# COLLEGE PLANNING WORKSHOP

**FOR** 

PARENTS & STUDENTS

### DID YOU KNOW...



97% of the Class of 2019 went on to college?

67.7% went to a 4-year college

29.7% went to a 2-year college

1.6% went on to military/vocational/workforce





### SIGNING UP FOR THE SAT/ACT

- We recommend that juniors who plan on going to a 4-year college take the SAT's at least once during the spring of their junior year, and once during the fall of their **senior** year
- Students can choose to take the ACT in June and/or September
- It is the student's responsibility to sign up online at www.collegeboard.com (SAT) or actstudent.org (ACT).
  - Ask your counselor for help if you need it!
- Be aware of deadlines additional fees for late registration
- Fee waivers are available to students receiving free or reduced lunch



















### START TALKING ABOUT IT!

### Open the lines of communication...

- Students should:
  - Talk with their **family, friends** and **guidance counselor** about what they would like to do in the future.
  - Talk to past RPHS graduates or students who are currently attending college.
  - Talk to people who are already in a career that they are interested in.



Counselors will be meeting with students on a one-on-one basis VIA ZOOM over the next few months. An email will be sent to you inviting you to attend this meeting as well.

### WHAT DO COLLEGES LOOK FOR?

- High School Course Load & Grades
  - Quality and rigor of courses
  - Are you **challenging** yourself?
- Decile and Grade Point Average (GPA)
  - Based on grades from 9th-11th grade will be found on your transcript
- Test Scores (SAT or ACT)\* some may test-optional
- Essay or Writing Sample
- Extracurricular Activities Resume
  - Community Service, Leadership Roles, Clubs, Sports
- Special Accomplishments, Honors and Awards
- Letters of Recommendation
- Interview (Sometimes)

### OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

	Student Academic History  (H) Honors (AP) Advanced Placement				☐ Official Transcript ☐ Student Copy		
		H) Honors Final	(AP)	Advanced Placement		Final	ору
Grade 09 Year 2015-	-16	Grade	Credits	Grade 10 Year 20	16-17	Grade	Credits
English 1 H (H) Spanish 2 ADV World History H (H) Geometry H (H) Honors Algebra 2 (H) Accelerated Physics ( Computer Appl Foundations Of Tech Tech Innovations (CP Gym 1 Health Ed	H)	A A A A B B A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 2.500 2.500 2.500 3.750 1.250	English 2 H (H) Spanish 3 (CP) Us I H (H) Precalculus H (H) Biology H (H) Chemistry H (H) STEM Exploration Gym 2 A Driv Ed Th A		AAABBCA4++	5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 3.750 1.250
Abs: 7.0 Tardy: 0.0 GPA	4.7222	Credits Earned	45.000	Abs: 5.0 Tardy: 1.0 GPA	4.5813	Credits Earned	40.000
Grade 11 Year 2017-	-18	Final Grade	Credits	Grade 12 Year 20	018-19	Final Grade	Credits
English 3 H (H) Spanish 4 H (H) US Hist 2 CP Calculus H (H) AP Biology (AP) Personal Finance S STEM Exploration (CP) (S) Gym 3 First Aid		AAAABAAA+	5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 2.500 2.500 3.750 1.250	Photography/Digital Art Hist Of Music 1 Fam Life English 4 H (H) Spanish AP (AP) Introduction to Psychology (CP) AP Calculus AB (AP) Art 2 S Gym 4		A+ A B	2.500 2.500 1.250
Abs: 3.0 Tardy: 0.0 GPA	4.9429	Credits Earned	35.000	Abs: 0.0 Tardy: 0.0 GPA		Credits Earned	6.250
Cumulative Data	Attempted	Earned		Total Q.P.	GPA	Decile	
Weighted	120.000		126.250	568.7500	4.7396		1
Unweighted	85.000		126.250	327.5000	3.8529		

### COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

SAT	ACT
<ul> <li>FOUR OR FIVE SECTIONS</li> <li>Reading (65 minutes)</li> <li>Writing &amp; Language (35 minutes)</li> <li>Math NO Calculator (25 minutes)</li> <li>Math with Calculator (55 minutes)</li> <li>Optional coapy (55 minutes)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>FIVE SECTIONS</li> <li>English</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Reading</li> <li>Science Reasoning</li> <li>Writing (optional)</li> </ul>
CRITICAL READING: reading comprehension, sentence completions, and paragraph-length critical reading.  MATH: number & operations, algebra & functions, geometry, statistics, probability & data analysis.	READING: social studies, natural science, prose fiction and humanities.  MATH: pre-algebra, elementary algebra, intermediate algebra & coordinate geometry, plane geometry, and trigonometry.
Non-multiple choice questions are included.	Format is entirely multiple choiceEasy and hard questions are mixed within sections.
No penalty for incorrect answers	No penalty for incorrect answers
<ul><li>200-800 points per sections</li><li>1600 is highest possible score</li></ul>	<ul> <li>1-36 points per section</li> <li>36 is the highest possible composite score</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>Students who are strong academically will often have to prepare less for ACT since the test is better aligned to high school curriculum.

