



# Senior Parent Program Minnetonka High School

September 19, 2022

# An overview of this presentation

- Introduction of MHS Counselors & College Counselor
- Role of the parent and counselor, as well as the student
- Profile from Minnetonka High School
- The Application Process
- Trends in College Admissions
- Important Dates for Seniors and Senior Parents
- Recommended Websites
- Our Pledge

# MHS Counselors

Brad Burnham

Sarah Seldon

Theresa Exenberger

Conor Maher

Christina Taylor

Cassie Klein

Monica Jones

Amanda Wavrin

Kendra Olson

David Bierly

Phil Trout

A-Brb

Brc-De

Df-Gn

Go-H

I-Lar

Las-Moh

Moi-Pom

Pon-Schu

Schv-Tun

Tuo-Z

College Counselor

# What is the role of parents?

- a) Believe in your child's abilities
- b) Continue to take an interest in your child's academic life
- c) Keep an open dialogue about the college search and be clear about financial expectations – do some research with net price calculators
- d) Stay in touch with your child's counselor – we all want to help our students find good matches!
- e) Address any special needs

# What is the role of counselors?

- a) Believe in the student's abilities
- b) Communicate on deadlines/timeline about the admissions process at recommended colleges
- c) Stay in touch about student's progress – for post high school plans, as well as graduation
- d) Monitor application activity – for admissions and financial aid/scholarships
- e) When needed, write the counselor letter

# Minnetonka High School Profile from 2021 and 2022

• % attending 4-year colleges	77%
• % attending 2-year colleges	10%
• % attending MN institutions	36%
• % attending out-of-state institutions	51%
• Average number of applications	5.65

## Class of 2021

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota - TC

Normandale Community College

Univ of Wisconsin - Madison

Univ of Minnesota - Duluth

Iowa State University

University of St. Thomas

University of Iowa

## Class of 2022

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota - TC

Univ of Wisconsin – Madison

Normandale Community College

Iowa State University

Univ of Minnesota - Duluth

University of St. Thomas

Indiana University

# Apply for admission and financial aid in the fall!

- As the student gets ready to become an applicant, the 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 any time after Oct 1.
- The college selection process could last for months, especially when cost of attendance is a significant factor.



# Admission application options

## Early Decision

Early decision plans are binding – a student who is accepted as an ED applicant must attend the college.

## Early Action

Early action plans are non-binding – students receive an **early** response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the candidate reply date of May 1.

## Regular Decision

Regular decision is the process by which students apply by published deadlines, with the promise of receiving an admissions outcome no later than April 1.

## Rolling Admission

Rolling admission is a policy used by many colleges to admit freshmen to undergraduate programs. Under rolling admission, candidates are invited to submit their applications at any point within a large window of time.

# The application process

## Anatomy of the application:

- Complete the application
- Send a transcript
- Send test score(s), if the student wishes
- Other items (teacher and/or counselor recommendation), or any supplementary materials

## Different application sources:

- School Application
  - For example:  
[www.umn.edu](http://www.umn.edu)
- Common Application
  - [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
- Coalition Application (on Scoir)
  - [www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/apply-coalition-on-scoir](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/apply-coalition-on-scoir)

Detailed information on the application process is included in the **Senior Seminar**, posted for students in Schoology.

# The application process

## Applying for Financial Aid

Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- Available to complete after October 1
- Uses the “prior-prior year” federal tax information (the 2021 1040 for this year’s seniors)
- FAFSA priority deadlines vary – most at Feb 1 or Mar 1

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

CSS Profile

- Additional form required by more selective colleges

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

## Applying for Scholarships

- Best source for a scholarship is the college
- Research the scholarship list in Naviance – both national and local
- We recommend these websites:

<https://finaid.org/scholarships/>

<https://www.goingmerry.com/>

# Naviance

## The Common Application

After finishing the education section of your Common Application, you will need to match your Common App account to your Naviance account.

- Complete the FERPA Release Authorization in the Common Application
- In the “Colleges I’m Applying To” tab in Naviance, enter your Common App email address in the “Match” box.
- Note: students use MySSO to access Naviance

# Recommendations

## Teacher Recommendations

1. Contact your teacher through Schoology or email to ask if they would be willing to write a recommendation.
2. If they agree, go to the Colleges tab in your Naviance account and select your teacher from the drop-down list.
3. Please allow 2-3 weeks for your teacher to process your request.

## Counselor Recommendations

1. If a counselor recommendation is required, please go to the “About Me” tab in Naviance to complete the Senior Questionnaire.
2. Your counselor will want to speak with you for more information (senior meeting).
3. Please allow 2-3 weeks for your counselor to process your request.

# Transcript release form

As soon as you know where you are applying, submit a Transcript Release form to MHS, which includes instructions on “how to apply.”

