

# Junior College Planning



Presented by: RHS Counselors

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6xxDRvlq3I&feature=youtu.be>

# College Process Timeline

## Spring 2022

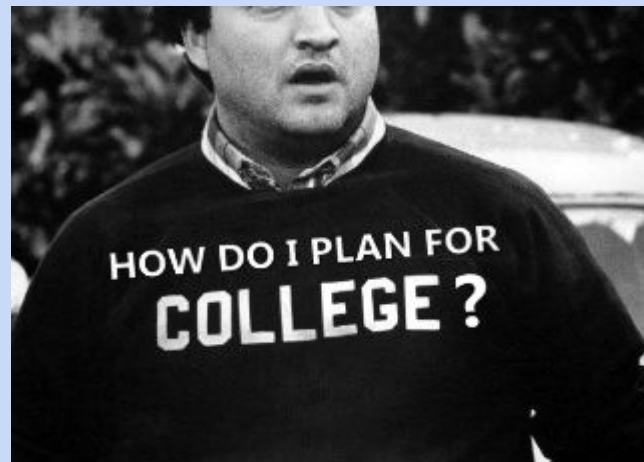
- Prepare and register for standardized tests (SAT and/or ACT)
- Research and begin visiting colleges
- Letters of recommendation

## Summer 2022

- Register for the Common Application
- Continue visiting colleges
- Start building your list
- Standardized tests
- Start your college essays

## Fall 2022

- Meet with your counselor
- Begin to apply to colleges
- Standardized tests
- College essays
- Letters of recommendation
- Scholarships and financial aid (FAFSA)



# Planning & Research

Where to begin . . .

[RHS College Planning Handbook](#)

# Testing

## SAT

- Register at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

## ACT

- Register at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

- **Make sure you check the websites for testing dates!**
- **Don't forget about Naviance Test Prep - It's Free and EFFECTIVE!!!**

*We encourage students to end junior year with a score they are happy submitting with their applications!*



# Naviance Family Connection

## Naviance Tools

- College Super Match
- How you Compare
- Graphs (Scattergrams)
- Overlaps
- Colleges I'm Thinking About

## Choose your College Priorities

- Location
- Academic Fit
- Large University vs Small College
- Student Organizations
- Affordability



**NAVIANCE**  
**Family Connection**

# Visiting College

- When to visit
- How to plan a visit
- What to bring
- What to do
- What to do after a visit
- Questions to ask



Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ayb\\_2qbZHm4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ayb_2qbZHm4)

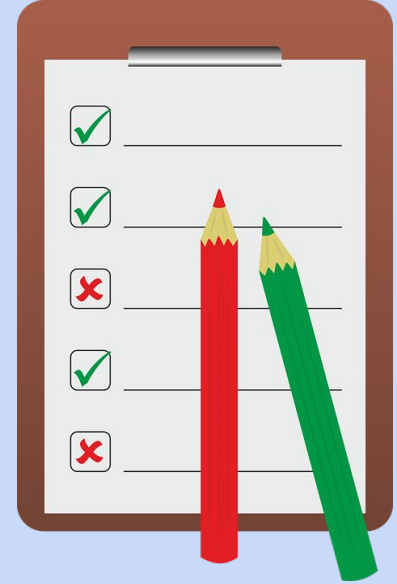
# College Rep Visits at RHS

- College reps visit RHS to talk about their school
- Sign-up in Naviance
- Bring questions and be professional at these visits
  - Admission reps review your applications
- Make a positive, lasting impression!!!
- College Fair at RHS March 9th, 6:30-8:30 PM



# Building Your College List

- Stay organized!!!!
- Your list should contain schools that are:
  - Safety (*Admission & Financial*)
  - Target
  - Reach
- Your list should be YOUR list, which fits YOUR needs
- Look at school's data:
  - GPA, Test Scores, Difficulty of Program, Graduation Rate, Acceptance Rate
    - Even if metrics match those of average accepted student, if the admit rate is low, it is a reach





# Application Process

Fall, Senior Year

# Pieces of an Application

- Application Form
- Transcript & RHS Profile
- Letters of Recommendation
  - Teachers & Counselor
- Resume
  - Naviance Resume Builder
- Admissions Essay
  - Covid-19 question
- Test Scores
- Portfolio/Auditions
- Interview



# Application Forms

- Common Application
- Coalition Application
- Institutional Application
- State Specific Applications
  - UC Application, Apply Texas, etc



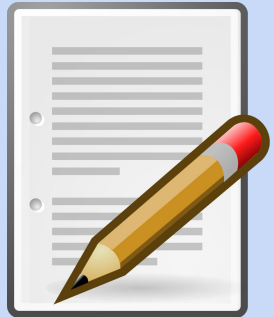
# Application Types

- Early Decision (*binding*)
- Restrictive Early Action (*not binding, but limited*)
- Early Action (*apply and find out early*)
- Rolling (*decision in 6-8 weeks*)
- Regular (*review entire applicant pool*)
- “Priority” Deadline (*often connected to merit \$*)
- *Waitlist / Deferred*



# Essay

- Prompts will be available soon
- A story (not your *life* story) in 650 words
- Opportunity to showcase something that may not be evident in other parts of your application
- By senior year, this is where students have the most control/ability to impact your application
- Some schools also have additional writing supplements!
  - *Optional is NEVER optional!*



# Special Needs College Planning

- Know your disability
- Become a Self-Advocate
- Questions to ask
- Types of college accommodations/services available
- Keep in touch with your school counselor, case manager, and transition coordinator!



