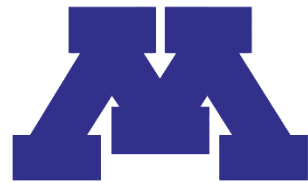




# Junior Parent Coffee Hour

## *Resources for the Class of 2022*



**A Presentation for Junior Parents  
May 12, 17, and 27, 2021**

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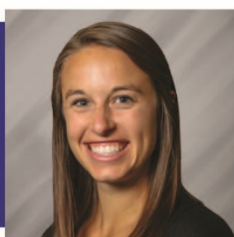
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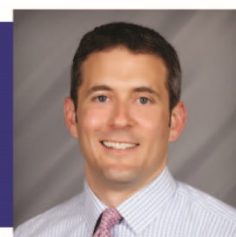
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**Get to know your counselor!** *Virtual & In-Person Assistance | Appointments | Whole-Student Support*

# Agenda for Today's Program

- Timely update for parents in their student's post high school planning process – in light of the pandemic, what has stayed the same in college admissions? What has changed?
- Seven “C” considerations, to help with exploring and researching options
- Use of the website, Naviance
- Recommended websites and resources

# **Taking care of ourselves – and one another – in the final stages of a pandemic**

- Self care – personal health and mental well being
- Caring for others – in our family, our community, and our state
- Personal habits: nutrition, sleep, exercise and handwashing

# Post High School Planning – what has not changed?

- The role of the **parent**: providing support and affirmation, being a great listener, keeping a strong interest in your child's academic and personal life, keeping an open mind about possible options and opportunities.
- Remember that it is **their** search – not yours.
- Be realistic about finances. Be willing to research college costs.
- The role of the **counselor**: serving as a resource to the student in all aspects of the post high school planning process.



# Post High School Planning – what has not changed?

- The need for students to do a **self-assessment**. Students need to think about what **they** want – College? 2-year or 4-year? Work? Apprenticeship? Military? Gap year? Have them do the exercise on pages 6-7 in the Post High School Planning Guide.  
<https://www.minnetonkaschools.org/uploaded/Documents/MHS/Counseling/MHS-Post-High-School-Planning-Guide.pdf>
- It might be helpful to do a Myers-Briggs personality inventory, like the **Do What You Are** assessment in Naviance. (Go to the About Me section to find the assessment)

# Post High School Planning – what has not changed?

- For our students who want to attend college: “What do you want to get out of college? What do you look forward to doing in college? How will you become a part of the college’s legacy?”
- What are the 2 or 3 key characteristics of your college? (Setting, campus culture, academic programs, career placement, activities and personal development)
- Remember that the college search process is not about “getting in,” but rather it’s about “going.” “What will it be like for you to be there?”















# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Closeness** to home/distance from home
  - An hour away? Or even closer? Maybe living at home?
  - The magic 4-hour window – not too far, not too close.
  - How often will the student plan on coming back home?
  - Will they have a car?
  - Additional cost of travel. A student who goes to college in southern California should expect to have parents visit!



# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Campus setting and culture**

- St. Peter is not the same setting/place as St. Pete Beach. Dallas is a very different place than Duluth.
- Is a college town of 10,000 people a better match than a city of 10 million people?
- Is a student body of 3,000 the right “fit?” How about 33,000?
- Is the student a fan of mass transit? Or do they like to walk to places?
- Do they want an ESPN campus? Filled with spirit? Or are they happy to be done with pep fests and homecoming?

# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Competitiveness** of the academic program and admission selectivity
  - How many hours per week does a student typically study? Does the weekend begin on Thursday? Is Saturday one of the busiest days in the library?
  - Is the typical course load four classes? Or five? Or three?
  - When do students get to begin to do research?
  - How competitive is the acceptance rate? Also, what’s the 4-year graduation rate? <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
  - What will make the college a good match? (Rather than a prize)

# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Curriculum and academic concentration/major**
  - The number one major of students entering college is “undecided”
  - Can the student dive into the academic sections of a college’s website – what’s the potential course of study in the College of Arts and Science? In the College of Biological Sciences? In the Honors Program? What are the distribution requirements (if any) at the college?
  - A key question: “What am I going to learn?” and then “How is that learning going to lead to a career?”
  - Is the student going to college to prepare for graduate school?

# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Calendar – is one a better fit?**
  - Two semesters
  - 4-1-4, with a special January term.
  - 4-4-1, with a special May term.
  - Trimesters/Quarters, with a 10-week term.
  - Block plan (One-course-at-a-time)
  - In person or virtual



# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Cost and affordability**

- Will you be applying for need-based financial aid? If yes, the FAFSA will open on October 1 – it will be based on your 2020 federal tax return. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Will the student qualify for a merit scholarship? Most colleges award them – in Minnesota, the one exception is Carleton.
- Will the student’s list include colleges with tuition reciprocity?
- This is a great time to do a net price calculator – and to talk with your junior about college cost and the family budget
- Not all colleges cost what their published price tag is.
- Try this website: [www.myintuition.org](http://www.myintuition.org)

# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Considerations that are unique to the Class of 2022**

- Early Decision and Early Action might play a larger role in college admission selection in 2022 – it will depend on the institution.
- Test-optional admission remains “in play” at more than 1400 colleges and universities. <http://fairtest.org/university/optional>
- One additional (new) essay topic has been added to the Common Application. [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)
- The student’s transcript remains the single most important item in a holistic application review – but some schools changed their grading system for 2021-22. Students will be invited to comment on their learning experience within the pandemic.

# Seven “C”s from the world of college counseling

- **Considerations that are unique to the Class of 2022**

- Many college campuses are now open for tours, but some are still closed -- it depends. Check the website of each institution for specific details on touring the campus.
- You might wish to do a virtual tour first. Check the virtual tours on each college’s web site – or <http://www.ecampustours.com/>
- Seniors at MHS have the day off on Wednesday during MEA week (October 20-22). There is no school on Oct 15 due to Parent-Teacher conferences.
- The first day of school is Wednesday, Sept 8. Most colleges begin in late August.

# Closing Thoughts

## Recommended websites/resources

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

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

<https://collegefactual.com>

<https://ctcl.org>

<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

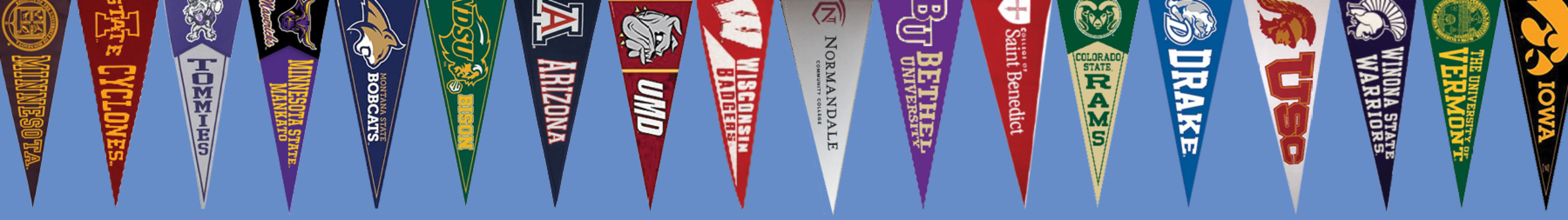
<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

<http://myintuition.org>



# Closing Thoughts

- The post high school planning process is individual
- For each student – “The more you know about yourself, the easier it will be!”
- Our goal at Minnetonka – and our pledge – is to help each student find the best matches possible for their post-secondary experience.
- Colleges don’t want the student to enroll – they want the student to graduate!



***Thanks for attending!***

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