

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR**

**JUNIOR  
COLLEGE  
PLANNING  
NIGHT**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2023  
AT 6PM**

**LECTURE HALL  
LTHS**

**STUDENTS AND PARENTS  
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

PRESENTED BY THE LTHS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT  
CONTACT MRS. FARNKOPF FOR MORE DETAILS



# Words of Wisdom

- This is an important decision.
- The more time and effort that goes into planning, the better the results.
- Don't get wrapped up in what other students are doing.
  - This is your OWN path.

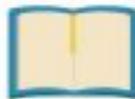




THE ROAD



to



College



# Academic Factors in Admissions

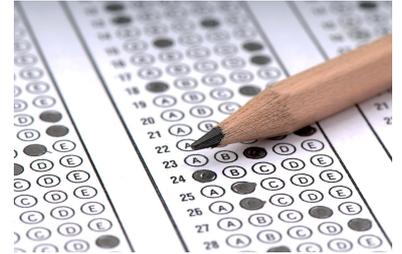
- GPA
  - A snapshot of entire academic performance
- Senior year grades
- Class Rank
  - Jr. & Sr. Years
- Rigor of Courses (Transcript)
- Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
  - Test optional schools

# Other Factors in Admissions

- Essay
- Recommendations
  - 2 teacher recommendations
  - Counselor recommendation
- Demonstrated interest
- Volunteer Service
- Activities, Athletics
  - Leadership positions
- Personal Accomplishments

# Standardized Testing

- SAT
  - Sign up through [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)
  - PSAT - use as a means to prepare for SAT
- ACT
  - Register at [act.org](https://act.org)
  - [Should you take the SAT or ACT?](#)
- Scores must be sent to college(s) **by the student**
  - Up to four free score reports can be ordered from time of exam registration.
- Fee Waivers are available for both tests
  - Speak to your counselor if you think you are eligible for a fee waiver. Any student on free or reduced lunch is eligible.



# Test Prep

- Free:
  - [LTHS SAT Prep Program](#)
  - [Khan Academy](#)
    - College Board-endorsed SAT prep program
    - Link Khan Academy account with College Board PSAT scores
    - FREE, personally tailored test prep
- For cost:
  - Options available include:
    - Unigo, Kaplan, Huntington Learning Center, private tutors



# Link College Board and Khan Academy

GET READY FOR THE SAT!

Link your College Board account to **Khan Academy** to get **FREE online SAT prep!**

1

## Go to [satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org)

Create an account on Khan Academy, or sign into your existing account.

2

## Link Your Accounts

When prompted, agree to link your Khan Academy and College Board accounts.

3

## Send Your Scores

Log in to your College Board account, and hit "Send" to get a personalized practice plan.

# SAT Performance by Times Taken

# of Times SAT Taken	# In cohort	Score Type	Average Score by Attempt #					Avg. Growth b/w Attempt
			1	2	3	4	5	
1	498	Composite	1023					
		EBRW	511					
		Math	511					
2	220	Composite	1063	1079				16
		EBRW	529	541				11
		Math	534	539				5
3	75	Composite	1093	1099	1127			17
		EBRW	538	540	557			9
		Math	555	559	570			8
4	12	Composite	1078	1107	1118	1102		8
		EBRW	544	555	561	556		4
		Math	533	552	558	546		4
5	1	Composite	1280	1340	1480	1450	1360	20
		EBRW	660	680	740	700	700	10
		Math	620	660	740	750	660	10
Total	806	Composite	1041	1086	1130	1128	1360	16
		EBRW	519	542	559	567	700	10
		Math	522	545	570	562	660	6

A photograph showing a wooden block being tested in a hole in a wooden board. The block is tilted, and its shadow is cast on the board. Several other holes are visible in the board, some containing wooden pieces. The text "FINDING A GOOD FIT" is overlaid on the image.

# FINDING A GOOD FIT

The “right school” or “best school” is unique to each individual, each family.

