



College Admissions 101

August 20, 2019

August 22, 2019

August 27, 2019



An Overview of this presentation

- Application “mantra”
- Office of Admissions – their job is to admit!
- Profile from Minnetonka High School
- Performance
- Testing
- College search process
- Apply for admission and apply for financial aid
- Minnetonka counseling model – and our pledge!



Application/admissions “mantra”

- For all of our students, let this be your “mantra.” You apply for admission to a college because you want to go there!
- Focus as much on “going” to the college as you will focus on “getting in.”
- As a counseling staff, we plan to work with students in the college search process to help them find really good matches!! “What will make this place be a great fit for me?”
- “College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won.”

-- Frank Sachs, The Blake School, Minneapolis



Office of Admissions

- Colleges seek the best students they can find/attract/admit/enroll for their entering class
- Students seek the best college they can attend
- Everyone is aware of rankings, prestige, fame – nobody wants to miss out!
- Numbers are important – not just in terms of applications, but in terms of a student's data (gpa and test scores)
- It's a process, with lots of steps/stages. Patience is a value-added virtue!



Minnetonka High School – Profile from 2018 & 2019

- % attending 4 year colleges 80%
- % attending 2 year colleges 11%
- % attending MN institutions 39%
- % attending out-of-state institutions 52%
- Average number of applications 4.7



- **Class of 2019**

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota – TC

Univ of Wisconsin – Madison

Normandale Community College

University of St. Thomas

Iowa State University

Univ of Nebraska, Lincoln

Univ of Minnesota – Duluth

- **Class of 2018**

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota - TC

Normandale Community College

University of St. Thomas

Iowa State University

Univ of Wisconsin – Madison

Univ of Minnesota – Duluth

Montana State University



Performance

- The high school transcript – the student’s record of academic achievement – is the most important part of the application folder.
- The rigor of the courses you have taken, the breadth of study within each department, and the grades you have earned will be examined in detail. The transcript speaks loudly.
- Colleges and universities want to see the quality of your life as a student. They want to see trends, growth, challenge, and achievement.



Testing

- ACT
- National average composite 20.8
- Minnetonka average composite 27.7
- Number tested (Class of 2019) 708
- SAT
- National average total (1600 scale) 1068
- Minnetonka average total 1353
- Number tested (Class of 2019) 93



Testing (continued) -- Upcoming test dates

- September 14 ACT
- October 5 SAT (Note: PSAT is October 16)
- October 26 ACT
- November 2 SAT
- December 7 SAT
- December 14 ACT

Note: photo ID is a required part of test registration!



The College Search – How to begin?

- **An absolute must: conduct a self inventory or self assessment**
- What do you like to do?
- What do you hate to do?
- What subject excites you?
- What always bores you?
- How do you learn best?



Self inventory (cont.)

- Do you enjoy being a part of a large group? Or, do smaller groups suit you better?
- Do you want to stick close to home? Or, do you plan to move far away?
- Do you want to live in or near a city? Or, could you find happiness in a college town?
- Do you seek out diversity among your friends? Or, do you hang out with people who are very similar to you?



Information Gathering -- The Basics of a College Search

- Size
- Faculty/Student Ratio
- Major/Strongest programs/Courses offered
- Geographical location and distance from family
- Learning focus- Liberal Arts or Specialized School
- Urban/rural
- Tuition/Financial Aid/Scholarships
- Honors/accelerated programs
- Graduation rate



Information Gathering -- The Personality of the College

- Retention Rate and Graduation Rate
- Activities
- Dorm life/Greek life
- Facilities
- Male/female ratio
- Multi-cultural breakdown
- Religious affiliation
- Research opportunities
- Study abroad programs



Information Gathering – Making Use of the Internet!

<https://student.naviance.com/minnetonka>

<http://www.collegeboard.org>

<http://www.collegeconfidential.com>

<http://www.princetonreview.com>

<http://www.finaid.org>

<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>

<https://collegecost.ed.gov>



For Parents: This is a good one!

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Name of School

States (use map for more than 1 state)

ZIP Code **Miles from**

Programs/Majors
0 Items Selected

Level of Award ?

☐ Certificate
 ☐ Associate's

☐ Bachelor's
 ☐ Advanced

Institution Type ?

☐ Public
 ☐ 4-year

☐ Private non-profit
 ☐ 2-year

☐ Private for-profit
 ☐ < 2-year

+ MORE SEARCH OPTIONS

[Guide Me](#) | [Clear Search](#)

Find the right college for you

- » Refine your search with *More Search Options* to select additional search criteria.
- » Build a list of schools using *My Favorites* for side-by-side comparisons.
- » Pinpoint school locations with an *interactive map*.
- » Export search results into a *spreadsheet*.
- » Save your session including search options and favorites.
- » [Add College Navigator](#) to your browser search bar.

