

**The Bromfield High School  
College Planning Night  
January 18th 6:00pm**

**Agenda**

- College Search Process
- Components of the Application
- Other Considerations

- **High School Counselors**
  - **Drew Skrocki A-E**
    - [dskrocki@psharvard.org](mailto:dskrocki@psharvard.org) , x1543
  - **Dawn Hall F-Q**
    - [dhall@psharvard.org](mailto:dhall@psharvard.org), x1547
  - **Sara Lamere R-Z - Department Leader**
    - [slamere@psharvard.org](mailto:slamere@psharvard.org), x1541
  - **Christine Reale, School Adjustment Counselor**
    - [create@psharvard.org](mailto:create@psharvard.org), x1546
- **Administrative Assistant**
  - **Sharon Schmidt**
    - [schmidt@psharvard.org](mailto:schmidt@psharvard.org), x1540

# What to be doing now...

- Use/create professional emails
  - (school email is fine)
- Start thinking about courses for senior year
  - Balance & challenge
  - Align with college requirements
- Research colleges
- In-person and/or virtual campus visits
- Plan for standardized tests \*

# College Search: Finding the Fit

- Considerations
  - Size: Large, Medium, Small
  - Location
    - Rural, Urban, Suburban
    - Distance from home
  - Academic Program
    - Specific major, internship/co-op Programs
  - Athletics
  - Other
    - study abroad
    - cost
    - social

# College Search

- Naviance
- College Website
- College Visits (in person and virtual)
- Other Websites
  - CollegeBoard - Big Future
  - National Center for Education Statistics
  - Common Data Set – Google “Common Data Set and Name of Institution” (e.g. Common Data Set Vanderbilt”) - The Common Data Set refers to the source data that colleges and universities provide annually, in a standardized format, for use in college guides and other venues.

A banner for National College Fairs. It features a white background with a dark blue diagonal corner on the right. The text "National College Fairs" is in a dark blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a decorative border of colorful triangles in shades of teal, yellow, and dark blue. The letters "NACA" are partially visible in white on the dark blue background.

**National College Fairs**

A banner for Virtual College Fairs. It features a white background with a dark blue diagonal corner on the right. The text "Virtual College Fairs" is in a dark blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a decorative border of colorful triangles in shades of teal, yellow, and dark blue. The letters "NACAC" and a small white arrow icon are visible on the dark blue background.

**Virtual College Fairs**

**<https://www.nacacattend.org/fairs/1708529>**

**Click Here to Register Virtual or In Person College Fairs**

**<https://www.nacacattend.org/fairs/attend>**

**Virtual Dates**

February 18, March 24, April 21

**In Person** - @ Boston Convention Center

May 2 - 9am-12pm; 6-8:30pm

May 3 - 9am-12pm



# Engaging with Colleges

- Finding the fit
- Colleges have reinvented opportunities for connections due to COVID; **students should access them**
- Making the connection with the institution
  - Online and in-person tours and information sessions
  - Bromfield visits(fall)
  - Email
    - opening the dialogue w/ admissions rep (ex: questions about the campus life, curriculum, etc)
    - open/read the emails from colleges
  - Research college websites, including blogs by current students
  - Social media - the “campus vibe”
- If students are going to miss school to visit a college:
  - must complete the [Bromfield College Visit Form](#) at least 5 days before visits, for prior approval

# Working College List

- Use Naviance and college websites for data-driven decisions
- Working college list - Naviance “Colleges I’m Thinking About”
  - Safety/Yes(2-3) *Your* chances for admission are strong and it’s a school you could see yourself at(Make sure at least one is affordable)
  - Target (2-3) *Your* chances for admission are 50/50
  - Reach (2-3) *Your* chances for admission are less than 50%





