

College Planning

JUNIOR PARENT MEETING

OCTOBER 27, 2022



Career Search and Major Selection

- ▶ Juniors have the opportunity to complete the following career assessments:
 - ▶ On Scoir, there is a link to You Science
 - ▶ O*Net Interest Profiler
 - ▶ Have conversations about their career interest and college major



ONLINE COLLEGE PLATFORM

SCOIR

You Science Career Assessment Tool

Electronic communication with the counselor for transcripts

Electronic communication with recommenders

Real time record for the student and counselor to monitor college applications and supporting documents



How to Choose a College

- ▶ **What is your career choice? Does the school have your major?**
- ▶ **How will I pay for college?**
- ▶ What do you like to do in your free time? What are the school's activities?
- ▶ Consider school size
- ▶ Consider proximity to home
- ▶ Consider city vs. small town
- ▶ Consider residential life
- ▶ How will you get around?
- ▶ What is the quality of facilities?



How do I find out information about colleges?

- ▶ College Representative Virtual Visits to SPCHS
- ▶ SPC Transfer Fair and other local college fairs
- ▶ Individual College websites
- ▶ Scoir
- ▶ Schedule personal college visits
- ▶ My Big Future on the College Board
 - ▶ Website



College Visits

- ▶ Take a tour – ask your tour guide what they like about the school
- ▶ Talk to an admissions officer
- ▶ Sit in on a class
- ▶ Meet with financial aid
- ▶ Visit the career counseling office
- ▶ Visit the residence halls
- ▶ Read the student newspaper
- ▶ Eat in the cafeteria
- ▶ Visit the college bookstore
- ▶ Take pictures and keep notes on each school

College Fairs

NACAC VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIRS



What do colleges review for selection?

- ▶ **Institutional Application, Common Application, or Coalition Application**
 - ▶ (use only ONE type of application)
 - ▶ All 12 universities have their own application and use Common App
- ▶ **SPC College Transcript**
- ▶ **High School Transcript** – Junior Year is important!
 - ▶ High School Transcript or SSAR (Student Self Reported Academic Record)
- ▶ High School Profile provided by SPCHS
- ▶ Standardized Test Scores – Students request OR self report
- ▶ Personal statement and/ or Essay
- ▶ Letters of Recommendation if needed
- ▶ Resume or other record of activities
 - ▶ Extracurricular activities, leadership, and work/summer experiences



College Application Terms

- ▶ **Early Decision – binding contract and can only apply to one school as ED**
- ▶ **Early Action**
- ▶ **Rolling**
- ▶ **Regular Decision**
- ▶ **Priority**




SAT/ACT

- ▶ Florida schools require SAT or ACT
- ▶ Take SAT/ACT in the spring of junior year and the fall of senior year
 - ▶ All juniors will take the SAT Wed., March 1st at SPCHS
- ▶ Colleges will often super score SAT but not always ACT
- ▶ Scores must be sent from testing organization – SPCHS cannot supply test scores
- ▶ The essay portion of the SAT and the subject tests are no longer available through SAT.
- ▶

Bright Futures

- ▶ All students who qualify for BF, receive the scholarship
- ▶ Complete community service hours by fall of senior year to leave time for college and scholarship applications
- ▶ Complete FFAA – Florida Financial Aid Application after October 1 of Senior Year or NO Bright Futures award
- ▶ FAS – 100% of tuition
- ▶ FMS – 75% of tuition
- ▶ See handout for specific course, grade, and test scores
- ▶ New law 100 part-time work hours OR volunteer hours - cannot be work and volunteering cannot be combined





USE THE **FREE APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA®)** FORM
TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID
(GRANTS, WORK-STUDY, AND LOANS)
TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

FAFSA

Opens Oct. 1 of
Senior Year

WILL STATE THE ESTIMATED FAMILY
CONTRIBUTION (EFC)

DON'T LOST \$\$ BY NOT COMPLETING

COMPLETING THE FAFSA DETERMINES
WHETHER FAMILIES QUALIFY FOR THE
PELL GRANT.