## Know Yourself...

- Values
- Ambitions
- Academic Strengths
- Interests
- Personality
- Goals

## Academic, Social & Financial Fit

### ...and What Matters To You

- Location
- Major
- Campus Appeal
- Academic Support Opportunities
- Total Cost – Including Aid
- Academics
- Size
- Social Life
- Internships Opportunities

# Finding the Right Fit

- College Fairs
  - See [College Fairs & Open Houses](#) section of website
  - Ocean County School Counselors Association (OCSCA):
    - **March 28, 2023, 6-8pm**
      - RWJ Barnabas Health Arena- Toms River North HS
  - NACAC National College Fair
    - March 8, 2023 in Edison
      - [View and Register](#)

# Finding the Right Fit

- Visit college campuses
  - If permitted, stay overnight; eat in cafeteria. Get full experience!
- Virtual Visits
  - Virtual tours normally available on college websites
  - Other ways to view include Naviance and Youtube
- Contact College Admissions reps
  - Many are doing individual virtual meetings
  - Use contact info given during tours/open houses
- College Admissions counselors visit LTHS in the fall
- Review and research college websites

# Finding the Right Fit

[Naviance](#) - College and Career researching tool

- Self-Discovery
  - Career and interest surveys
- Careers
- “Colleges” tab
  - SuperMatch
  - Colleges I’m Thinking About/Colleges I’m Applying To
- Planner & About Me
  - Goals, Tasks, Resume Builder
- Naviance accessible from Lacey Website, under Guidance



# Finding the Right Fit

- Research current data on schools of interest to help determine likelihood of admission (e.g. reach, safety, match):
  - Average GPA and SAT scores accepted
  - Acceptance Rate
  - Application Factors
- Where to find this information:
  - Naviance: College Tab
  - College Board: Big Future
  - College Websites

# Sports in College

- Students interested in playing sports in college must register with NCAA eligibility center by end of junior year.
  - Recommended to do so much earlier
  - [Create free profile to start](#)
- NCAA clearance is mandatory for all Division I and II sports.
  - 16 core classes
- DI and DII may offer athletic scholarships.
- Be sure to let your counselor know if you are interested
- [NCAA Information on NCAA student-athlete eligibility](#)



# Other Post-Secondary Options

- **Military**
  - Recruiters contact info available in Counseling Office
  - Recruiter lunch visits occur throughout school year
- **Ocean County Vocational Technical School ([OCVTS](#))**
  - Shared-time (in HS) or adult (post-HS)
- **Technical Schools**
  - Universal Technical Institute & Paul Mitchell
- **Employment**

## **Additional Information**

[U.S. Army](#)

[U.S. Air Force](#)