# Financial Aid Forms

- **The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
  - [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - Most colleges use your FAFSA data to determine your eligibility for state and school aid.
  - FAFSA can be filed as early as October 1, 2022!
- **CSS Profile**
  - Used by select private institutions
- **Institutional Forms**
- **Financial Aid Night** - Spring 2022 & Fall 2022



# Scholarships...FREE MONEY!



- RHS Guidance Website
  - Helpful Links
  - Underclass/Senior Bulletins
  - **March 2023** Local Scholarships
- Raise.me
  - Sign up
  - Enter your achievements
  - Follow schools of interest
  - Start earning \$\$\$
- Google
  - Search for a talent you have followed by scholarship - see what's out there!

The screenshot shows a dark blue navigation bar with the following links: Home, Our School, Academics, Academies & Pathways, Student Support Services, Student Life, and Media Center. Below the navigation bar is a list of menu items: Career Planning, College Planning (+), Naviance, Current RHS Student Transcript Request Form, Course Selection Process, PSAT/SAT/ACT Testing, and Scholarship Information (↓). A red arrow points to the 'Scholarship Information' link. To the right of the menu items, there are several links: 'Click Here', 'Fastweb Scholarship Directory: Click Here', 'The National Scholarship Directory: By Fas Click Here', 'Raise.Me Scholarship Search Click Here', and 'Chegg Scholarships Click Here'.



# NCAA

- If you participate in athletics at a NCAA Division I or Division II school you will need to register and be declared eligible by the NCAA Clearinghouse.
- Registration must be completed online at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- You should complete the eligibility form in spring of your junior year.
- You will also need to submit SAT and/or ACT scores to the Eligibility Center directly from the testing website.



# Navigating the Process

So now that you're on information overload...

# Working Together

- Start where the student is
- Put the student in the driver's seat
- Support and empower the student
- Set reasonable expectations
- Help the *student* own the process



# Student Should . . .

- Communicate with college reps
- Set up interviews
- Reach out to set up meetings with counselor
- Write essay and fill out application





## How can parents help?

- While your kid is driving, you're still in the car
- Be mindful of pressures of senior year
  - Social, Emotional, Academic
- Have realistic expectations
  - Wherever they get in, you'll be proud of them

# Counselor's Role

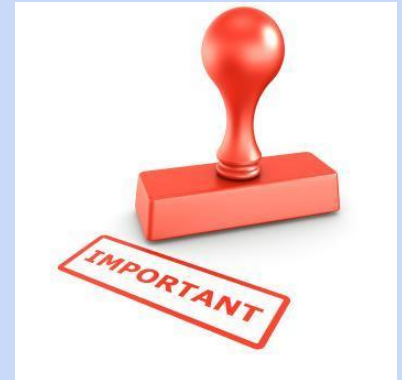
- Help students develop and hone their list
- Facilitate application process
- Act as a resource
- Write counselor letter of recommendation
- Send materials
- and many other things... when you plan ahead

