

# Junior Post-Secondary Planning

Please sit in the back center section of the auditorium. Keep two seats open between students.





# SchoolLinks

## *What is SchoolLinks?*

→ New College & Career software system that is replacing Naviance

## *What Do I Use SchoolLinks For?*

- ★ Access career interest, strength and mindset surveys
- ★ Explore 2-year and 4-year colleges
- ★ Create course plans based on career pathways
- ★ Take virtual reality college campus tours
- ★ Search for scholarships
- ★ Learn about financial aid
- ★ Find internship and volunteer opportunities
- ★ Explore traditional, emerging and military career fields
- ★ Create digital portfolios / resumes





# Post Secondary Planning Timeline

## Junior Year

- Grades Matter!!
- Build your Resume
- Letters of Recommendation
- College Visits
  - Virtual Tours
  - Plan a visit
  - College Fairs
- Research college costs & tuition
- Narrow your college list to 4-10 schools
  - Reach school
  - Target School
  - Safety School
- Interests & Goals

## Summer:

- Retake SAT
- Internship/ Volunteer Opportunities





Post Secondary  
Options



# Vocational/Trade School/Apprenticeship Programs

- Trade school
  - Get job-specific training (plumbing, carpentry, HVAC, electrical and many other trades)
  - Options for education at both community college and private trade schools
- Apprenticeship
  - Combination of paid on-site work experience and training
- Benefits
  - Hands-on learning and training with real world application
  - Opportunity to build skills and earn more pay
- What Can I Do Now?
  - Research programs and unions



# Military

- Research differences between branches
  - Army
  - Navy
  - Air Force
  - Marines
  - Coast Guard
  - Army National Guard
- Meet with recruiters from branches you are considering
- Consider taking the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) to determine job options within the military





# Military

- Benefits
  - Job skills and training
  - Tuition assistance for college
    - GI Bill - serve at least 2 years of active duty and receive up to 4 years of education benefits
    - Guard and Reserves - commit to one weekend each month and two weeks each year and receive stipend and tuition assistance
  - Unlimited career and specialization opportunities
  - Special pay and bonuses depending on deployment, pay grade, and military job
  - Health care/insurance



# 2-Year/Community College

- Certificate programs
  - Benefits
    - Cost
    - Targeted job skills/training
    - Employability
      - Filling needed employment vacancies - terrific demand and job placement rates!
  - Let's take a look!  
[http://www.cod.edu/catalog/current/associate\\_degree\\_programs/applied\\_sciences.aspx](http://www.cod.edu/catalog/current/associate_degree_programs/applied_sciences.aspx)



# 2-Year/Community College

- Associate's Degree vs. Transferring to a 4-year school
  - Associate's Degree (AA or AS)
  - 2+2 program
  - 3+1 program
- Benefits
  - Cost! (Compare COD at \$4000-\$5000 per year vs. UIC commuter at \$15,000 per year)
  - Variety of programs
  - Fresh start
    - If you've completed 30 SH of college coursework, most colleges will never ask to see your high school transcript or ACT/SAT score.
  - Option for ALL students regardless of academic ability
    - Academic scholarship opportunities, minimum 25 ACT/1200 SAT OR 3.5 GPA