Students

- ▶ **Keep counselor informed!**
- ▶ Keep important documents in a college folder of your choice
- ▶ **Develop a spreadsheet to keep up with deadlines if you are tech savvy**
- ▶ **Keep copies of everything**
- ▶ Your friends do not need to know everything



Junior into Senior Year Seminar Topics

- ▶ Spring Junior Seminar Meetings – College Application Components
- ▶ Summer College Boot Camp – July workshops to start Common Application and SSAR
- ▶ Fall Seminar Meetings – Applying for Scholarships and College Application Workdays

By the end of junior year, students should:

- ❑ **Prepare a high school resume** – Can use Google Forms or Scoir
- ❑ **Complete the junior brag sheet parts A & B**
- ❑ Take the SAT or ACT in the spring
 - ❑ **List at least one Florida PUBLIC UNIVERSITY to receive scores for Bright Futures**
- ❑ Consider who you will ask for recommendations if your university requires letters
- ❑ Visit colleges or attend college fairs
- ❑ Continue working on community service hours
- ❑ Develop a potential college list



Summer Bootcamp



- ▶ Application help sessions in July - How to get started on the Common Application and the SSAR
- ▶ Zoom meetings are available for individual help

By the beginning of senior year, students should:

- ❑ Have registered to take the ACT/SAT for a second time in the fall
 - ❑ List at least one Florida PUBLIC UNIVERSITY for Bright Futures hours
- ❑ Have completed all requirements related to HOPE credit
- ❑ Have completed Bright Futures hours
- ❑ Decided on who to ask for college recommendations
- ❑ **Be in process or finishing up applications for college**
- ❑ Visit colleges and/or attend college fairs



The Counselor's Role

- ▶ Providing tools and resources to assist in the college application process
- ▶ Manage college representative visits
- ▶ Providing answers to questions along the way
- ▶ Submitting the high school transcript, counselor recommendation, teacher and other recommendations through online platform
- ▶ Emailing scholarship opportunities to students and parents



Parents

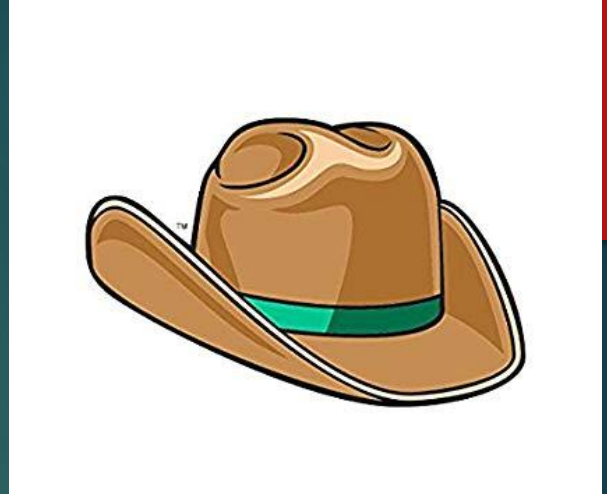
- ▶ Ask your son/daughter how you can help rather than telling them what to do
- ▶ Have conversations with your students about the reality of going far away for college or how to pay for college.
- ▶ Talk about college but also talk about other things at the dinner table or have a 20 minute family meeting at another time.
- ▶ Help your son/daughter make the best decision for them. It may not match what you or your other children have chosen.

Students,



The college process is
ultimately your
responsibility.

