

# BB&N College Counseling Night for Senior Parents

September 19, 2011

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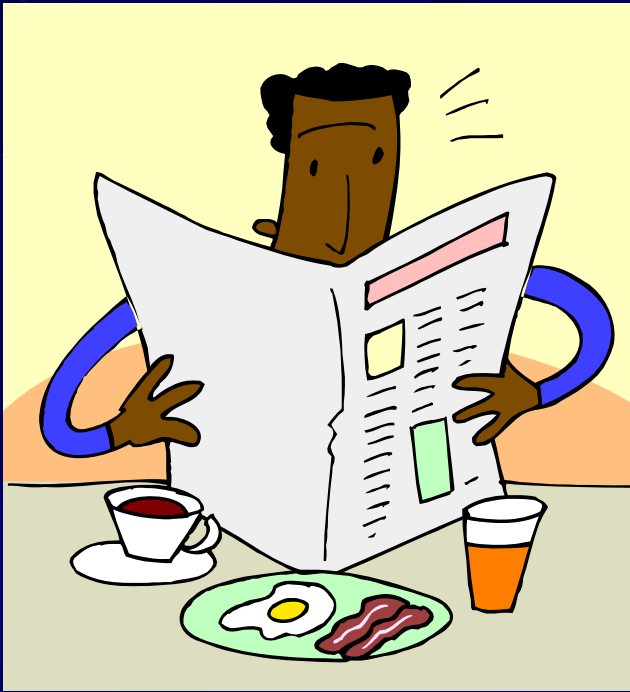
Fred Coyne

Mo Zelaya

Katie Gayman

Sarah McDonald

- Climate
- What's happening right now
- Looking ahead
- Terms, jobs, and goals
- Questions



# When I applied to college...

- I did it all myself.
- My guidance counselor told me what to do.
- I went to my parent's college.
- I handwrote my essay.
- I walked to school uphill,  
barefoot in the snow.

So, what is the big deal?

# Today's Teenagers

- Anxiety
- Test preparation
- Over-scheduling
- Delayed adulthood
- Pressure

# What's happening?



# Forms!

- Senior update survey
- Transcript verification
- Recommendations
- College list



# Application Process

- ✓ Students send:
  - ✓ Common Application from official website
    - Biographical information
    - Essays
    - Fee
  - ✓ Test Scores from official website
  - ✓ Other applications (online or paper)
- ✓ Pay close attention to deadlines!

# Application Process

- ✓ BB&N College Office sends:
  - ✓ Secondary School Report
    - Counselor Statement
    - School Profile
  - ✓ Teacher recommendations (student-arranged)
  - ✓ Transcript(s)

# Application Process

- ✓ Colleges receive materials
  - ✓ Three sources: student, school, testing agency
  - ✓ Allow 3-4 weeks for filing
  - ✓ Student keeps college office informed

# Financial Aid

- ✓ Forms

- ✓ FAFSA

- ✓ CSS Profile

- ✓ Institutional forms

Where are we going?



# September

- Work on college list
- Meet with college representatives visiting BB&N
- Register for standardized tests
- Draft essays and applications
- Talk to teachers about recommendations
- Register for the CSS Profile (Fin Aid)

# October

- Take ACT or SAT if needed
- Complete applications for early deadlines
- Continue to work on college list
- Meet with college representatives visiting BB&N
- College visits & interviews

# November

- Take ACT or SAT if needed
- Most early applications are due
- Finalize college list
- Work on all applications
- Work on FAFSA worksheet (Fin Aid)

# ED/EA terms review

- Early Decision (ED I or ED II)
  - Binding: you have to go if admitted

# ED/EA terms review

## ■ Early Action (EA)

- Not binding: early notification of admission
- Deposit in May

# ED/EA terms review

- Restricted Early Action (REA)
  - College-specific restrictions
- Early Action, Single Choice (EASC)
  - College-specific restrictions

# ED/EA terms review

## ■ Rolling/Priority

– Decision rendered in 6-8 weeks

# December

- Take ACT or SAT if needed
- First round of early notifications received
- Financial Aid night
- Complete regular decision applications
  - Senior Week!

# January

- Take ACT or SAT if needed
- Most regular applications are due
- File the FAFSA after January 1
- The waiting game begins...