# 2-Year/Community College

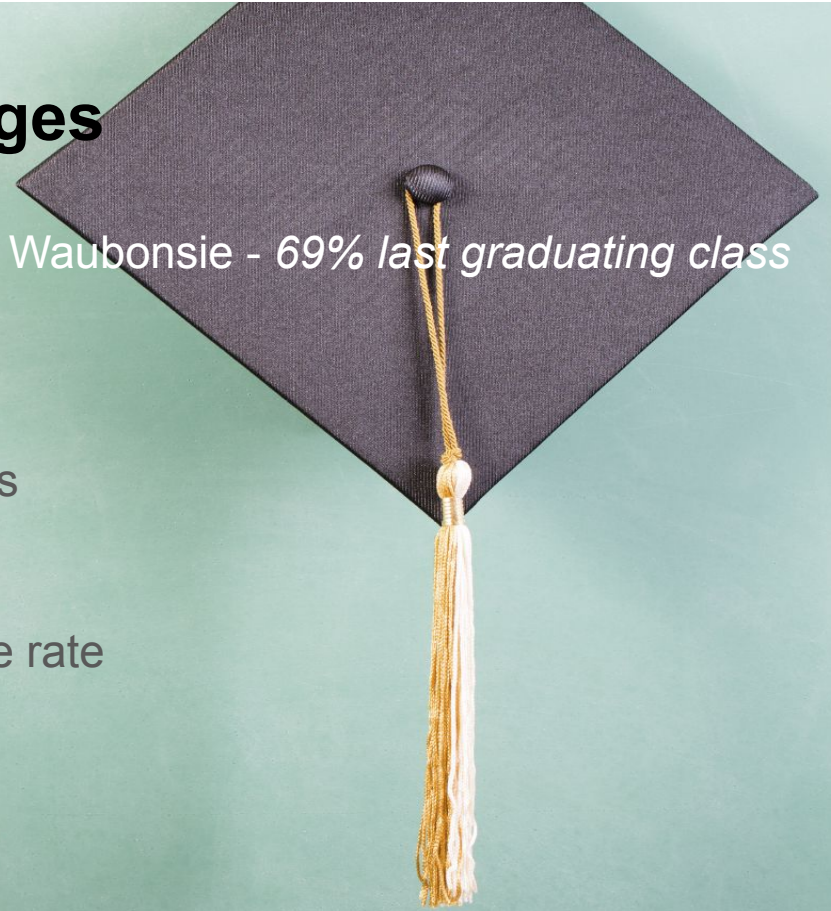
## What Can I Do Now?

- Research program options and degree requirements
  - Does your program have selective admission? (COD: Pathways to Engineering and many health-related programs do!)
- Schedule a campus visit



# Four Year Universities / Colleges

- Most common route students pursue after *Waubonsie - 69% last graduating class*
- Bachelor Degrees and Beyond
- “College” vs. “University”
- Public vs. Private Colleges
  - Funding, Cost, Programs, Class Sizes
- Liberal Arts vs. Specialized Programs
- Selectivity
  - Aurora University - 86.7% acceptance rate
  - Augustana College - 56.6%
  - University of Chicago - 6.2%





# APPLICATION PROGRAM OPTIONS

- **Early Action:** Typically as early as November 1st. Non-binding and limitless. Happens before the regular admission deadline
- **Restrictive Early Action:** Another non-binding option, however, if you apply Restrictive Early Action, you may not apply to any other schools in the early rounds
- **Early Decision:** Binding with an early application deadline. Can only apply to one school ED and student must commit to school if accepted. Only apply early decision to your first choice school.
- **Regular Admission:** Most common kind of college admission is regular admission. Schools set a specific deadline for all of the applications, typically at some point between November and January, then review them all after the closing date.
- **Rolling Admission:** Practice used by some institutions to review and complete applications as they arrive, rather than according to a set deadline.



# UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

High School Credits Typically Desired:

SUBJECT	CREDITS
English	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science (including lab sciences)	3.0
World Language	2.0

\*\*Some colleges, i.e. University of California, require 1.0 credit of visual or performing arts



# UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

HOLISTIC APPLICATION REVIEW →



PERSONAL ESSAYS

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

TRANSCRIPT

RESUME

TEST SCORES (SAT / ACT)



# STANDARDIZED TESTING & TEST OPTIONAL PROGRAMS



## STATE OF TESTING DURING A PANDEMIC

ACT ESTIMATED THAT 50% OF FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES WERE TEST OPTIONAL BEFORE THE PANDEMIC, AND THAT ANOTHER 30% TRANSITIONED TO TEST OPTIONAL DURING THE PANDEMIC.\*