<https://www.minnetonkaschools.org/schools/high-school/mhs/counseling/transcripts>

MINNETONKA HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT RELEASE			
NAME (last, first) _____		GRAD YEAR _____	BIRTHDATE _____
		CELL PHONE _____	
STUDENT EMAIL _____		TODAY'S DATE _____	
<b>CIRCLE YOUR COUNSELOR:</b>			
		Dave Bierly   Brad Burnham   Theresa Exenberger   Monica Jones   Cassie Klein Conor Maher   Kendra Olson   Sarah Seldon   Christina Taylor   Amanda Wavrin	
I authorize Minnetonka High School to release my official transcript to the place(s) indicated below:			
Student's Signature _____		Parent's Signature (if under 18) _____	
COLLEGE(S) or SCHOLARSHIP*:			
School:	College Deadline:		
	Early Action/Decision:	Y	N
City/State:	Common Application?	Y	N
	Counselor Recommendation Required?	Y	N
<b>How to Apply to College:</b>			
1. Submit each completed application directly to the college.			
2. Using the Common App? If yes:			
• Complete the <b>FERPA Release Form</b> in your Common App account.			

# Test scores

**Sent by the student only, not by MHS.**

Important: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many colleges and universities have adopted a test-optional policy in admissions.

A comprehensive list is available on the [FairTest](https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional) website.

<https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>

## ACT

- You will need to know the username and password you used to create your account.
- Once you have signed in, you will click “send my scores”
- [www.act.org](https://www.act.org)

## SAT

- This is the same account you used to see your AP scores.
- [www.collegeboard.org](https://www.collegeboard.org)

# Writing Center help

- The adults in the Writing Center are coaches who can provide individualized guidance and strategies for writers as they work on college essays.  
<https://www.minnetonkaschools.org/schools/high-school/mhs/student-life/writing-center>
- Set up an appointment with the Writing Center at [OnBoard.na.rapidbiz.com](https://OnBoard.na.rapidbiz.com), using your student ID as your username and your lunch code (once) as your password.
- Several upcoming workshops on the Common App essay during the last two weeks of September!



# Trends in college admissions

- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, a huge increase in the number of colleges that have adopted a test-optional policy in admission – now over 1800.. The updated list: <https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>
- These days, the ACT and SAT are interchangeable – no longer is a test “connected” to a certain geographic setting.
- Students do NOT need to take the optional writing section in the ACT. The SAT has dropped the optional writing section. In addition, the College Board has discontinued the SAT Subject Test program.
- A growing number of colleges have adopted a self-reported academic record in the application (including all three Iowa universities, U of Illinois, Rutgers, and the U of M, Twin Cities)
- Also, many more colleges now allow students to self-report test scores on the application.
- The admission outcome could include an offer for January enrollment, rather than for fall.
- Some college campuses have restricted access for tours/visits. Always check the admissions website for up-to-date information.

# Timeline – some upcoming dates

- After Oct 1 FAFSA opens for Class of 2023
- Oct 13-14 Parent-Teacher conferences at MHS
- Oct 19-21 No school for seniors (MEA) – perfect time for college stuff!
- Oct 25 Financial aid program (in-person and virtual)
- Nov 1 Deadline for many early action/early decision applications
- Nov 1 Early Action deadline for U of M, Twin Cities and UW-Madison


# Timeline (continued)

- Nov 11 No school; opportunity for college stuff
- Nov 15 EA/ED deadline for some colleges
- November Deadline for application to University of California schools
- Jan 1-5 Regular decision deadline for many colleges and universities
- May 1 National candidate reply date
- June 8 Graduation day for the Class of 2023

# College visits at MHS

All schedules listed in Naviance – students need to register

## College Visits

 Search for colleges

SEPTEMBER

Mon **19**  
02:00PM

**Butler University**

📍 Minnetonka High School, College and Career Center

[View Details](#)

SEPTEMBER

Tue **20**  
09:15AM

**Chapman University**

📍 Minnetonka High School, College and Career Center

[View Details](#)

SEPTEMBER

Tue **20**  
09:15AM

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

📍 Minnetonka High School, College and Career Center

[View Details](#)

SEPTEMBER

Tue **20**  
10:15AM

**Boston College**

📍 Minnetonka High School, College and Career Center

[View Details](#)

# Upcoming virtual national college fairs



**Virtual College Fairs**

**September Virtual College Fair**  
Sunday, September 11  
1pm – 6pm ET

**October Virtual College Fair**  
Sunday, October 9  
1pm – 6pm ET

**November Virtual College Fair**  
Sunday, November 6  
1pm – 6pm ET

NACAC  
*Virtual*  
COLLEGE FAIRS



**SIGN UP NOW FOR FREE!**  
[nacacattend.org/fairs](https://nacacattend.org/fairs)

Register at [virtualcollegefairs.org](https://virtualcollegefairs.org)