### SAT PRACTICE

#### Log in to collegeboard.com:

- Review PSAT scores and create a plan for improvement.
- Utilize CollegeBoard to access free SAT practice materials such as Khan
   Academy. Link your scores to Khan Academy for personalized practice.

#### You can also choose to take an SAT prep course:

- Lentz & Lentz SAT Prep <u>www.lentzsatprep.com</u>
- Educational Services Center <u>www.esctestprep.com</u>
- Huntington Learning Center <u>www.huntingtonhelps.com/testprep</u>
- The Princeton Review <u>www.princetonreview.com/testprep</u>
- UCC Youth Programs <a href="www.ucc.edu/go/youth-programs">www.ucc.edu/go/youth-programs</a>
- Kaplan SAT Prep <u>www.kaptest.com/SAT</u>



### SIGNING UP FOR THE SAT/ACT

- We recommend that juniors who plan on going to a 4-year college take the SAT's at least once during the spring of their junior year, and once during the fall of their senior year
- Students can choose to take the ACT in June and/or September
- It is the student's responsibility to sign up online at <a href="https://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a> (SAT) or <a href="actstudent.org">actstudent.org</a> (ACT).
  - Ask your counselor for help if you need it!
- Be aware of deadlines additional fees for late registration
- Fee waivers are available to students receiving free or reduced lunch

### VISIT, VISIT, VISIT!

- OPEN HOUSE
- Attend college fairs (virtually Collegeboard)
- Take a summer course at a college they are interested in
- Stay over with a friend who attends a school they are interested in
- Attend "Open Houses" (virtually). Be sure to register!

Spring break and summer vacation are great times to start visiting some schools!

### DEMONSTRATED INTEREST

- College Visits—ALWAYS REGISTER
- FILL OUT CARDS AT COLLEGE FAIRS or ONLINE
- VISIT REPS. DURING LUNCHTIME VISITS or VIRTUALLY
- PROGRAM AT YOUR CHOICE COLLEGE
- REGISTER AND ATTEND AN OPEN HOUSE (in person or virtual)

- UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS (FIRST GENERATION, LOW-INCOME) SHOULD CONSIDER ATTENDING TARGETED WEEKENDS AND FLY-IN PROGRAMS
- IF POSSIBLE, ATTEND A SUMMER EARLY DECISION—NUMBER 1 WAY TO DEMONSTRATE INTEREST

### THINGS TO CONSIDER



- Academics
- Geographic Location
- Setting
- Size
- Make up of Student Body
- Admissions Policy
- Safety/Security

- Campus Life
- Athletics
- Special Programs
- Services
- Housing
- Costs
- And more...

Keep notes on each school for future reference.

## HTTPS://WWW.NICHE.COM/COLLEGES/SEARCH/BEST-COLLEGES/



### **New York University**

#11 in Best Colleges for Business in America

At Overall Grade • 4 Year • New York, NY • ★★★☆ 4,964 reviews

•	Report Card
	About

Rankings

Admissions

Will You Get In?

Cost

Academics

Majors

Students

Campus Life

After College

Similar Colleges



#### Overall Niche Grade

How are grades calculated?

A+ Academics

A+ Diversity

+ Athletics

A+ Professors

B Dorms

A+ Student Life

A Value

A- Campus

A+ Party Scene

A+ Location

A Campus Food

B+ Safety

# WHAT CAN YOUR STUDENT CHECK OFF THEIR LIST NOW?



- Register to take the SAT/ACT in the Spring (May 8)
- Starting thinking about what they want to **study** and the **kind** of college they would like to attend: *size*, location, *social* & cultural environment, extracurricular opportunities
- Take college tours over Spring break and Summer vacation
- Attend virtual college visits Wednesdays via zoom (check your email)
- Create a list of potential schools that they are interested in.
  - By September, narrow down to 2-3 "reach" schools, 2-3 schools "target" schools, and 1-2 "safety" schools.
- Start thinking of 2 teachers they want to ask for Letters of Recommendation
- Complete Senior Brag Sheet available on Naviance before Spring Break

## Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Required for all students who hope to receive financial aid of any kind (including scholarships, loans, etc..)
- The application is FREE and can be accessed at fafsa.gov
- Available October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Must use parents/student tax information from prior year (i.e. 2020)
- For a select number of schools, the CSS profile may also need to be completed (a fee does apply, see the financial aid website of each college you apply to)



# PAYING FOR COLLEGE - SCHOLARSHIPS

- Typically, each college considers students for **merit awards** at the time of the application and financial need is not a factor.
  - Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores can qualify you for merit-based scholarships
- Go to <u>meritaid.com</u> to see a comprehensive list of merit awards given by every college.
- National and state scholarships can be found by setting up a profile on
  1) <u>scholarships.com</u> 2) <u>fastweb.com</u> 3) <u>goingmerry.com</u>
- A "Scholarship Listing" can be found in the Guidance Class of 2022 Google Classroom.

