THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR EASTVIEW SENIORS

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School Counselor- College Planning and Assessments
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The College Admissions Game?!?

The Parent (& Student) Pledge

Take The Pledge

I PLEDGE

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

I've got my list, now what?

- Get organized
  - *Which parts of app sent to where by when?*
    - Naviance
    - Google Doc/ Collab
- Small parts, small successes
  - *Break it down*
  - *Entire app does not need to be completed*
- Work smart
  - *Essays or statements that can be used for multiple apps*
- Establish timelines
  - *Initial ask, time to follow-up*

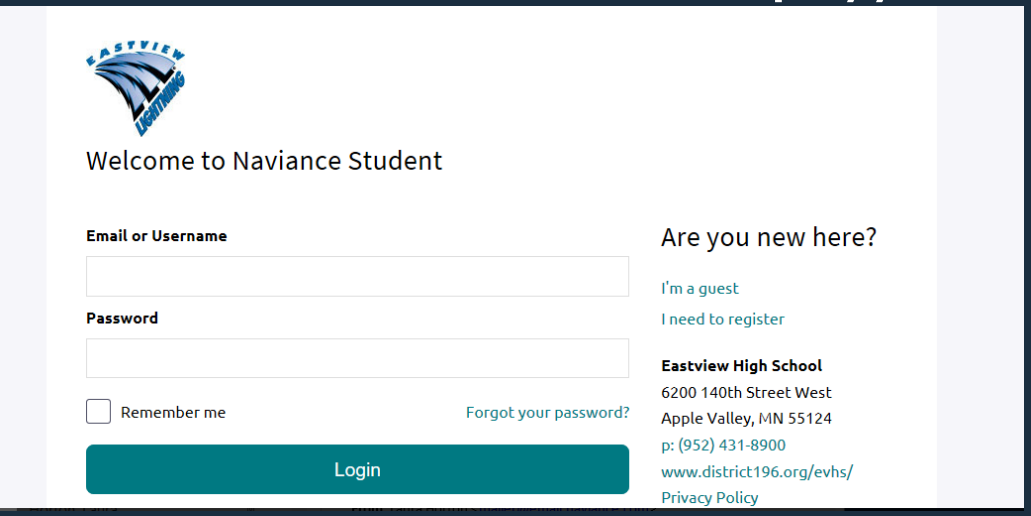
General Timeline

- Fall
  - *College applications*
    - Separate scholarship application?
  - *Scholarships*
- Winter
  - *Scholarships*
  - *Complete Financial Aid*
- Spring
  - *Review financial aid package*
  - *Scholarships*
  - *Make decisions- May 1st National Confirmation Deadline*

NAVIANCE STUDENT

Access **NAVIANCE** through the link at the EVHS website home page or go to:

https://student.naviance.com/evhs



Parts of the Application

STUDENT

- Online Application
  - *Institutional Application*
  - *CommonApp (CA): over 800 schools on one Application*
    - www.commonapp.org
- Application fee
- Test Scores, if needed
  - *All scores must be requested **by student** and sent directly **from the test agency***
- Request Transcript
  - *Naviance and Campus Portal/Fee pay*
- Request letters of recommendation **one month prior** to first deadline
- Essays/Personal Statement, if needed

CA exclusive? Fast track? Easier institutional app?

STAFF

- Transcript and School Profile
- Letters of Recommendation
  - *Teacher, if needed*
  - *Counselor, if needed*

Completing the Common Application

- ‘EVHS Steps to Complete the Common App’ pink handout
- **Step 1**: CREATE A USER ACCOUNT for the Common Application: www.commonapp.org .
- **Step 2:** COMPLETE THE ‘FERPA WAIVER’ [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act]. The FERPA waiver is found in the 'Recommenders & FERPA' link in your online Common Application
- **Step 3:** COMPLETE THE COMMON APP ACCOUNT MATCHING PROCESS IN NAVIANCE
- **Step 4:** CONFIRM ‘COLLEGES I’M APPLYING TO’ LIST ON NAVIANCE

FERPA Waiver

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Why should you consider waiving your right of access?

