Center

- For up to date information, please visit - https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/
Financial Aid

- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
  - [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

- Begin filing October 2018 – next month!

- Explore qualifications and types of aid
Scholarships

Most scholarship money comes directly from colleges
  - Financial Aid Office
  - Department Scholarships

Check Naviance and the DW Counseling website for national scholarships

Local scholarship information will be distributed in March

All info is located under the “Colleges” tab at the bottom
Other Options

- **Military**
  - ASVAB will be offered in March 2019
  - Sign up in the College and Career Center

- **Technical School**
  - Research using Naviance

- **Work**
  - Naviance features
    - Career Searches
    - Interest Inventories
    - Resume Builder
Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Starting with the class of 2017, the rank of valedictorian and salutatorian will no longer be determined. Instead, students will be recognized at graduation with the following designations based on overall, year-end GPA:

- **Summa Cum Laude**: GPA 4.4 or higher
- **Magna Cum Laude**: GPA between 4.39 and 4.20
- **Cum Laude**: GPA between 4.19 and 4.00
Helpful Resources

Downingtown West Guidance
www.dasd-dwhs.org

Naviance
http://connection.naviance.com/downingtownhsw

NCAA

Financial Aid
www.finaid.org

FAFSA
www.fafsa.gov
Helpful Resources Continued

SAT
https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat

ACT

Practice Tests and Information
www.petersons.com
www.princetonreview.com
www.ivybound.net

Test Requirements for Selective Colleges

Colleges without Test Requirements
www.fairtest.org
Questions?