is not... to chase, badger, pressure, micromanage

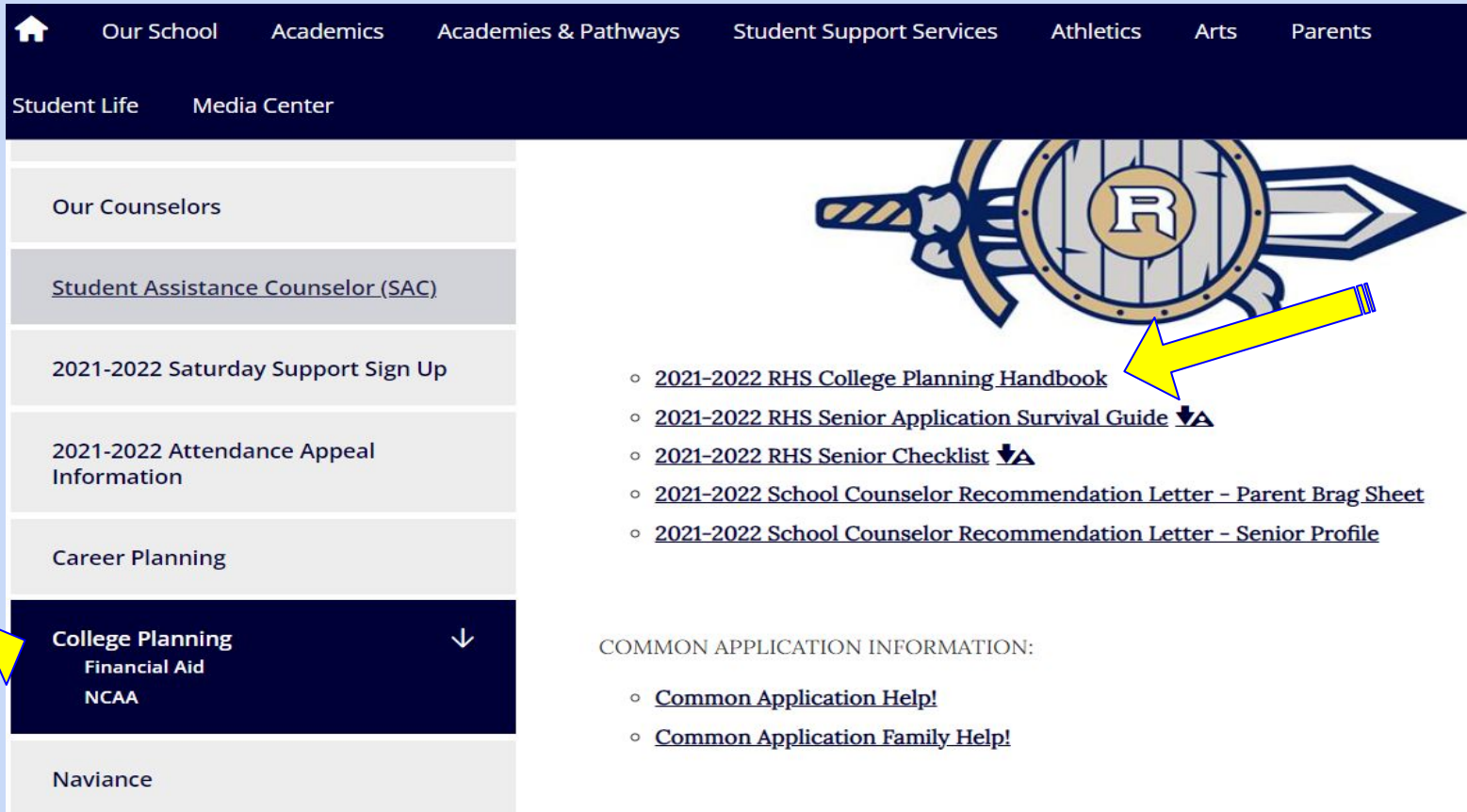


# Junior Year Focus

- School work and strong grades!
- Participate in meaningful activities
- Build relationships with teachers (preparing for letters of recommendation)
- Build a relationship with your counselor
- Create a testing plan
- Create a resume



# RHS School Counseling Website



The screenshot shows the RHS School Counseling Website. The top navigation bar includes: Home, Our School, Academics, Academies & Pathways, Student Support Services, Athletics, Arts, and Parents. Below this, a secondary bar contains Student Life and Media Center. The left sidebar menu lists: Our Counselors, Student Assistance Counselor (SAC), 2021-2022 Saturday Support Sign Up, 2021-2022 Attendance Appeal Information, Career Planning, College Planning (with sub-items Financial Aid and NCAA), and Naviance. A yellow arrow points to the College Planning menu item. The main content area features the RHS logo (a hand holding a pencil with an 'R' on the eraser) and a list of resources: 2021-2022 RHS College Planning Handbook, 2021-2022 RHS Senior Application Survival Guide, 2021-2022 RHS Senior Checklist, 2021-2022 School Counselor Recommendation Letter - Parent Brag Sheet, and 2021-2022 School Counselor Recommendation Letter - Senior Profile. A yellow arrow points to the first resource. Below this is a section for COMMON APPLICATION INFORMATION: Common Application Help! and Common Application Family Help!.

Our School Academics Academies & Pathways Student Support Services Athletics Arts Parents

Student Life Media Center

Our Counselors

Student Assistance Counselor (SAC)


2021-2022 Saturday Support Sign Up

2021-2022 Attendance Appeal Information

Career Planning

**College Planning** ↓  
Financial Aid  
NCAA

Naviance



- 2021-2022 RHS College Planning Handbook
- 2021-2022 RHS Senior Application Survival Guide ↓▲
- 2021-2022 RHS Senior Checklist ↓▲
- 2021-2022 School Counselor Recommendation Letter - Parent Brag Sheet
- 2021-2022 School Counselor Recommendation Letter - Senior Profile

COMMON APPLICATION INFORMATION:

- Common Application Help!
- Common Application Family Help!



# WE ARE HERE TO HELP!



The best way to be informed and stay “in the loop” is to frequently check the [RHS SCHOOL COUNSELING WEBSITE!!!!](#)

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# Questions???

If you have any questions, please fill out this google form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oKbgj7n4Qw84t-aR33xEe5kjdOFN3JYpUjEQeqvzjm4/edit?usp=sharing>