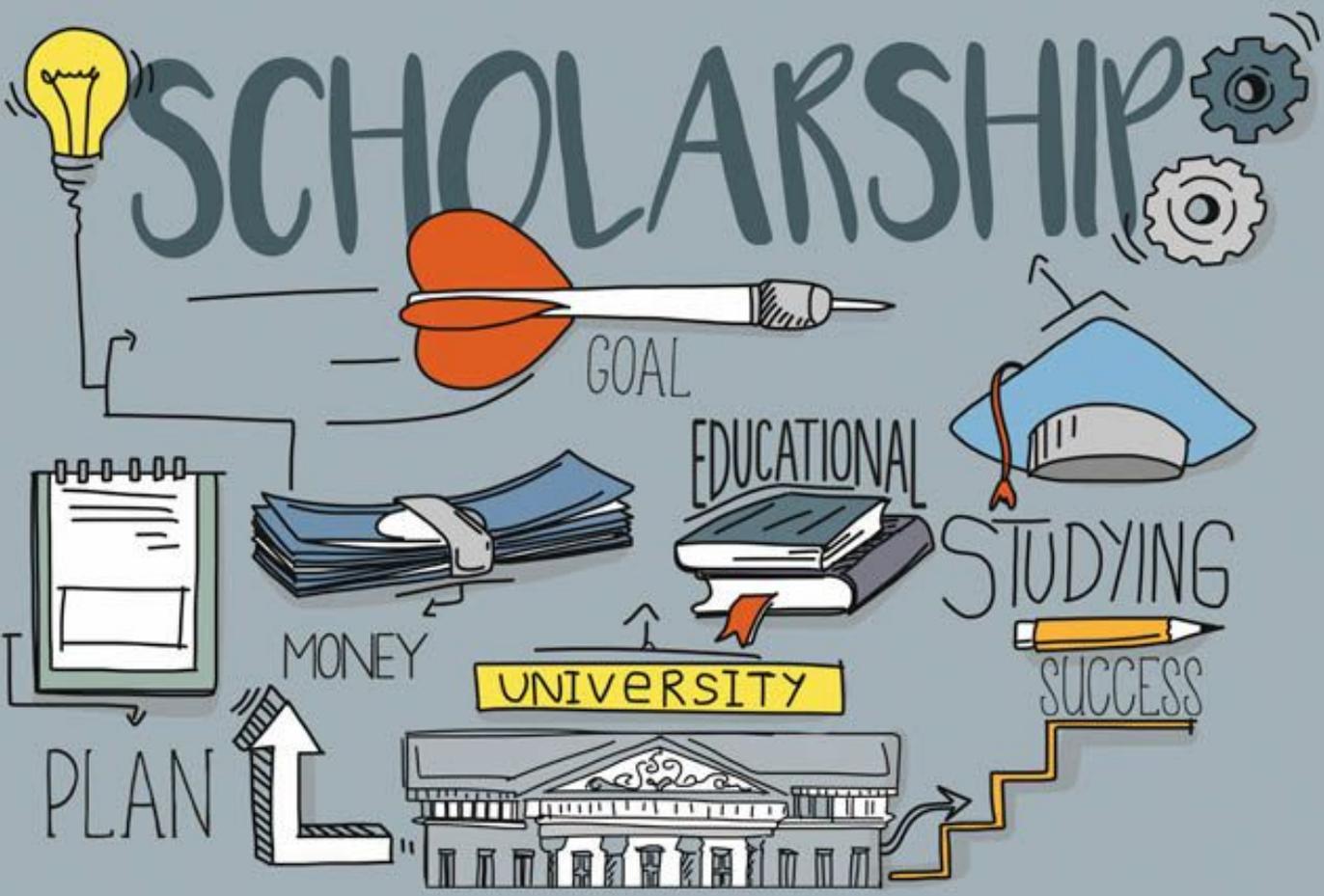
[U.S. Coast Guard](#)

[U.S. Marines](#)

[NJ National Guard](#)

[U.S. Navy](#)

[ASVAB Information and Prep](#)



COSTS  
&  
SCHOLARSHIPS



# NJ Higher Education Yearly Costs

## 2018 Tuition and Fees Per Year (Housing NOT Included)



### NJ 4-Year Publics

- Kean
- Montclair
- NJCU
- NJIT
- Ramapo
- Rowan
- Rutgers
- Stockton
- TCNJ
- WPU

### NJ 4-Year Privates

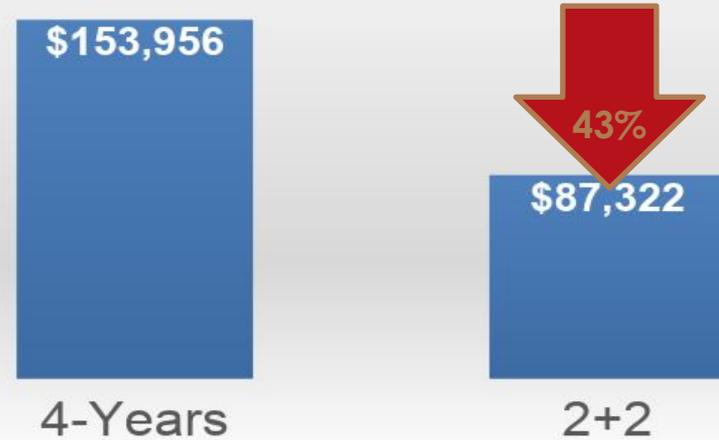
- Bloomfield
- Caldwell
- Centenary
- St. Elizabeth
- Drew
- FDU
- Felician
- Georgian
- Monmouth
- Princeton
- Rider
- St. Peters
- Seton Hall
- Stevens