# Additional college events

## 2022 Fall In-Person Fairs

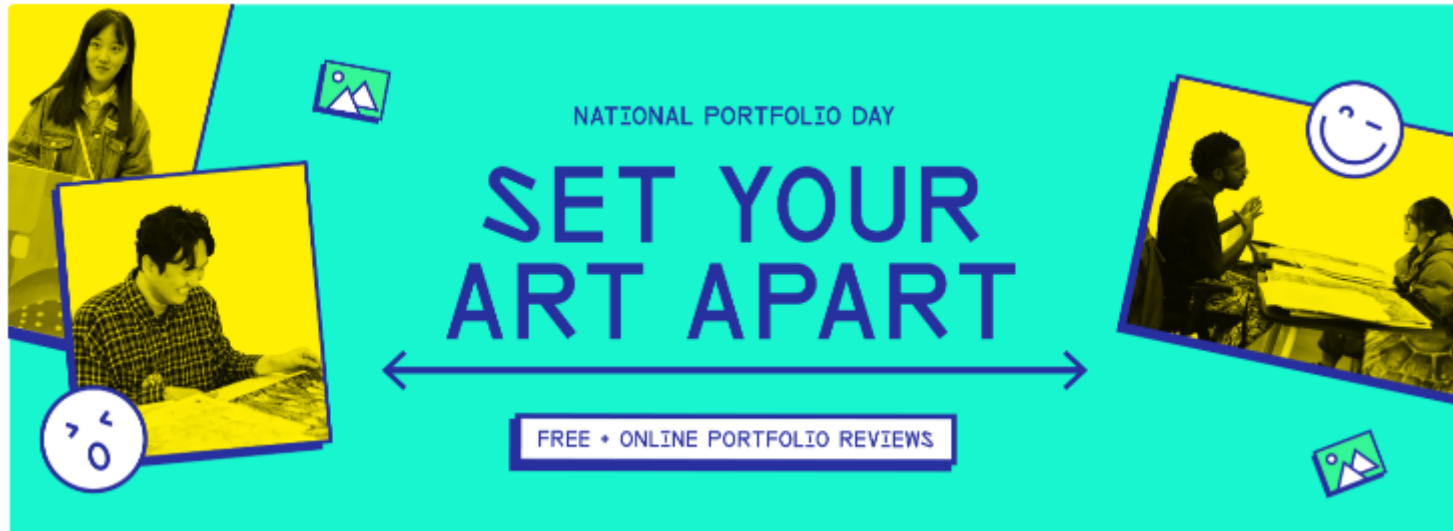
<b>Orlando NCF</b> Sunday, September 11	<b>STEM &amp; PVA College Fair (New Jersey)</b> Saturday, October 8
<b>Louisville NCF</b> Sunday, September 18	<b>Cincinnati NCF</b> Sunday, October 16
<b>Houston NCF</b> Sunday, September 25	<b>Honolulu NCF</b> Tuesday, October 18
<b>Denver NCF</b> Sunday, September 25	<b>Greater Phoenix NCF</b> Sunday, October 23
<b>New Orleans NCF</b> Tuesday, September 27	<b>St. Louis NCF</b> Sunday, October 30
<b>Baton Rouge NCF</b> Wednesday, September 28	<b>Philadelphia NCF</b> Sunday, October 30
<b>Chicago NCF</b> Saturday, October 1	<b>Spokane NCF</b> Tuesday, November 1
<b>Milwaukee NCF</b> Sunday, October 2	<b>Seattle NCF</b> Friday, November 4 & Saturday, November 5
<b>Minnesota NCF</b> Wednesday, October 5 & Thursday, October 6	

**NACAC**   
**National College Fairs**



**REGISTER NOW!**  
[nacacattend.org/fairs](https://nacacattend.org/fairs)

# National Portfolio Days - Online



- Over 30 in-person National Portfolio Day events from Sept to Dec
- Minnesota day is Sunday, October 9, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at MCAD
- Register at [nationalportfolioday.org](https://nationalportfolioday.org)

# Recommended websites

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

[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

[www.goingmerry.com](http://www.goingmerry.com)

[collegecost.ed.gov](http://collegecost.ed.gov)

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

<https://myintuition.org/>

<https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>



# Minnetonka counseling model – our pledge!

- 10 School Counselors + 1 College Counselor
- Personalization and support
- Our pledge – to help each student find the best matches possible for their post-secondary experience!

Phillip Trout

College Counselor

Minnetonka High School

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[www.minnetonkaschools.org/collegecounselor](http://www.minnetonkaschools.org/collegecounselor)

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