Waiving your right lets colleges know that you will never try to read your recommendations. That in turn reassures colleges that your recommenders have provided support that is candid and truthful. While you are free to respond as you wish, if you choose not to waive your right, some recommenders may decline your request, and some colleges may disregard recommendations submitted on your behalf.

(The Common App)

Completing 'Other' College Apps

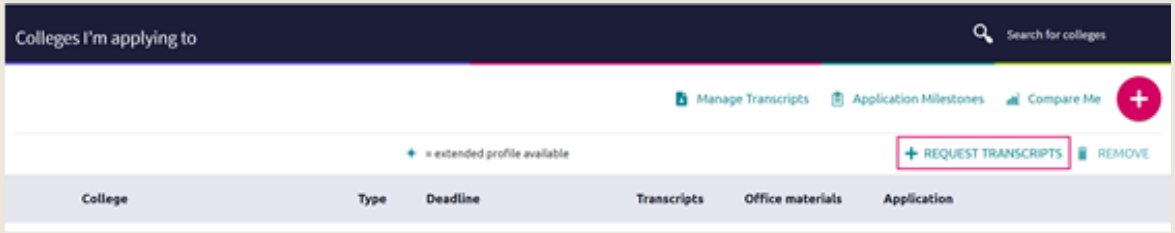
- 'EVHS Guide to Completing College Apps- Non CA'- blue handout
- **Step 1:** COMPLETE COLLEGE APPLICATIONS @ each college's official website.
- **Step 2:** ADD COLLEGES TO YOUR APPLY LIST – In your NAVIANCE Student account, click on 'colleges', then 'colleges I'm applying to'. Add all colleges to your apply list and choose correct deadlines.
- ***IMPORTANT*:** *Keep this list updated so we and you can track your applications!*
- Mainly an online process. Not all colleges or universities process in the same way or require the same things..

The Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success

- NEWER application process involving 103 member colleges/universities. (University of MN – TC is member)
- Goal is to improve the college application process and support disadvantaged students.
- EVHS recommends class of 2019 use other application processes… (Common App, Institution's original online application, etc.) (unless one of exclusive Coalition Application users: U-Maryland, U-Washington, U-Florida.)

Requesting Transcripts
(Green Handout)

- Student requests in Naviance; Counselor sends
- **Request Transcript**
  - *A transcript can be requested for schools saved to your **Colleges I'm Applying To** list.*
  - *From Colleges I'm Applying To, click **Request Transcripts**.*



There is a $5 fee for each official transcript. Payment must be made through **Campus Portal – FeePay.**

Test Scores

- Eastview High School *does NOT* release student test scores to colleges, NCAA, or scholarship agencies.
- It is each student's responsibility to release official ACT or SAT test scores if they are not requested at the time of test administration.
- Request test scores to be sent at: www.actstudent.org or www.collegeboard.com .

Letters of Recommendation

- For all letters:
  - *Do you really need one? If so, ASK!*
  - *Ask ONE MONTH prior to your first deadline*
  - *Complete surveys and request in Naviance*
    - Résumé, list of activities, what you learned in the class, etc.
  - *Thank you note!*
  - *See yellow handout for more information*

Letters of Rec: Counselor

- Purpose
  - *Put student in context of school—a comprehensive picture*
  - *Advocate for student*
  - *Highlight strengths and explain areas of growth*
    - Explain transcript irregularities
  - *Describe life events/impacts to academics*
  - *3D picture on a 2D page*