# The Cost of a Degree (Total)

Avg. Total Tuition  
NJ Public vs. 2+2 w/ OCC



Avg. Total Tuition  
NJ Private vs. 2+2 w/ OCC



# Other Costs to Consider

- Fees
  - school-specific: technology, health, athletics, etc.
- Room and Board
  - around \$13,000 per year
- Books
  - around \$1,000 per SEMESTER
- Transportation
  - gas, tolls, flights, trains
- Dorm Living Expenses
  - furniture, decorations, snacks, drinks, cable, etc.



# FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- <https://studentaid.gov/>
- **Required** for any college-bound student to be considered for any federal financial aid, and for some state financial aid programs.
- FAFSA completion is the first, and most important, step in the financial aid process.
- **Can be filed on or after October 1 of senior year**
- New Jersey students may be required to complete additional questions for state aid via NJFAMS.
- **Attend our Fajitas and FAFSA event in the Fall!!!**

# Financial Aid 101

- Needs-based: driven by household income
  - *Determined by FAFSA*
  - Pending on ratio of family members: income
    - The bigger the family and/or the lower the income, the greater the funding
- Merit-based: driven by student's academic records
  - *Determined by transcript or scores submitted*
  - Incorporates one or more of the following:
    - GPA
    - SAT/ACT score
    - Athletics

# Financial Aid 101

- GIFT MONEY (no payback)
  - Grants
    - Typically need-based (see previous slide)
  - Scholarship
    - Often merit-based (see previous slide)
- LOAN MONEY (payback necessary)
  - Federal loans
    - Fixed, lower rates
    - Deferred interest accrual
  - Private loans
    - Often higher interest
    - May accrue interest as soon as loan is initiated

# Scholarship Resources

- LTHS Local Scholarships
- Information regarding financial aid
  - [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) - Federal government's website about paying for college
  - [Hesaa.org](https://hesaa.org) - NJ financial aid resource
  - [Findaid.org](https://findaid.org) - Free student resource for learning about all types of financial aid
- National Scholarship Resources (some examples)
  - [Fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com) - Private scholarships
  - [Cappex.com](https://cappex.com) - Scholarship matching
  - [Meritaid.com](https://meritaid.com) - \$11 billion in merit scholarships
  - [Raise.me](https://raise.me) - Micro-scholarships earned throughout high school

\*Scholarship information available on [LTHS Guidance Website](#).

# NJ STARS

- Students who finish in the top 15% of the class in **junior OR senior year** are eligible.
- Covers the cost of tuition only for up to 5 semesters at community college
  - OCC's tuition charges now include books and most fees which are not covered by the STARS scholarship
- NJ STARS does NOT cover remedial courses
  - If a student enrolls in a remedial course and takes at least 12 other college credits, NJ STARS will pay for the college level credits.
- Must take 12-18 college credits a semester and maintain GPA

\* Funding is dependent upon annual state appropriations

# NEXT STEPS



# LTHS Scheduling

- Be sure you are on track to graduate
  - Required courses:
    - 4 years of: English, PE/Health
    - 3 years of: Math, History, Science
    - 1 year of: World Language, Career/Technical, Visual/Performing Art, & Financial Literacy
  - Testing requirements
- Challenge yourself with a rigorous schedule
  - AP, Early College Courses through OCC
- Scheduling Conferences with Counselors will be starting soon

# Early College at OCC

- Formerly known as Jump Start
- OCC courses for high school students
- Earn college credits at a reduced rate
  - About \$300/3-credit course
    - compared to \$3,000/3-credit course @ 4-year
- Take courses at:
  - Southern Education Center (Manahawkin)
  - Main OCC campus (Toms River)
  - Online
- See your counselor or [ocean.edu](http://ocean.edu) for more information

# General College Timeline - Current Juniors

- **For Juniors, now:**

- **Attend OCSCA College Fair at TR North, March 28th 6-8**
- Research colleges and form list
- Create a personal email account
- Clean up social media accounts
- Start scholarship searches (will not be able to apply yet on most sites)
- College visits
- Sign up and take the SAT and/or ACT
  - Prepare with Khan Academy!

