The College Process for the Class of 2020

SEPTEMBER 17, 2018
Introductions

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Goals for the Evening

- Landscape
- The College Process & Our Philosophy
- Support – What’s in your toolbox?
- What to Expect
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Q & A
Competition Demystified

✓ Outwit, Outplay, Outlast
✓ Narrow definition of “success”
✓ Knight Pride
✓ Maximize opportunity
✓ See the whole process
✓ Strive to find colleges that fit
Defining a “Good College”

- Location/environment
- Desired academic programs
- Internships/activities
- Financially accessible
- Will challenge AND support
Admissions Landscape

- Bubble has burst
- So why do admit rates keep dropping?
  - Number of applications per student high
  - Number of college-bound students rising
  - Colleges seek textured student body
  - Geographic distribution
  - International applications up
The Best Defense?
A Balanced College List!
The Balanced List

Reach    Possible    Likely
# Accuracy Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Far Reach/Highly Unlikely</th>
<th>Reach/Unlikely</th>
<th>Possible</th>
<th>Likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>60.5%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Classes of 2016-2018

% Accepted by Category
Likely Colleges

“I don’t want to belong to any club that will accept people like me as a member.”

-Groucho Marx
The College Process
The College Process
Our Philosophy

✔ Development
✔ Ownership
✔ Empowerment
Development

“It is difficult to stand forth in one’s growing if one is not permitted to live through the states of one’s un-ripeness, clumsiness, un-readiness, as well as one’s grace and aptitude.”

-- M.C. Richards
Ownership

✔ Be the passenger...
✔ Seize the opportunity...
✔ Beware reverse psychology...
Empowerment

✔ Terrible twos all over again!
✔ Push & pull
✔ “How can I help?”
Strategy PLUS

Expert Advice
PLUS
Skill Development
“When children aren’t given the space to struggle through things on their own, they don’t learn to problem solve very well. They don’t learn to be confident in their own abilities.”

— Julie Lythcott-Haims, How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success
Strategy PLUS

“Here’s your list of colleges”

“These are the due dates for all your applications.”

“You should analyze offerings of your college choices using this rubric.”

vs

“Here’s how to create your own list of colleges.”

“Let’s review the deadline chart you created.”

“Have you thought about how you will decide which colleges meet your needs?”
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

“Let’s get a head start and visit some colleges early!”

Revisits, anxiety, frustration

SOLUTION: Honor development
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

“Take standardized tests early and often!”

Burnout & collateral damage

SOLUTION: Thoughtful plan
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

“The Admission Process is just a game!”

There are winners and losers

SOLUTION: Reframe approach
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

“Make a chart to make a choice about a college!”

Emotional response is “wrong”

SOLUTION: Honor instincts
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

“Gather as much information as possible from everyone!”

Confusion and anxiety

SOLUTION: Values at the center
Support

WHAT IS IN YOUR TOOLBOX?
The College Office
Naviance Student, an improved, mobile friendly experience is available for Family Connection.

Buckingham Browne & Nichols School :: Cambridge, MA :: U.S.

Class of 2019 Snapshots (for all students)
Students with submitted applications ↓

Not applied 100.0%  applied 0.0%

- Reminder, Common App Integration Opt-In and Opt-Out
  Deadline is September 15, 2018

- Naviance eDocs and Teacher Desk Available Now!

Naviance Marketplace
Boost student success with powerful third party add-ons for Naviance

Naviance Professional Development Courses
Visit the Naviance Professional Development Resources Page in the Naviance Network to access the course catalog, course workbooks, public course schedule, and detailed information regarding professional development offerings.
Buckingham Browne & Nichols School
ACT vs. GPA Scattergram (2012-2019): Thomas Brady

Accepted Avg. (3.61)

Grade Point Average

Accepted Avg. (32)

ACT Scores

= Thomas Brady (GPA=3.00, ACT=30)

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Expectations

WHAT COMES NEXT?
The year ahead...

- Class meetings
- Standardized testing
- Naviance & Parent questionnaires
- College Counseling Workshop
- Meet with college counselor starting in January
  - Help develop the college list
  - Help plan spring break diagnostic visits
  - Help craft a testing plan
  - Support advisors with course selection
Class meetings

✔ Introduce the counselors
✔ What to expect
✔ What is expected
✔ Reminder to stay in the now
Standardized Tests

✔ PSAT
✔ ACT
✔ SAT
✔ Subject Tests
✔ APs
Standardized Testing

Colleges often change testing requirements

Most colleges have dropped SAT subject tests from admission requirements
Standardized Tests: Recommended First Round

✔ PSAT/NMSQT: Oct 24 (Wednesday)
✔ ACT: February or April
✔ SAT: March
✔ SAT Subject Tests: May/June
✔ AP Tests: May
Standardized Tests: Retesting

✔ ACT/SAT: Spring & Senior year
✔ SAT Subject Tests: Senior year
✔ Summer testing: pros and cons
✔ College Counselors will help create an individualized plan
To Prep or Not to Prep?

✔ Independent work
✔ Khan Academy
✔ Tutor
✔ Group Class
✔ Method
Test Registration

✔ No standby option
✔ Do not send scores
✔ Photo upload at registration
✔ Photo ID required!
✔ Students responsible for registration!
Questionnaires

- Hard copy / download
- Be honest
- Be PROUD!
- Internal document only
- “Ticket” to first meeting
College Counseling Workshop

✔ Kick-off event
✔ Admission Representatives
✔ Small group experiences
✔ Student panel
✔ Financial aid information
The College Search

✔ “Taste-test” types (diagnostic)
✔ Exploring options
✔ Defining needs
✔ Cutting vs selecting
✔ Final lists
March Vacation

Diagnostic visits

✓ No interviews
✓ Large/small
✓ Rural/urban
✓ Likely & Unlikely
BISCCA Fair

✓ Sunday in the spring
✓ Milton Academy
✓ College Reps from outside of New England
Looking Ahead... 

✓ Summer Send-off!
✓ Summer
✓ Visits & pre-scheduled interviews
✓ Applications & essays
✓ Senior fall... applications!
“What’s your early strategy?”
A word about student-athletes...
Responsibilities
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
The Student’s Role

✔ Schedule meetings with college counselor
✔ Make the most of BB&N
✔ Fill out questionnaires
✔ Register for ACT/SAT
✔ Check SCHOOL email!
✔ Eat, sleep, grow!
The Counselors’ Role

✔ Coach student through process
✔ Meet with parent(s) AFTER the first student meeting
✔ Connect with advisor for historical perspective
What counselors will do:

- Guide students through all parts of the college process – start to finish
- Return messages in timely fashion
- Reduce stress whenever possible
- Review applications and essays
- Support EVERY student
What counselors will NOT do:

- Fill out applications for students
- Advocate for some students over others
- Register students for standardized tests
- Meet with parents more than students
- Serve as a mouthpiece for adult agendas
- Ignore the anxiety of any student
- Tell a student where to go to college
Communication Tips

✔ Fall seniors, spring juniors
✔ Email & phone calls
✔ Meetings
✔ College Counseling mailings
✔ College Counseling website
The Parent’s Role

✔ Be a consultant, not an agent
✔ Positive reinforcement
✔ Provide Transportation
✔ Be a support
✔ Communicate
✔ Advocate
✔ Listen
✔ Begin to let go and...
Enjoy the ride!