- Info needed:
  - *Counselor Recommendation Survey in Naviance*

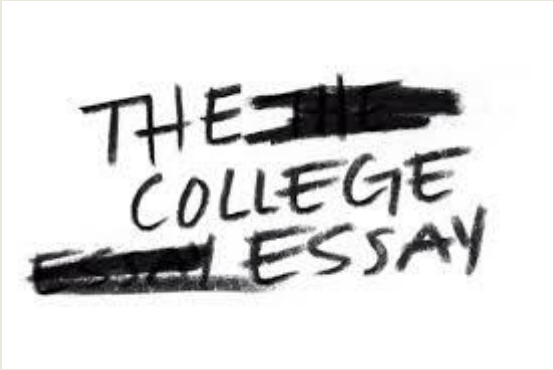
Letters of Rec: Teacher

- Purpose:
  - *Put student in context of classroom—narrow focus*
  - *Speak to strengths, leadership qualities*
  - *Describe approach to challenges*
  - *Highlight passion for learning, engagement in curriculum*
  - *Discuss ability to work in groups, self-advocate*
- Teacher who can speak to your abilities or “grit” (not just an “A” class)
- Teacher letters
  - *Academic: English, Soc. Studies, Math, Science, World Lang.*
    - Special programs may have exceptions; talk to your counselor
- Info Needed
  - *Teacher Recommendation Request and Survey on Naviance*

The College Essay

- Top two tips: Be yourself and start early!

- Other tips…
  - *Choose a Topic That Will Highlight You*
  - *Keep Your Focus Narrow and Personal*
  - *Show, Don't Tell*
  - *Use Your Own Voice*
  - *Ask a Teacher or Parent to Proofread*



YOU CAN HELP, BUT…

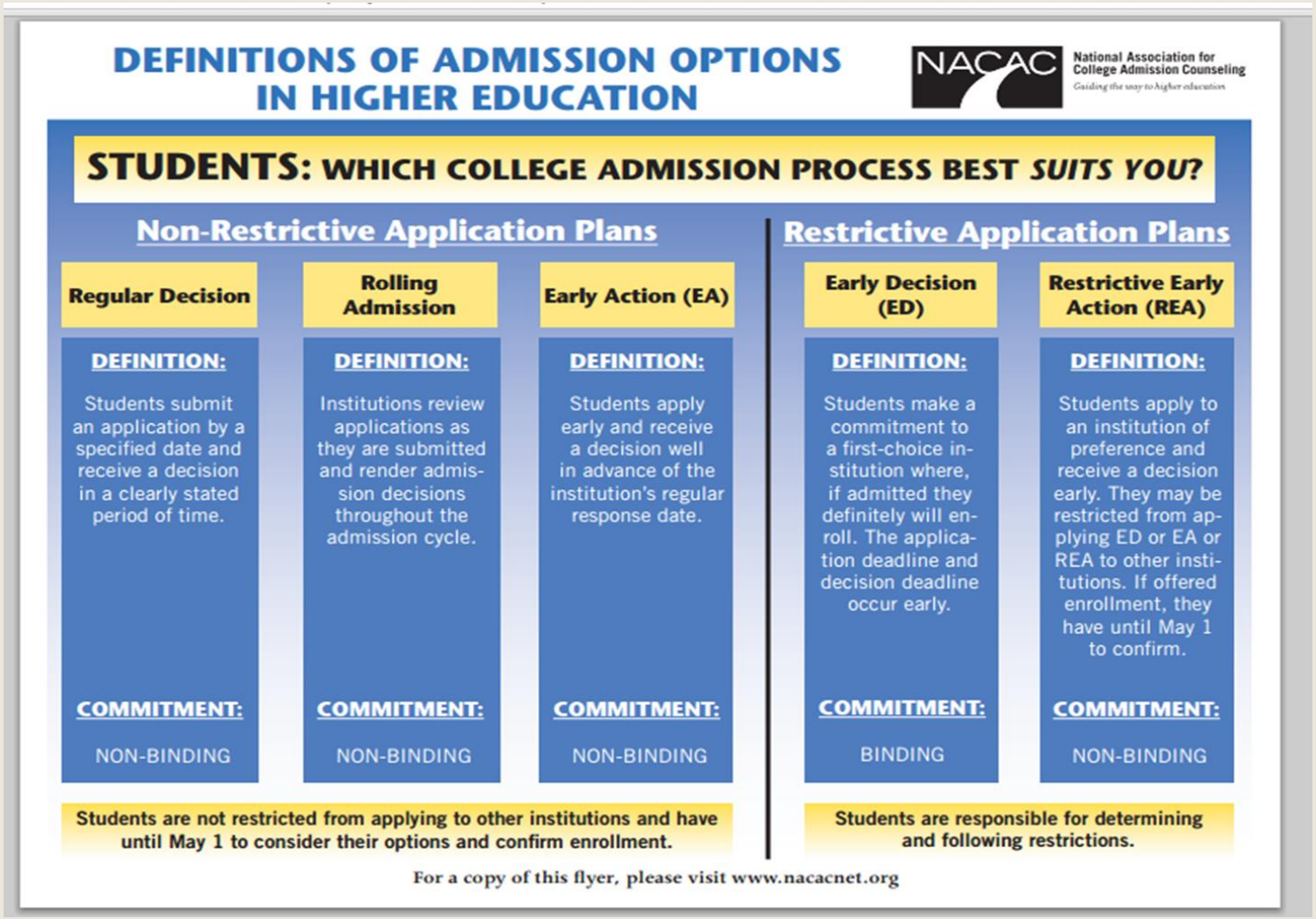
Students must use their own Naviance account – not a parent account – to process applications/transcripts.