Future Meetings



PSAT Follow Up – Resources posted online –
December

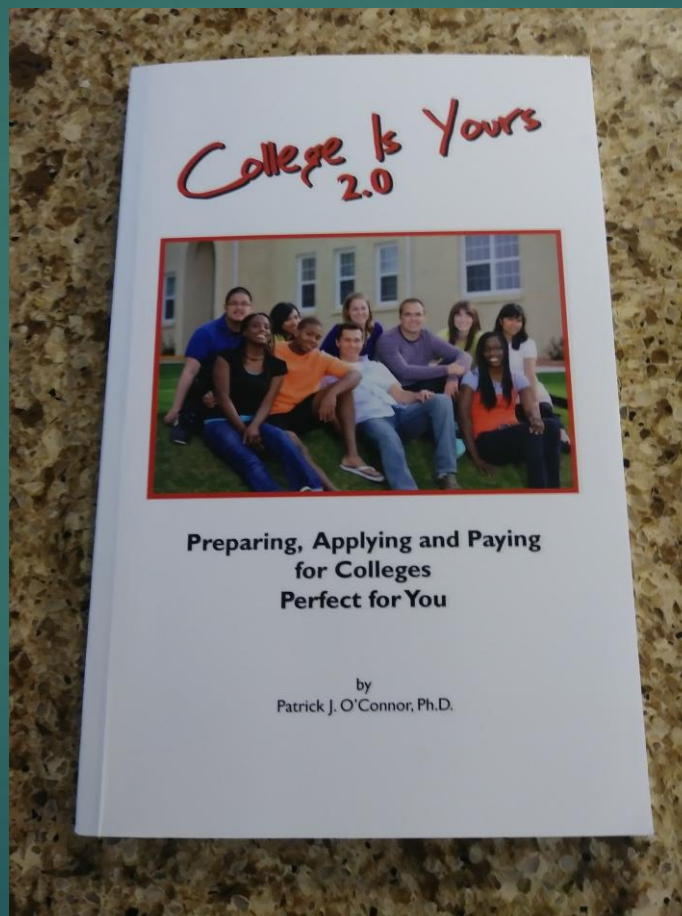
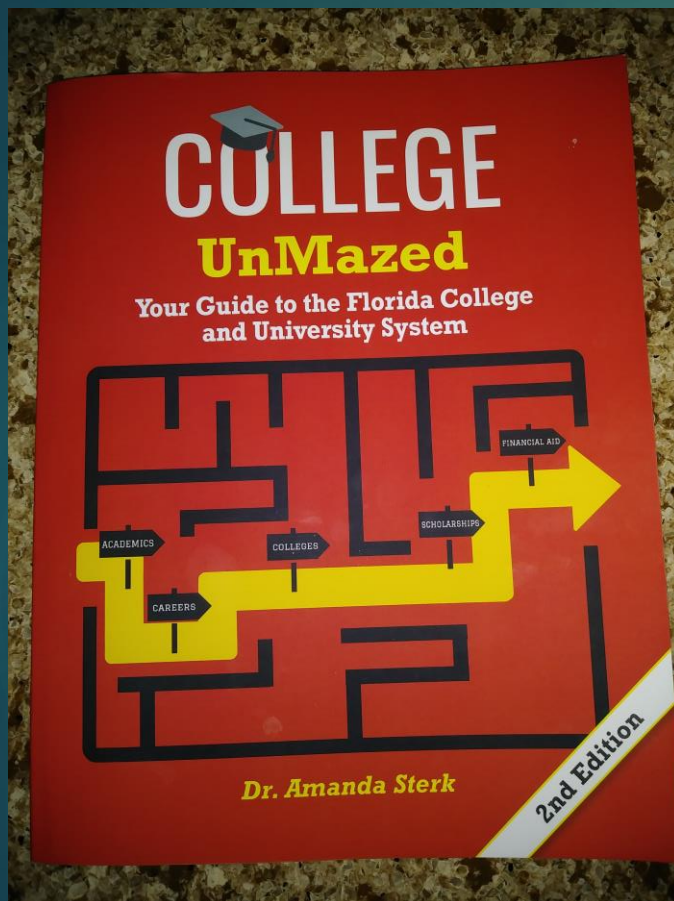
Second Semester Junior Seminar - look for the
Power Points on Counselor's Corner for parents
and My Courses for students

Summer College Workday Meetings

How to Pay for College – usually September

FAFSA Workshops sponsored by SPC and SPCHS

Resources that I recommend:



Khan Academy College Videos

<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions>

View the College Essay Guy's website for many college planning topics
www.collegessayguy.com

Website List

- ▶ Spchs.spcollege.edu – Counselor's Corner
- ▶ SAT Preparation <https://khanacademy.org/sat>
- ▶ ACT Preparation <https://academy.act.org>
- ▶ Bright Futures Handbook
 - ▶ <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/PDF/BFHandbookChapter1.pdf>
- ▶ To register for SAT: www.sat.org/register
- ▶ To register for ACT: www.act.org
 - ▶ CEEB code needed for SAT or ACT 101922
- ▶ Scholarships: Pinellas County Schools Website
 - ▶ www.pcsb.org
 - ▶ Choose students from the top drop down menu
 - ▶ Choose Financial Aid & Scholarships from the menu on the left
 - ▶ Scholarships and Pinellas Financial Aid Seminar Power Point

SPC Workshops available to our students

- ▶ Choosing a Major
 - ▶ Writing a Professional Resume
 - ▶ Linked In
 - ▶ Information on Internships
 - ▶ Specific workshops on careers in various fields
 - ▶ Transfer Fair
 - ▶ Professional branding
-
- ▶ Workshops occur more than once through out the school year and summer on various SPC campuses

To join the junior class Remind text group, please...

- ▶ Text @g2cefk
 - ▶ to the number 81010
- ▶ You will receive a welcome text from Remind.

Thank you for your attendance this evening!

- ▶ LaDawn Bell
- ▶ High School Counselor
- ▶ Bell.ladawn@spcollege.edu
- ▶ (727) 341-3563
<https://calendly.com/bell-ladawn/15min>
- ▶ Yulonder Betts
- ▶ College/Career Advisor
- ▶ Betts.Yulonder@spcollege.edu
- ▶ (727) 341-4285



What about Sophomores?

- ▶ Keep your grades up!
- ▶ Get involved deeply in your activities!
- ▶ Research college majors, colleges and attend virtual college fairs.
- ▶ Utilize Khan Academy or ACT Academy to brush up on skills.
- ▶ Work on Bright Futures hours.
- ▶ Complete any missing requirements for the HOPE credit.