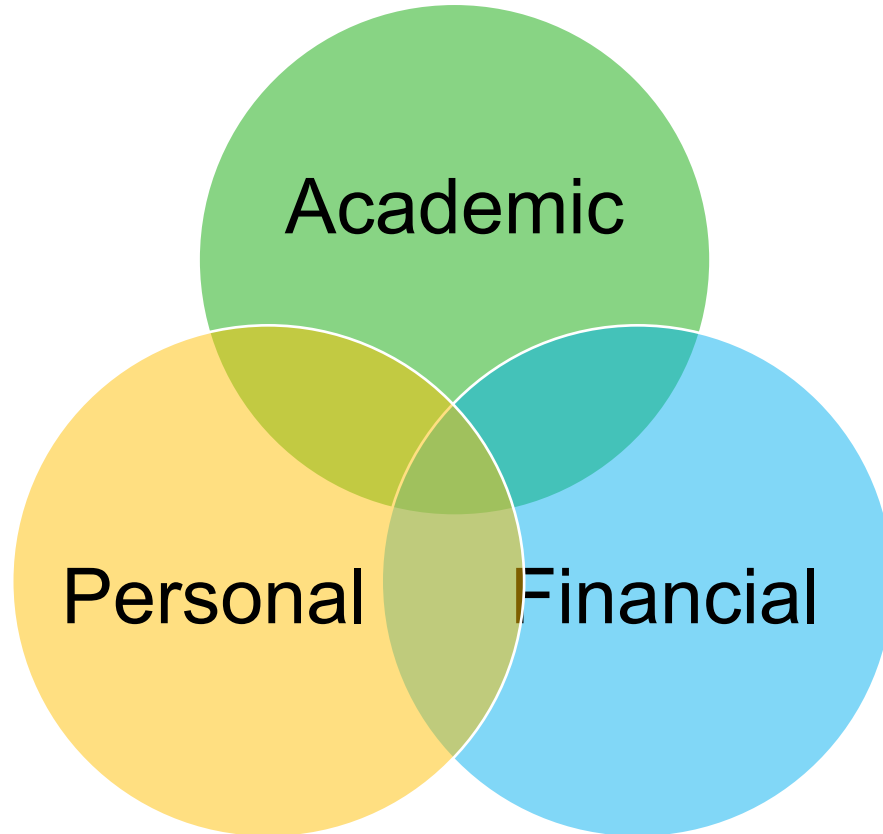
FAIRTEST HAS DETERMINED THAT AT LEAST 1,360 FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS "HAVE ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL NOT REQUIRE FALL 2022 APPLICANTS TO SUBMIT STANDARDIZED EXAM RESULTS BEFORE ADMISSIONS DECISIONS ARE MADE.\*

- EITHER SAT OR ACT IS ACCEPTED BY COLLEGES, BUT THE SCHOOL DAY SAT (TUESDAY, APRIL 13) IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT
- REGISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL SATURDAY TEST DATES FOR SAT AND ACT IS DONE BY THE STUDENT THROUGH THE TESTING AGENCY WEBSITE
- IF A SCHOOL IS TEST-OPTIONAL AND YOU OPT NOT TO SUBMIT YOUR TEST SCORES, THE ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE WILL LOOK MORE HEAVILY AT OTHER FACTORS (GRADES, COURSE RIGOR, ESSAYS, LETTERS OF REC, ETC.)

\*SOURCE: JASCHIK, SCOTT, "ACT ADMITS THAT TEST-OPTIONAL ADMISSIONS ISN'T GOING AWAY," INSIDE HIGHER ED, MARCH 1, 2021, MARCH 1, 2021, [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3Bx0N0Q](https://bit.ly/3Bx0N0Q).