IMPORTANT!

Allow a minimum of 15 school days to process any request for Teacher or Counselor recommendation and/or school report.

COLLEGE ADMISSION OVERVIEW

Admission deadlines



DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

NACAC National Association for College Admission Counseling
Guiding the way to higher education

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST *SUITS YOU?*

Non-Restrictive Application Plans

Regular Decision

DEFINITION:

Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Rolling Admission

DEFINITION:

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Early Action (EA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Restrictive Application Plans

Early Decision (ED)

DEFINITION:

Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

COMMITMENT:

BINDING

Restrictive Early Action (REA)

DEFINITION:

Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

For a copy of this flyer, please visit www.nacacnet.org

Deadlines….meet ‘em!

- Be aware of all deadlines!
- Counselors meet all deadlines of institutions (not yours)
  - *Letters written according to upcoming deadlines, not order of requests*
- Testing
  - *ACT—October 27, 2018*
    - Register by Sept. 28
  - *SAT – Next test October 7, 2018*
    - Late Registration Date – Sept. 27

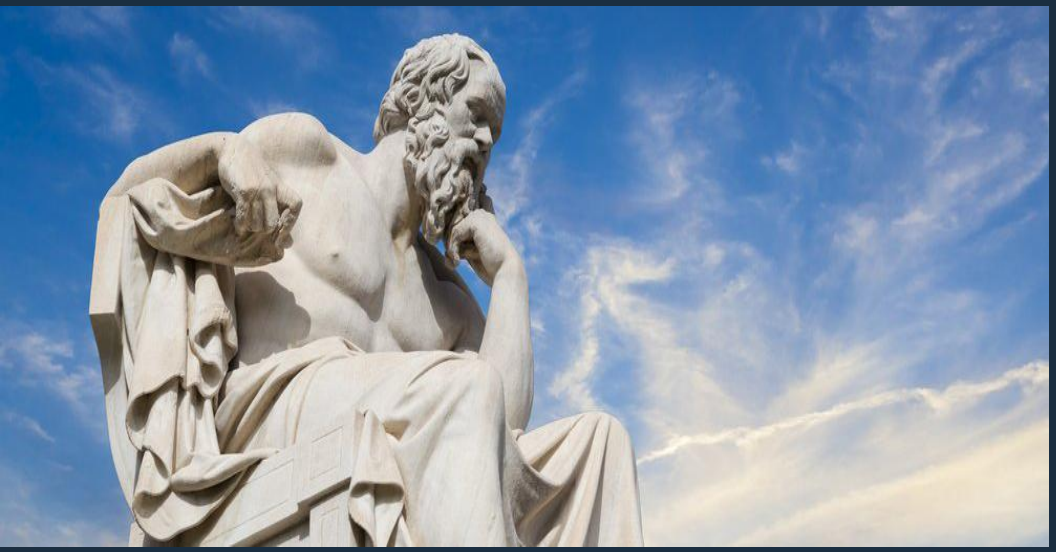
What Do Colleges Look For?

