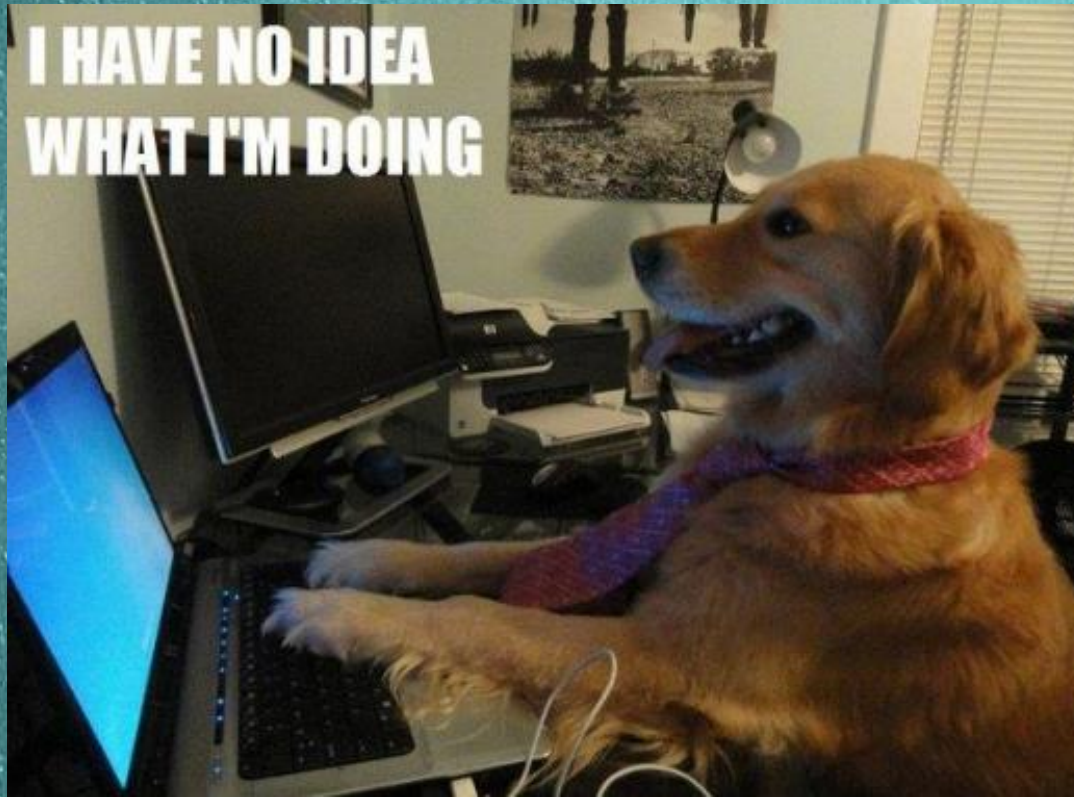


# You want to go to college, but...



NCAA FAFSA Essays PPY  
SAT-ACT-AP Applications

# Take a breath...

- ◆ Preparation
- ◆ Options
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Application Process
- ◆ You are not alone!



# So Where Do We Start?

- ◆ Rigorous Courses
- ◆ Grades / GPA
- ◆ Requirements
- ◆ Activities
- ◆ Career Exploration



# What Should Sophomores Do to Prepare?



- Rigorous Courses
- Grades
- Requirements
- PSAT - Spring
- Career Exploration
- College “Drive-by”

# Juniors

- ◆ Rigorous Courses
- ◆ PSAT October
- ◆ \*\*SAT and/or ACT
- ◆ College Research / Visits
- ◆ Extracurricular activities\*
  - Leadership positions

Global Pandemic - activities  
and resumes will look  
different!!!



# The Home Stretch

- ◆ Visit colleges
- ◆ SAT/ACT\*\*
- ◆ Apply
- ◆ Financial aid
- ◆ Courses / Grades

**SENIOR YEAR**



# Testing

- ◆ Don't Panic
- ◆ Test Optional
  - Check Official College Site
- ◆ Should I Test?
- ◆ Should I Send Scores?
- ◆ Holistic Review
- ◆ NACAC Test Optional Site



# **Nervous about taking SAT/ACT?**

- ◆ Take a rigorous schedule
- ◆ Take extra math, science, and English
- ◆ Read, read, read
- ◆ Online practice tests and information
- ◆ Free Full Length Practice SAT/ACT



**Want More  
Information?**

**WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.COM**

**ACTSTUDENT.ORG**

# Researching Colleges

- ◆ Consider what YOU want in a college:
  - Size
  - Public or private
  - Location
  - Majors
  - Student life



# Larger Schools vs. Smaller Schools



- ◆ Academics
- ◆ Athletics
- ◆ Social Life

- ◆ Relationships with professors
- ◆ Student body
- ◆ Opportunities



# Public vs. Private Universities

- ◆ Cost
- ◆ Affiliations



# Location

- ◆ In state or out of state
- ◆ Commuting distance
- ◆ Driving distance
- ◆ Flying distance



# Military Service

- ◆ Military academies
  - Start Early!
- ◆ ROTC programs
- ◆ Tuition assistance



*U.S. Military Academy*

*U.S. Naval Academy*

*U.S. Air Force Academy*

*U.S. Coast Guard Academy*

*U.S. Merchant Marines*

# How Can I Learn About Different Colleges?

- ◆ Virtual College Tours
- ◆ College
- ◆ Internet Research
- ◆ People
- ◆ Campus visits



# Campus Visit

- ◆ Colleges love to have high school students visit
- ◆ It just takes a phone call to set one up!
- ◆ *Demonstrated Interest*





# Community Colleges

- ◆ Community colleges offer a great start
- ◆ STARS
- ◆ Dual Credit
  - ACCC & Stockton



# ACCC Jump Start

- ◆ Jump Start Overview
  - Orientation
  - Placement Test
  - Course Selection



# Athletics - NCAA

- ◆ Division I, II, III
- ◆ NCAA Clearinghouse
  - ◆ Free vs. Paid Accounts
- ◆ Core Courses\*\*
- ◆ SAT Scores
- ◆ Core GPA\*\*
- ◆ Notify your counselor early!