### **APPLY, APPLY, APPLY!**

There is a lot of money out there – but you have to be in it to win it!





## PAYING FOR COLLEGE – EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND (EOF)

EOF opportunities possibly for those on free or reduced lunch.

#### Undergraduate Eligibility:

- Must demonstrate an educationally and economically disadvantaged background
- 2. Must be a New Jersey resident 12 consecutive months prior to receiving the award
- 3. Must apply and be accepted to a participating New Jersey college or university
- 4. Must meet the academic criteria as set by the institution of choice
- 5. Must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application.
- 6. Gross income and assets must fall within the criteria shown:

2021-2022 EOF Income Eligibility Scale with Asset Cap Calculation

Applicants with a Household Size of	Gross Income (Not to Exceed)	Max. Asset Cap (Not to Exceed)	
1	\$25,520	\$5,104	
2	\$34,480	\$6,896	
3	\$43,440	\$8,688	
4	\$52,400	\$10,480	
5	\$61,360	\$12,272	
6	\$70,320	\$14,064	
7	\$79,280	\$15,856	
8	\$88,240	\$17,648	
8+ Add \$8,960 for each additional family member		Add \$1,792 for each additional family member	

Example – Kean's EOF program requires: GPA 2.4, SAT score 880 (math & verbal), and a mandatory summer residential program.

# PAYING FOR COLLEGE Questbridge Program



The College Prep Scholars Program equips a very select high-achieving high school juniors from low-income backgrounds with the knowledge, confidence, and resources to apply to top colleges.

- A full scholarship to a college summer program hosted by Yale, Emory, UChicago, and more.
- Quest for Excellence Awards, such as \$1,000 for a new laptop or other resources to help the student enhance their college application.
- Exclusive access to a <u>QuestBridge National College Admissions Conference</u> an invite-only, online event featuring workshops and a college fair with our college partners.
- Personalized college essay feedback.
- Specialized guidance and resources for the college application process.
- Peer-to-peer support in an <u>online community</u>.

This program is open to current juniors. The deadline to apply is March 24th.

# POTENTIAL ATHLETES DIVISION I OR II



- You MUST let your counselor know if you are thinking of playing a Division I or II sport in college.
- Your counselor will make sure you are on track with course requirements for the NCAA Clearinghouse
- Send packets to colleges over the summer that include:
  - Letter of interest
  - Highlight DVD
  - Resume
  - Letter of recommendations from your coach, teachers and counselor
  - High school transcript
- You must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse online at <u>www.eligibilitycenter.org</u> for more information on college athletics - Cost \$90

# THE 2-YEAR COUNTY COLLEGE OPTION



- Cost of tuition Reasonably priced
- Convenient location
- Variety of majors and certifications
- Gives the undecided student more opportunity to explore majors
- Course credits transfer to public and private 4-year colleges
- Transition from a smaller campus to a larger one
- Everyone who applies is **accepted**. However, you must take a **placement exam** and may need to take **remedial** courses.
- SAT is **not** required, but it can exempt you from taking the placement exam.
- NJ STARS top 15% of the class attends county college for free
- Check out <u>www.ucc.edu</u> for more information.

### VOCATIONAL OPTIONS

### **UC Adult Programs Vo-Tech**

- Automotive Technologies
  - Electrical Technologies
    - HVAC/Plumbing
      - Cosmetology

www.ucvts.tec.nj.us

(908) 889-8288 X313

### NJ Carpenters Apprentice Training Program

91 Fieldcrest Ave, 2nd Floor

Edison, NJ 08837

(732) 225-7210

Training Director – Mr. Leary



### **HELPFUL LINKS:**

### **RPHS Guidance Webpage**

https://rphsguidance.weebly.com/

#### **College Entrance Exams**

satpractice.org

khanacademy.org

actstudent.org

sat.collegeboard.org

**Financial Aid** 

<u>hesaa.org</u>

<u>fafsa.ed.gov</u>

### NJ College Open Houses

https://www.njsca.org/college-open-houses/

### CHECK THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM: Guidance ~ Class of 2022

Be sure to check our quarterly newsletters also found on our website for important information about college open houses, SAT/ACT deadlines, and local scholarships.

# GOOD LUCK TO YOU AS WE BEGIN THIS EXCITING JOURNEY TOGETHER...

### The Roselle Park High School Guidance Department

Mrs. Baumann, Counselor A-F

Mrs. Matarredona, Counselor G-O

Ms. Astuto, Counselor P-Z

Mrs. Bodek, Director of Guidance

Mrs. Battaglia, Guidance Secretary

### **QUESTIONS?**