- Primary Factors
  - *GPA*
  - *Academic Rigor*
  - *Grades in academic courses*
  - *ACT/SAT scores*
- Secondary Factors
  - *Essay*
  - *Recommendations*
  - *Activities and Involvement*
  - *Service/Leadership*
  - *Special Circumstances*

College Admission Trends

- Test Optional Wave
  - *Examples: Univ. of Chicago, Augsburg Univ. and Gustavus. See full list of 1000+ colleges: http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional*
- Some colleges allow you to self report your grades and/or test scores
  - *Examples: Iowa State, Univ. of Iowa and Purdue University have self reported grades and/or test scores.*
  - ***New this year** – UMN- TC is self reporting both. More information here*
  - *You must self report on their designated site – not just Common App!*

GENERAL TIPS TO REMEMBER



Take a deep breath!

- Admission offices, not “Denial Office”
  - *Consider the likelihood of admission as you build your list*
  - *Looking for a reason to admit you!*
- Building a class
  - *Diversity broadly defined*
- First Impressions
  - *Communicating on paper, electronics*
  - ***Appropriate:***
    - email address---VERY IMPORTANT
    - Language
    - Social Media/Phone use
      - *Once it’s out there, it’s there & can’t control it*
      - *Colleges, employers*

General Tips

- Professional
  - *Appropriate grammar, punctuation*
  - *Spell check*
- Keep track of username/passwords
  - *Get organized!*
  - *Using school username/pw for all may keep it simple*
- ☐ Honesty
- ☐ Read & follow directions
- ☐ Meet ALL deadlines

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Being too casual
- Forgetting to send test scores from test agency
- Paying but not completing signature page
- Forgetting to pay by the deadline or forgetting to request a fee waiver from counseling office
- Not using CommonApp/Naviance activity chart wisely
- Not following directives from each college
- Neglecting to confirm completion status
- Waiting until the last minute

(source: Lisa Micele, Director of College Counseling at Univ of IL Laboratory HS)

Schedule or GPA Concerns (*after* application is submitted)

- Students should be sure to contact colleges for approval before making any changes to their reported class schedule!
- Mid-Year Reports may be required by some colleges or universities.
- Avoid senior slide – final transcript will be sent and reviewed at end of year.