- **Summer:**

- Research colleges and refine list
- Attend Summer Application & Essay Writing Bootcamp!
- Create a [Common Application](#) account
  - App opens August 1st
- Write college essay

- **Fall:**

- Meet with Mrs. Farnkopf/Counselor
- FAFSA (opens October 1st)
- College applications
  - It is student's responsibility to pay attention to deadlines!

# Additional Resources

## College Essays

- [College Essay Guy](#)
- Topics found in Common App
  - Start in Summer
  - Write & Revise

## [LTHS Guidance Website](#)

[5 Things to Know about College Admissions](#)

[CollegeBoard's College Application Checklist](#)

[Benefits and Drawbacks Applying Early](#)

# In summary...

## **Personally**

Make professional email account:

(First.MI.Last@gmail.com→Sally.J.Smith@gmail.com)

Clean up social media

## **Academically**

Stay focused on academics

Do not lighten your academic load for senior year

Stay involved in school activities, look for opportunities to take leadership positions

Meet with your School Counselor and Mrs. Farnkopf (college counselor)

## **College Exploration**

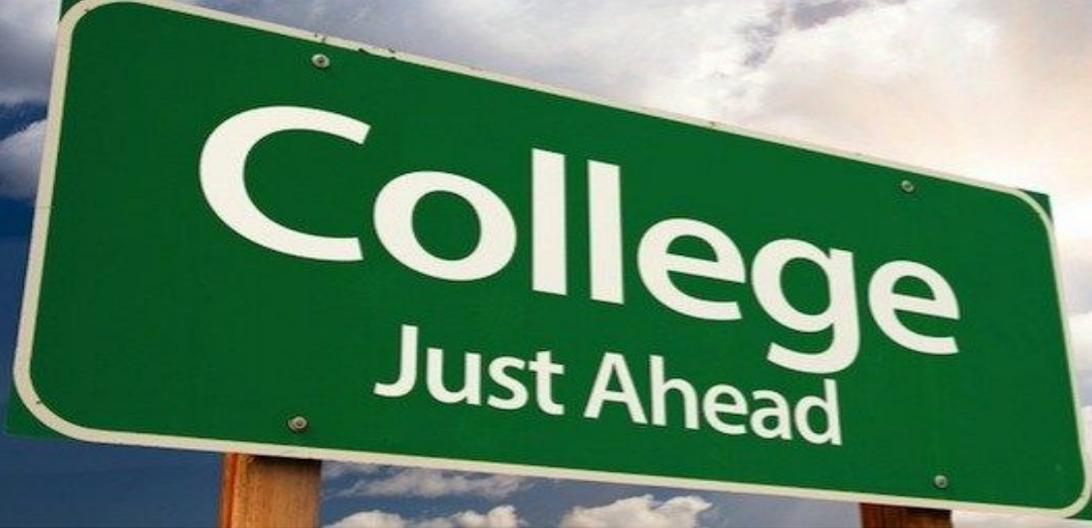
Explore colleges online/through Naviance

Visit colleges

Meet with college representatives

Attend college fairs

Begin researching options for scholarships



Thank you for attending! Please do not hesitate to reach out for help with this process.

Mrs. Farnkopf

[sfarnkopf@laceyschools.org](mailto:sfarnkopf@laceyschools.org)

Click link below to schedule an appointment:

<https://appt.link/college-career-counseling-mrs-farnkopf>