# Targeting the Right Fit





# Finding the Personal Fit

- Size of the school
- Location
  - Yours and the colleges
- Post-graduation employment
- Extracurricular activities
- Does the campus speak to you



# College Visits: On Campus

**If you are able to go to campus...**

**Before you go:**

- Come up with a list of questions
- Contact Admission Office to make an individual or group appointment if available (give 1-2 weeks notice).



**On Campus Visit:** Walk around, check out dining hall, classroom and dorm

- Ask questions to Admission Reps and student guides
- Take note of student and campus environment

**Group Visit-** When you are trying to get an idea of what kind of college you will like.

**Individual Campus Visit --** When you are really considering the school.



# College Campus: Virtual Visit

## Virtual Visit:

- Sign into Schoollinks and check out virtual tours!
- Have access to :
  - How walkable is the campus for nearby errands?
  - Is transit convenient for most trips?
  - Can I bike along campus?
  - What is the weather like in March?
  - How big is the school?
  - Where is the school located: rural or city?





# Mock Admissions

How do colleges make their decisions?

We need 9 volunteers





Welcome to the Admission Committee for

# ***Warrior University.***

We are at the end of our admissions season. We have **nine** excellent applicants remaining, but room to admit only **three**.

If we were to make the decision on GPA alone, those with the top three GPAs would be admitted. However, Warrior University believes that grades aren't the only factor that determines success in college....



You have taken many of the  
challenging classes your high  
school offers.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You play the oboe - and you're  
actually good at it.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You chose to take math and science classes in your senior year.

**MOVE UP 1 SPACE.**



You clearly stated that this college is your first choice by applying Early Decision (a binding agreement that says you'll attend if admitted).

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You plan to major in Psychology  
or Pre-Med.

**MOVE DOWN 1 SPACE.**



You plan to major in a STEM field like Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, or Math.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You had trouble finding someone  
to write your college  
recommendation letters because  
you don't know your teachers well.

**MOVE DOWN 2 SPACES.**



When you submitted your college applications, you forgot to change the names of the colleges to which you were applying.

**MOVE DOWN 4 SPACES.**



Your brother is a sophomore at this  
college.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



When they said the essay was  
“optional,” you thought they meant  
it - so you didn't write it.

**MOVE DOWN 1 SPACE.**



Your college essay about sports  
focused on your coach instead of  
on your own athletic growth.

**MOVE DOWN 1 SPACE.**



You wrote the best essay of the year  
- it was passed around the  
admission office because it was so  
fantastic.

**MOVE UP 3 SPACES.**



You've made politically or racially  
insensitive comments on your  
social media accounts.

**MOVE ALL THE WAY TO THE END OF  
THE LINE AND STAY THERE.**



You will be the first person in your  
family to attend college.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You participated in an enriching  
summer program between your  
junior and senior years.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You haven't participated in any  
after-school activities, don't have an  
after-school job, and don't have  
responsibilities to care for younger  
siblings.

**MOVE DOWN 3 SPACES.**



Your after-school activities include  
BPA leadership and caring for your  
younger siblings.

**MOVE UP 1 SPACE.**



You are an Eagle Scout.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You are a varsity athlete.

**MOVE UP 2 SPACES.**



You are a varsity athlete who took  
second at the regional competition  
in your sport.

**MOVE UP 1 MORE SPACE.**



You got a D in a core academic  
class at the end of your junior year.

**MOVE DOWN 3 SPACES.**



You emailed the admission representative to ask questions and tell her about your interest in her school (and in the case of the student who got a D, you offered an explanation for the grade).

**MOVE UP 1 SPACE.**



You are a legal resident of North  
Dakota.

**MOVE UP 3 SPACES.**



You never gave your counselor  
your student profile form to use  
when writing your college  
recommendation letter.

**MOVE DOWN 1 SPACE.**



Your last name is Knight, the name  
on the library is Knight - and it's  
not a coincidence.

**MOVE ALL THE WAY TO THE FRONT OF  
THE LINE AND STAY THERE.**



# Junior Post-Secondary Planning

Questions?