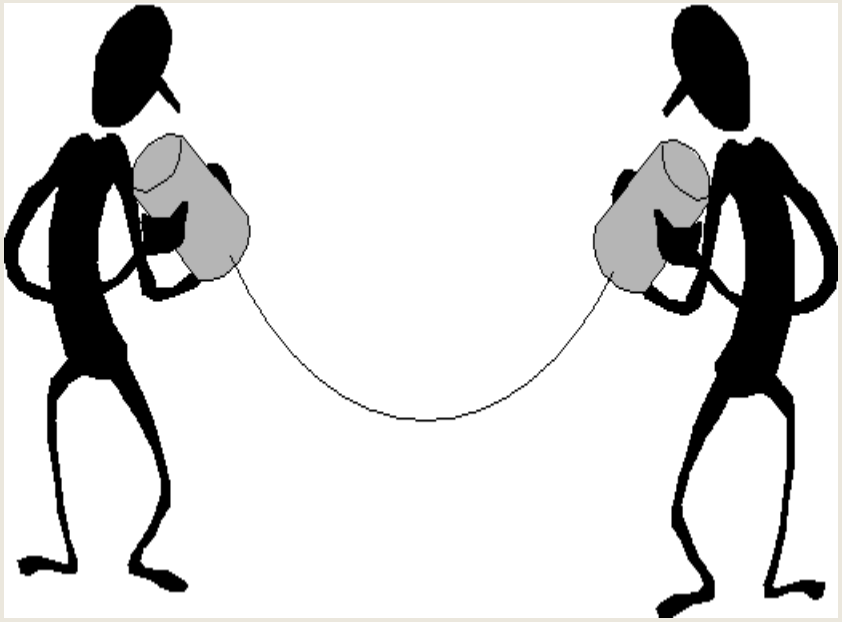
GET IT DONE.. TOGETHER!

Student: Project Manager

- Potential college list
- Determine Requirements
- Complete Application & Pieces
  - *Request transcripts*
  - *Request letters*
  - *Request test scores sent from ACT/SAT*
- Attend Senior Group Meeting with Counselor
  - *Week of September 24th*
- Follow-up

Families: Support

- Parent/Guardian
  - *Tangible*
    - Research
    - Information
    - Questions
  - *Intangible*
    - Non-judgmental
    - Understanding
    - Reality check



In practice…

Student needs…	How parents want to help…	How parents could help…
Essay help	Rework student's first draft, including structure, content and grammar; write essay for student.	Be a sounding board, make broad statements about structure, flow and grammar
Application completion help	Complete the application	Brainstorm answers; remind about deadlines; review for errors
Answer from admissions	Make the phone call and ask the question	Role play the conversation or make suggestions for questions

Resources

- Online
  - *Naviance*
  - *EVHS Counseling website*
  - *College Websites*
- People
  - *Counselors*
  - *College rep visits at EVHS:*
    - Sign up on Naviance (visit schedule)
    - Get a pass from Ms. Wellik

WHAT'S NEXT?

knowledge
skills
career
students
postsecondary
school
college
high
education
academic
ready
thinking
English

Upcoming Events

MEA is a great time for visits!

- **FAFSA- Free Application for Federal Student Aid**
  - *Available to complete after October 1st*
  - *FAFSA Priority deadline: March 1*
- **CSS Profile**
  - *Additional financial aid information required at more selective colleges*
  - *Accessed through http://profileonline.collegeboard.org*
  - *Available after October 1st*
- **College Visits @ EVHS**
  - *Check Naviance and announcements*
  - *MN National College Fair – Oct. 24 and 25. View Colleges here!*
- **Paying for College - Financial Aid Night**
  - *Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:30 pm in Learning Commons*
  - *Presented by Financial Aid Dean*
- **Senior College Application Workshop**
  - *Monday, October 22nd – Learning Commons Labs*
  - *'Minnesota Goes to College' Month*

Eastview Counseling Staff
952-431-8914

- Mr. Quincy Davis — A – Do / AVID 11
- Mr. Mark Wanous — Dp – J
- Ms. Terri Greener/Ms. Kelly Fisher — K-O/ AVID 12
- Ms. Anne Scholen — P – S / AVID 9
- Ms. Larinda Hodges — T – Z / AVID 9
- Ms. Laura Horton — College Planning & Assessment/GT
- Ms. Molly Wellik (x8914) — College Applications/Transcripts
- Ms. Catherine Besonen — Assessment/Scholarships (x8915)
- Ms. Cheryl Cross — Registrar (x8913)

Thank you!

- Thank you for coming tonight to learn about Eastview's college application process!
- Your gentle help and support is vital to your child's success!
- **Just remember….you are serene…**

QUESTIONS?

Please complete tonight's evaluation