# Colleges I'm thinking about

Search for colleges

+ Add Colleges to List

Compare Me

UPDATE INTEREST

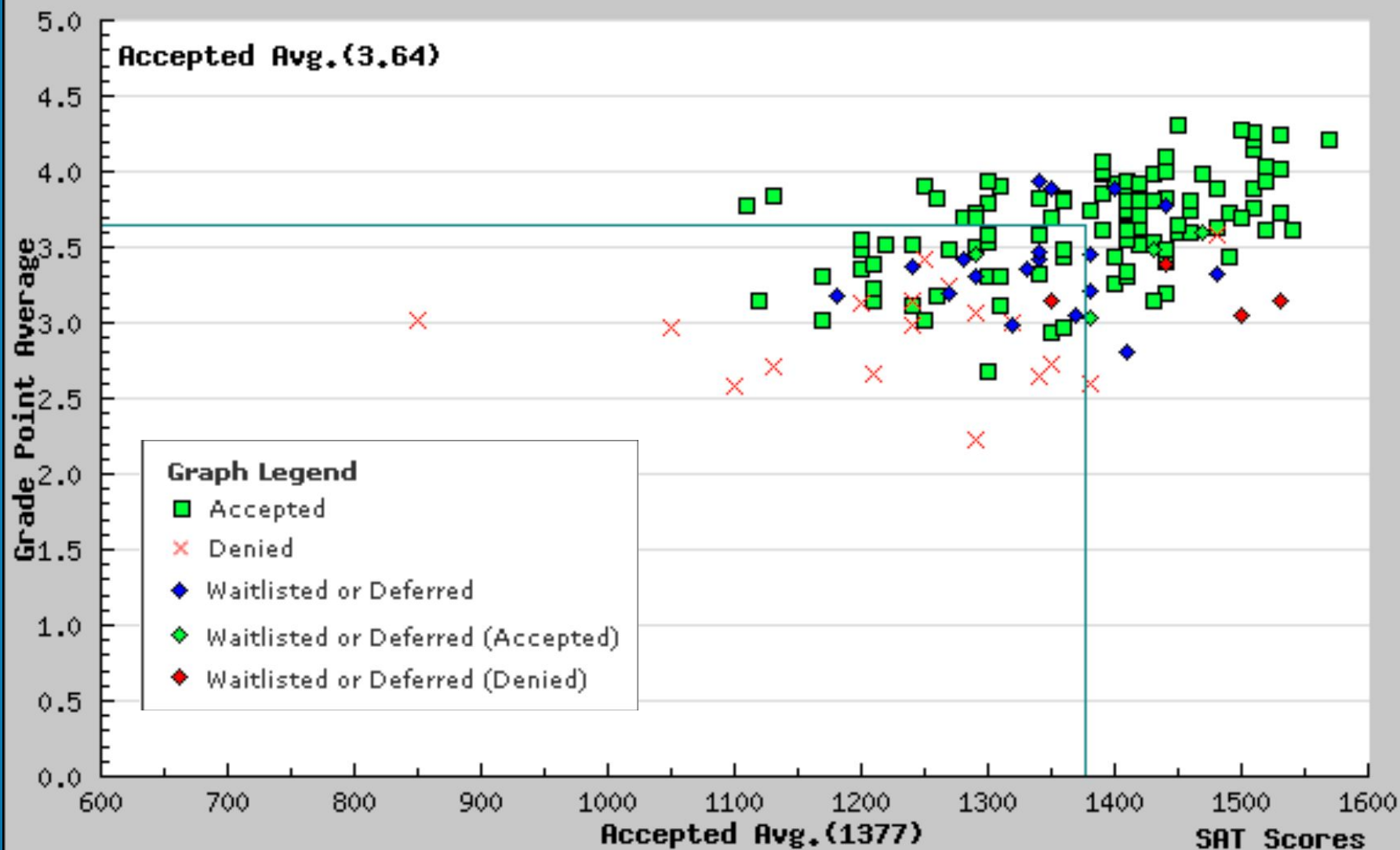
MOVE TO APPLICATION LIST

REMOVE

\* = extended profile available

College	Delivery type <i>i</i>	Added By	Expected Difficulty*	Application Deadlines	Interest	
<input type="checkbox"/> * Boston University	CA	Student	N/A	Multiple Deadlines <i>v</i>	N/A <i>v</i> MORE <i>:</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> University of Massachusetts, Amherst	CA	Student	N/A	Multiple Deadlines <i>v</i>	N/A <i>v</i> MORE <i>:</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> * St. Lawrence University	CA	Student	N/A	Multiple Deadlines <i>v</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SEND AN EMAIL</li><li>REQUEST INFORMATION</li><li>SCATTERGRAMS</li><li>VISIT WEBSITE</li><li>CONNECT</li></ul>	
<input type="checkbox"/> * Worcester Polytechnic Institute	CA	Student	N/A	Multiple Deadlines <i>v</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> * Worcester State University	CA	Student	N/A	Multiple Deadlines <i>v</i>		MORE <i>x</i>

The Bronfield School  
SAT (1600) vs. GPA Scattergram (2009-2023)



# Components of the Application

- Application
- Essay / Supplementals
- Extracurricular Activities/Resume
- Letters of Recommendation
- Standardized Testing\*

# Essays

**Your application essay says a lot about you**

- Share something meaningful/personal/passionate
- Start writing early
- Try different topics and approaches
- Plagiarism is taken very seriously
- Leave time for careful proofreading
- Check [Commonapp.org](http://Commonapp.org) for essay prompts
- Supplements



# Resume

- Naviance Resume Builder
- Resume uses - applications, letters of recommendation
- Extracurricular activities – **high school** specific
- Showcase what you do and the depth of the activity
- Include: family responsibilities (i.e. babysitting), employment, clubs, etc.
- Highlight leadership and the impact on your community when applicable

# Letters of Recommendation

**Adults who know the student well can offer a helpful perspective on a student's abilities and strengths**

- Who to ask?
  - 2 teachers, 2 different disciplines
  - 1 counselor letter
- When to ask?
  - 1 spring/1 fall, or both in spring
- Outside/Additional Letters of Rec \*
- Say thank you!