College Affordability and Transparency Center

Browse lists of institutions with the highest and lowest tuition & fees and net price. [» GO](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Preparing for your Education
Find out what you need to do to prepare for education beyond high school. [» GO](#)

Financial Aid
Apply for Federal Student Aid on FAFSA. [» GO](#)

Careers
Deciding on a career? Consult the *bls.gov* Occupational Outlook Handbook. [» GO](#)



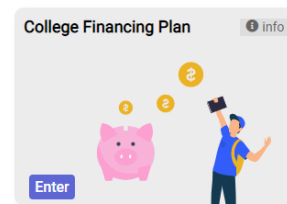
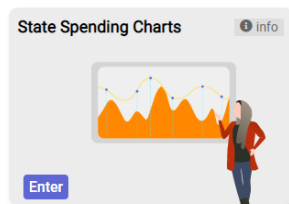
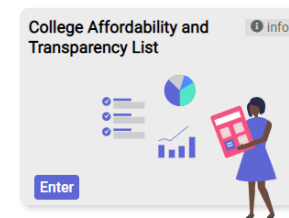
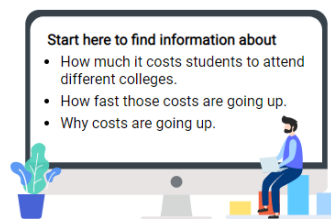
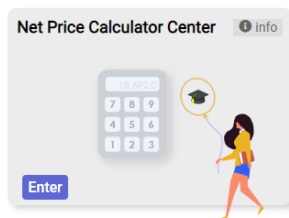
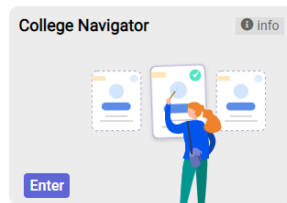
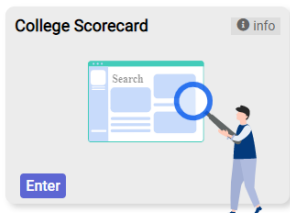
For Parents: Or this one!



U.S. Department of Education


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Help





For Students:
You love
this one!



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Expert Advice & Insights

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For Parents & Students: Use this one!

 Naviance | *Student*

HomeCollegesCareersAbout MeMy Planner

Welcome, Sam!

Search for Colleges

Type a college name

SEARCH

Intro to Seniors


Greetings from the MHS Counseling Office!


We will once again be using our interactive counseling tool, *Naviance Student*, to assist you with post-high school planning.


We hope you will explore the many beneficial features that are available to you. We recommend the following links:

Read more

My Favorites

 COLLEGES
I'm thinking about

 COLLEGES
I'm applying to

 CAREERS AND CLUSTERS
I'm thinking about

Important To-Dos and Tasks

What's New



Information Gathering – Making use of local resources

- Attend the upcoming National College Fair in Minneapolis on October 2-3 (MHS Juniors will attend on Oct 2)
- Take advantage of the 150+ admission representative visits to MHS
- Meet with your school counselor or college counselor
- Consult with your family, friends, teachers, coaches
- Talk about college costs and affordability



Apply for admission and financial aid in the fall!

- As you get ready to become an applicant, your top priority – finding the right fit! NOTE: You apply for admission to a college because you want to go there!
- Most MHS students apply between September and December
- Separate deadline for need-based financial aid -- filing the FAFSA can be done beginning on October 1. www.fafsa.gov
- The selection process could last for months, especially when cost of attendance is a significant factor.



Timeline – some upcoming dates

- Sept 13 Senior Seminar, during school day
- Sept 16 Senior Parent Night Program
- Sept 24 Junior Seminar (during school day)
- Oct 1 Performing & Visual Arts College Fair
- Oct 2-3 National College Fair (Minneapolis)
- Oct 16 PSAT testing for juniors
- Oct 16 (17-18) No school for seniors (MEA) – perfect time for college visits!
- Oct 23 Financial aid program at MHS



Timeline (continued)

- End of Oct Seniors compile final list of colleges
- Oct - Feb File the FAFSA
- Nov 1 Deadline for many early action/early decision applications
- Nov 1 Priority deadline for rolling admission
- Jan 1 Deadline for many regular decision schools
- May 1 National candidate reply date



Minnetonka counseling model – our pledge!

- 9 School Counselors + 1 College Counselor
- Personalization
- College and Career Center
- Our pledge – to help each student find the best match possible for their post-secondary experience!

Phillip Trout

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