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Welcome to the College Admissions Process

- Keys to having a successful senior year
- Finish Strong- Senior Year Does Count- All college acceptances are conditional
- Stay Organized- make sure you adhere to all dates and deadlines
- Communication- Include all decision makers in the process- Student, Family, Counselor and College Representatives
- Make every moment count- Make an impact each and every day. “Success is a journey not a destination”

Components of the Admissions Folder

- High School Transcript
- SAT and/or ACT Scores
- Activities Resume
- College Essay
- Recommendation Letters

High School Transcript

What are colleges looking for....



- Three-year cumulative weighted and/or unweighted Grade Point Average
- Academic growth over entire high school career
- Level of rigor in course disciplines
- Consistency in grades
- Senior-year course selections
- Mid-year senior grades
- Final grades upon graduation

SAT/ACT Tests

- SAT and ACT scores are sent to colleges by the student. Babylon does not report any standardized test scores.
- Most colleges, not all, pull highest SAT subcomponent score from different test dates.
- Most colleges, not all, use single ACT test date score for admission.
- Score Choice is available for both SAT and ACT.
- Some colleges are Test Optional. View fairtest.org for participating colleges.
- Some colleges accept the ACT (w/writing) as Subject Test requirement.
- Triple check admissions requirements, including subject-based testing (i.e. Engineering majors, BA/MD programs).

Activities

- Extracurricular Activities:
(Inside and outside of school)
- Community Service
- Athletics/Musical Talents, etc.
- Awards and Recognitions
- Work/Summer Experiences
- Educational Programs
- Leadership

****List them on the Common App in order of most important to you****

College Essay



- Essay provides opportunity for student voice and creativity
- Writing piece must be engaging
- Essay **MUST** be proofread!!
- Be careful of asking for too much advice. Make sure the essay is in “your own voice”.
- Watch for supplemental essays on the common application and/or if you are applying to special programs or scholarships.
- Do not be too generic on supplements, if they ask why you are applying to their college give specific answers for each school.

Letters of Recommendation

- School Counselor:

Letter written highlights overall high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to share any personal information deemed significant to their lives and its impact on high school career.

- School Teacher(s):

Letter written highlights the student during the duration of the course. Students should also provide teacher(s) with any additional information the teacher requests.

- Students are encouraged to sign all waiver forms waiving access to recommendation letters. College admissions representatives deem these letters more credible in the admissions process.

How many should you send??

Application Terminology

- **Early Decision:**
Binding agreement with college stating student must attend if accepted. Decision made on or about December 15.
- **Early Action:**
Non-binding application. Decisions usually made by mid-December.
- **Rolling Admissions:**
First come, first serve. Applications are processed as they ‘roll’ in and decision is quickly ‘rolled’ back to student.
- **Regular Decision:**
Decisions are made after deadline date has lapsed. Most decisions letters are mailed in early April.
- **Single Choice Early Action/Restrictive Early Action:**
A few of the most competitive colleges offer this non-binding admission policy. Students may apply to a single choice college, however they are not permitted to apply to other schools using the EA/ED option during this period.

Scholarships & Financial Aid

- Naviance Account: List of available national and school-specific scholarships.
- Fastweb.com, Scholarship.com, Collegeboard.com: Websites that post various scholarships based on personal questionnaire.
Student Initiated VS. Student Nominated Scholarships
- Financial Aid Night: Thursday October 6th at 7:00 PM
- FAFSA: Free Application for Student Aid – Calculates Family Expected Contribution.

Submitting Applications to Guidance Office

- Appointment must be made with counselor to submit all college paperwork.
- Please allow up to two weeks for all college paperwork requests to be processed. Do not wait until the last minute!
- Application receipt form must be submitted with student and parent signatures.

Things to Remember...

- Seek out your school counselor for advice...and read all emails from Guidance.
- View the College Visits tab on Naviance to see the most up to date list of schools coming to visit Babylon.
- Attend Open Houses and/or visit colleges of interest. Make certain to register for each school visit – many colleges track interest.
- Apply to appropriate colleges
- **Prioritize the ‘right fit’ over the ‘right name’**
- Watch Deadlines!!
- Visit chosen college before depositing
- Share your admissions decisions/results with your counselor

Finishing Strong

https://youtu.be/yVz_Ku1_FQE

Dates to Remember



- October 1st - FAFSA forms can be submitted
- October 2nd- Long Island National College Fair at Suffolk Community College- 2:00 PM at the Grant Campus
- October 6th - Financial Aid Night
- November 1st - Early Admissions Deadline for most colleges
- November 16th- NCAA Student Athlete Informational Workshop
- May 1st - Deposit Due to college of choice