# Standardized Tests

- SAT vs ACT
- Check SAT/ACT websites for registration dates
- Many ways to prepare and some free practice tests online
- Test Optional Movement
- What does test optional really mean?
  - *Test optional truly is optional*
  - No pressure to submit (other application components will just carry more weight)
  - Admissions rep said, “Standardized tests are simply a **credential**, students can **choose** to submit it or not. They are just one credential among many.”
  - Check college website for their testing requirements
- If considering submitting scores, visit colleges websites to find average SAT/ACT scores

# SAT/ACT Upcoming Test Dates

ACT		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 22, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 24, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 19, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024
*Anticipated test dates		
SAT		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	April 23, 2024
June 4, 2024	May 16, 2024	May 21, 2024
August 24, 2024		

# Interviews

**Virtual or in-person conversations let colleges see the person behind the application**

- Two types: 1. Informational and 2. Evaluative
- Be prepared to answer open-ended questions
- Know your reasons for applying to the college
- Ask thoughtful questions
- Cover the basics
- Relax and be yourself

**Auditions and portfolios**

# College Application Deadline Options

- **Early Deadlines - generally November/December**
  - **Early Action**
  - **Early Action II\***
    - early deadline, non-binding
  - **Early Decision** - early deadline, binding
- **Regular Deadlines - generally after January 1st**
  - **Regular Decision** - later deadline, non-binding
  - **\*Early Decision II-** later deadline, binding\* (if available)
- **Other Deadlines**
  - **Rolling Admission** - early deadline, non-binding
  - **Open Admission** - Community colleges
- **Deadlines are important! Make sure to stay on track.**

# Other Considerations

## NCAA

- NCAA Eligibility Center– [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org)
  - Div I or II Sports
- Add “NCAA” to Naviance list
- Add **The Bromfield School** to the NCAA account
- Email [Mrs. Schmidt](mailto:Mrs.Schmidt) to let her know you need your transcript uploaded to the Eligibility Center



# Social Media

- Be aware of what is on the internet
- Clean up accounts
  - Photos
  - Posts
- Change settings to private
- Cautious of friend requests



facebook

The Facebook logo, featuring the word "facebook" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.

Google

The Google logo, featuring the word "Google" in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, green, blue, red) on a white background.



Cole [redacted]

Started school again today.. My senioritis is at an all time high now that I got into [redacted]. I hope you all feel the same way

 Like ·  Comment ·  Follow Post · January 4 at 7:05pm via mobile

 20 people like this.



**Willow [redacted]** oh, completely

January 4 at 7:07pm · Like



**Duncan [redacted]** I just failed a physics test and walked out of that room with pride.

January 4 at 7:07pm via mobile · Like ·  4



**David [redacted]** that little line saying "your admission is contingent upon grades equal to or better than current ones" is being seriously ignored...

January 4 at 7:31pm · Like ·  9



**Madeleine [redacted]** i fell asleep in 3 out of 6 classes today and it was awesome.

January 4 at 8:25pm · Like ·  2




[redacted] I wish I could say I didn't have senioritis before I got in but I would just be lying...

January 4 at 8:42pm via mobile · Like ·  2



**Hannah [redacted]** I have a nice yellow folder from [redacted] saying i dont have to do anything anymore haha

Sunday at 9:16pm · Like ·  3

Write a comment...

# Planned Meetings with Juniors this Spring

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- Post Secondary Planning Seminars: Semester 2
  - Meet with junior 5 times in small group setting
  - Covering this material in greater detail
- Individual Post Secondary Planning Meeting
- Class Meeting to Discuss Scheduling
- Individual Scheduling Meeting

# Staying on Track

## Spring/Summer Junior Year

- Research colleges
- Visit campuses & college fairs\*
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation
- Take the SAT/ACT
- Focus on filling your summer with meaningful time
- Common App (Aug 1<sup>st</sup>) - Essays & Supplements
- Update Resume
- Senior Project

## Fall Senior Year

- Retake the SAT/ACT if desired
- Secure letters of recommendation
- Finalize the college essay(s)
- Complete all admissions applications
- Submit financial aid applications
- Guardian Brag Sheet
- Info for Counselor Recommendation

## Winter Senior Year

- Submit admissions applications
- Submit financial aid applications
- Apply for scholarships
- Send in mid-year grade reports

## Spring Senior Year

- Receive admissions and financial aid offers
- Attend college open house programs
- Choose your college by May 1

**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!**