# March, April, & May

- Most decisions received in March & April
- Students may revisit colleges in April
- Deposit date is May 1
- Wait list process begins

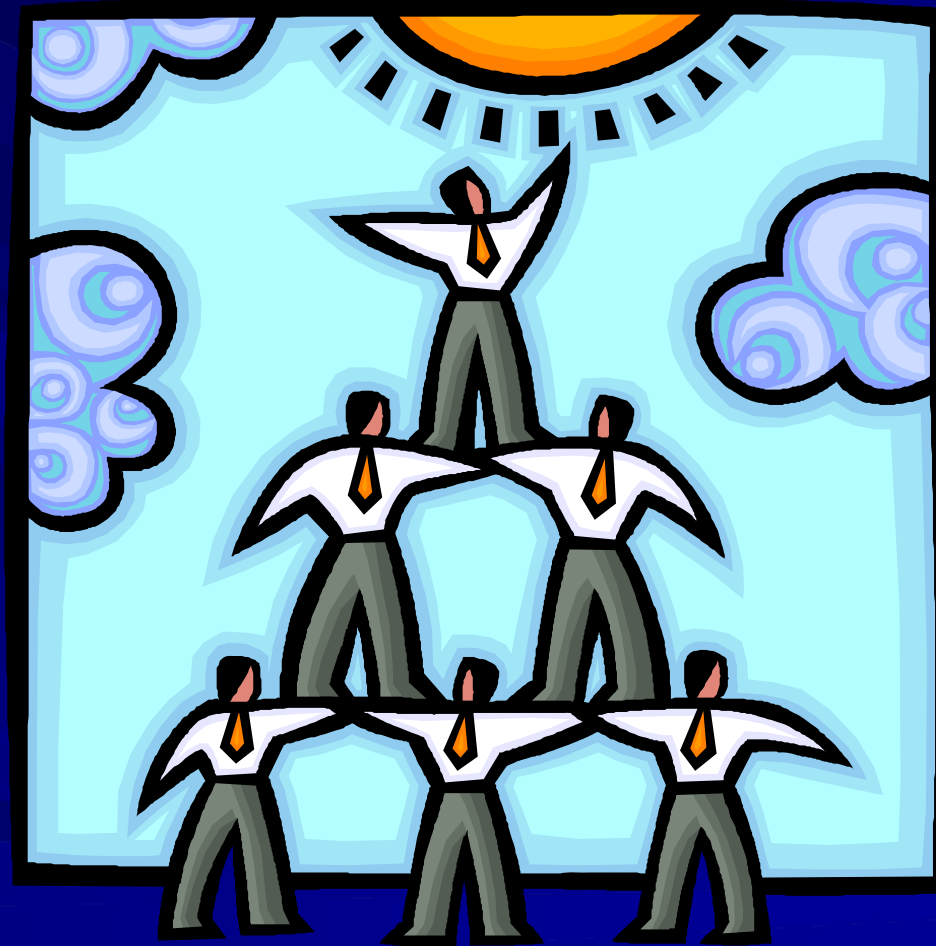
How are admissions decisions made?



# Colleges consider:

- Grades
- Strength of curriculum in context of school
- Standardized testing
  
- Essays
- Teacher recs & Counselor Statement
- Student's demonstrated interest
- Interview, if applicable
- Extracurricular activities
- Institutional interests

What's my role in all of it?



# The Student's Role

- Meet deadlines
- Complete applications
- Honor commitments
- Maintain friendships
- Manage stress
- **Submit official test scores from agencies**



# The Counselor's Role



# The Counselor's Role

- Multiple meetings
- Proofing applications and essays
- Keeping students on task
- Supporting the students in their work
- Nudging, nagging, and even cajoling
- Advocating, encouraging, and most of all...
- Listening

# What counselors will do:

- Guide students through research process
- Advocate for EVERY student
- Proof applications and essays
- Advise students about interviews and visits
- Return messages in timely fashion
- Help manage process
- Reduce stress whenever possible
- Help keep the focus on the student

# What counselors will NOT do:

- Tell students where they should go to college
- Fill out applications for students
- Advocate for some students over others
- Send official test scores to colleges
- Meet with parents more than students
- Ignore the anxiety of any student

# The Parent's Role



# The Parent's Role

- Support
- Communicate
- Positive reinforcement
- Advocacy
- Transportation
- Listen
- Bursar
- Be the passenger, not the driver

And...



Let go...