What Comes Next?
An Introduction to the College Process
January 27, 2018
I hate math!!!
I'll take Anything but math!

I'll take nursing so that I'll earn dollars

I want to be a doctor but I love to write & paint!

What's the RIGHT COURSE for me???

Do I have to go to college???

Dad wants me to become a lawyer but I want to be an actor!!!

I don't have to go to a university to learn junk shop business
The Power of Myths
The BB&N College Process

MYTH:  Start early!  Visit now!

REALITY:  The college process is developmental!

ADVICE:  Allow for growth & take advantage of
Our Philosophy

Development
College search as an educational journey – help students learn and grow through the process

Ownership
Help students find their voice, skills in organizing their search, craft their applications, and make decisions

Empowerment
Promote and encourage independence and confidence
Why are there so many questions?
Are you free D block?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 8:15</td>
<td>Advisory (FIRST)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:20 – 9:05</td>
<td>FIRST (E)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 – 10:00</td>
<td>FIRST (C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:20</td>
<td>Lab/Conference</td>
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<td>10:25 – 11:10</td>
<td>FIRST (D)</td>
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The first meeting...

“I want to show my colleges I’m well-rounded, so I wrote a poem in Spanish about how chess club has made me a better quarterback.”
The first meeting...
The next meeting...

...and beyond...
Standardized Testing

MYTH: Test prep early and take tests early and often.

REALITY: Testing burnout! Diminishing returns!

ADVICE: Use the BB&N testing plan
The BB&N Testing Plan

Junior year: First tests

- ACT – February or April
- SAT – March
- Subject Tests – May/June
- APs – May

- Some retesting if appropriate

Senior year: Retesting
Standardized Testing

BB&N registers students for:

• PSAT (automatically)
• APs (in class)

BB&N CANNOT register students for:

• SAT
• ACT
• Subject Tests
Focusing on the Individual Student

MY TUTOR
MYTUTOR.COM

Summit Educational Group
Grades 5-12 Test Preparation and Academic Support

• One-on-One, In-Home Test Prep and Tutoring
• Classroom-Based Test Prep
• Course Materials and Services

SUMMIT EDUCATIONAL GROUP

(800) MY TUTOR    MYTUTOR.COM
Test Scores – Relative Importance

Percentage of Colleges Reporting “Considerable or Moderate Importance”

- Grades in college prep courses: 92%
- Grades in all courses: 91%
- Admission test scores (SAT & ACT): 88%
- Strength of curriculum: 87%
- Essay or writing sample: 61%
- Counselor recommendation: 60%
- Student’s demonstrated interest: 59%
- Class Rank: 52%

2015 NACAC State of College Admissions
“We want outstanding students from all over the world and from all different backgrounds—regardless of their standardized scores.”

- Karen Stroud Felton
  Former Dean of Admissions
  George Washington University
SAT/ACT – Similar in Structure

SAT (3 hours 50 minutes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>65 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing &amp; Language</td>
<td>35 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math (No Calc)</td>
<td>25 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math (Calc)</td>
<td>55 min</td>
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ACT (3 hours 35 minutes)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>45 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math (No Calc)</td>
<td>60 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>35 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>35 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 min</td>
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Comparing the SAT and ACT

SAT Questions
- More challenging
- Require deep understanding
- Narrower focus of skills
- More time per question

ACT Questions
- Straightforward
- Require instant recognition
- Broader scope of skills
- Require constant, rapid pace
Subject Tests: Who Requires Them?

Colleges Requiring Subject Tests 2013-2017

3 of these colleges will take ACT in lieu of SAT with Subject Tests
Guiding Principles

Most students will score the same, no matter what tests they take, but it’s worth looking for a student’s best test.

A good testing plan prioritizes school work over test prep. Testing early and often is generally not sensible.

Prepping for one test helps prepare for the other.

Students score their best at end of junior year and fall of senior year. It is the RARE student who is finished by January of junior year, even high scorers.
Test Prep Options

✓ Khan Academy (free!)
✓ Method Test Prep (free to you!)
✓ Summit Test Prep
✓ Others
Springtime!

✓ Check-ins
✓ Testing
✓ Research
✓ Balanced list
✓ BISCCA fair
✓ Diagnostic visits
✓ Course selection
MYTH: All A’s are better than B’s in honors courses.

REALITY: Colleges want the best grades in the most demanding courses.
Course Selection

Transcript evaluation

• Context of BB&N
• Opportunities available
• Take a risk vs. play it safe
• Requirements v. qualifications
• Colleges & programs
Course Selection

• What should we do?
  – Find a balance
  – Keep educational goals in mind
  – Talk to teachers
  – Use advisor

• Advisors & College Counseling
Teacher Recommendations

✓ Who do I ask?
✓ When do I ask?
✓ How do I ask?

1. Explain Newton’s First Law of Motion in your own words.


I love loopholes.
Looking ahead…
Looking ahead...

✓ Summer Send-Off!
✓ Common Application Boot Camp
✓ Essay Workshops
✓ Interview Workshop
✓ Summer campus visits
✓ “Ticket” to first meeting...
KEEP CALM AND DO YOUR JOB
Your Role

- Track and meet deadlines
- Research & visit colleges
- Complete applications
- Honor commitments
- Maintain friendships
- Manage stress
- Self-advocate
When you're in your own lane there is no traffic
The Counselor’s Role

• Meet with students
• Help develop a balanced list of colleges
• Meet with parents after the first student meeting
• Work with advisor for the historical perspective
The Parents’ Role

Positive reinforcement
Support
Communicate
Advocacy
Transportation
Listen
Comparison is the thief of joy.
Questions?