# NCAA DI

- ◆ 16 Core Courses: 10 prior to senior year
- ◆ Grades earned prior to senior year are “locked in”
- ◆ Minimum GPA now 2.3 (not 2.0)
- ◆ SAT/ACT Testing Required
- ◆ Every grade/semester counts!

# Narrow It Down

- ◆ Two “safe” schools
  - ◆ Two “good” fits
  - ◆ Two “reach” schools
- schools



# Start Applying!



# When Should I Apply?

- ◆ Early Decision (ED) – Binding Contract
- ◆ Early Action
- ◆ Single Choice/Restricted EA
- ◆ Regular Decision
- ◆ Rolling Admission



# How Do I Apply?

- ◆ Application forms / Common App
- ◆ Naviance / SCOIR
- ◆ Application Checklist
- ◆ Letters of recommendation
- ◆ Secondary School Report
- ◆ Essay
- ◆ Transcripts
- ◆ Test scores
- ◆ Interview



# Letter of Recommendation

- ◆ Speak to your teacher FIRST
- ◆ Naviance Requests
- ◆ 2 weeks notice
- ◆ Careful consideration
- ◆ Accomplishments
- ◆ Thank you note



# Essay Writing

- ◆ Answer the question
- ◆ Authentic & Engaging
- ◆ Proofread
- ◆ Obstacle
- ◆ COVID Question
- ◆ Best Friend Test

★ College Essay Guy  
[collegeessayguy.com](http://collegeessayguy.com)



# Transcripts & Scores

- ◆ High school
  - Official
- ◆ SAT or ACT
  - Sent from CB/ACT
- ◆ AP Scores
  - Sent from CB

# **Top Ten College Application Mistakes**

10. Missing deadlines
9. Missing application materials
8. Weak essay
7. Grammatical errors
6. Waiting until the last minute

# Top Ten College Application Mistakes

5. Extracurricular “laundry list”
4. Juvenile email address
3. Social media postings
2. Not telling your counselor
1. Parent/Guardian applying 😊

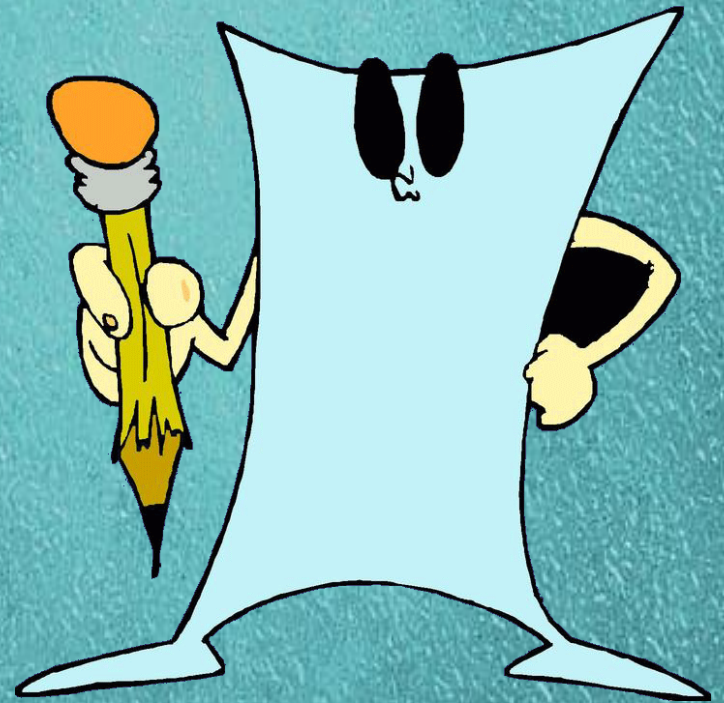
# SCHOLARSHIPS



- ◆ Local, Regional, National
- ◆ Scholarship Searches
- ◆ College Specific
- ◆ Community Based
- ◆ Employer Based
- ◆ H.S. Guidance Website

# Complete the FAFSA

***Free***  
**Application**  
**for Federal**  
**Student**  
**Aid**



**APPLY ONLINE AT [WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV](http://WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV)**

# Prior-Prior Year

- ◆ FAFSA Application now available October 1
- ◆ Current Seniors will use 2021 tax information
- ◆ Financial Aid Office
  - Professional Judgement
  - Appeal





# Where Can I Learn More?

Department of Education Office of Federal Student Aid

◆ [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

National Association for College Admission Counseling

◆ [www.nacacnet.org/ppy](http://www.nacacnet.org/ppy)

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

◆ [www.nasfaa.org/ppystudents](http://www.nasfaa.org/ppystudents)

# Don't Be Afraid to Go to College!

- ◆ Counselors
- ◆ Teachers
- ◆ Internet
- ◆ Visits



