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# PSAT Results & Early College Planning

— Shannon Lungariello —  
College & Career Counselor

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# How BHS Prepares Students for College & Career

- **Curriculum**

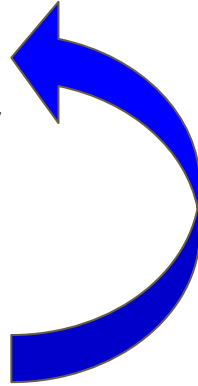
- Connecticut Common Core Standards (CCCS)
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- State Social Studies frameworks

- **Instruction**

- Gradual Release of Responsibility

- **Assessment**

- Common across courses
- STAR Math and Reading
- PSAT
- SAT



# Comprehensive School Counseling Program

- **9th Grade**

- Transition to High School
- Learning Styles/Study Skills
- Club Fair
- PSAT

- **10th Grade**

- Transcript Review and Goal Setting
- Resume Development
- Career Exploration
- Career Fair
- PSAT

- **11th Grade**

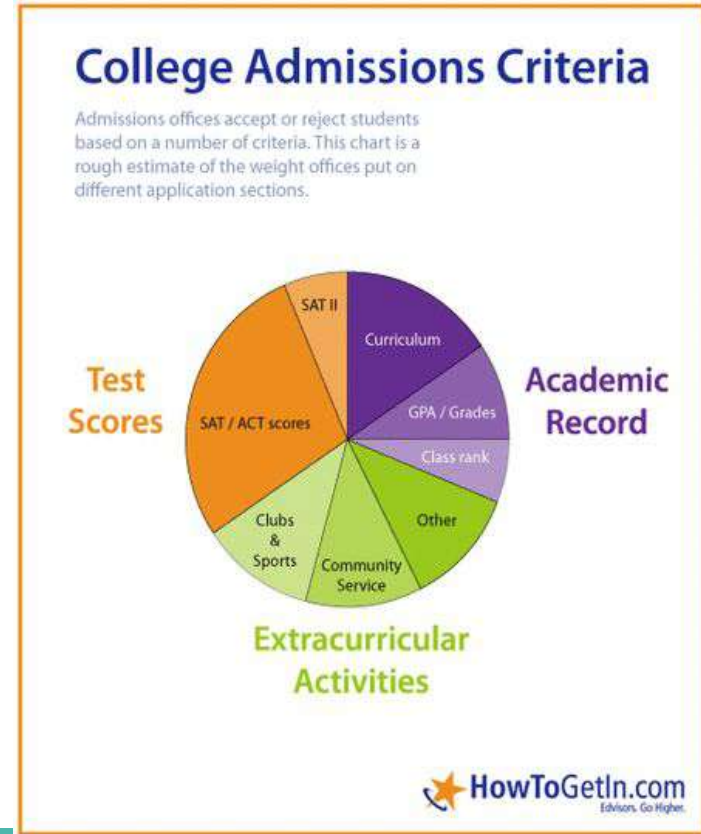
- Post High School Planning
- College & Career Exploration
- Junior Advisement Meetings
- Resume Development
- College Essay Development
- PSAT & SAT

- **12th Grade**

- Post High School Planning
- College Application Process
- Funding College
- Transition to Post High School Path

# College Admissions Overview

- Rigor of Curriculum
- Grades
- Admissions Test Scores
- College Essay
- Letters of Recommendation
- Extracurricular Activities & Community Service
- Supplemental Materials (e.g., auditions, portfolios)
- Interview



# Overview of College Admissions Testing

- Most colleges/universities require college admissions testing (SAT or ACT).
- Some of the most selective colleges/universities require SAT Subject Tests (SAT II Tests).
- Some colleges/universities are test optional (**fairtest.org**).



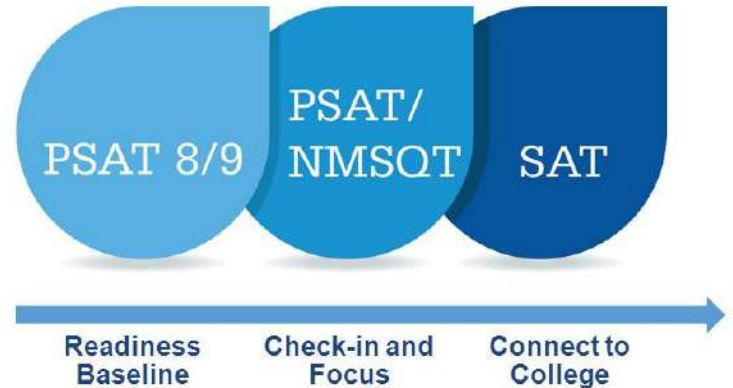
A word cloud of Connecticut Test Optional Schools. The text is arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'CT Test Optional Schools' in the center in large, bold, blue letters. Other schools listed include Wesleyan, Sacred Heart, Connecticut College, Quinnipiac, Saint Joseph, Mitchell, Fairfield, Trinity, Goodwin, Eastern, Western, and Charter Oak. The colors of the text vary, including shades of blue, green, and black.

Wesleyan Sacred Heart  
Connecticut College  
CT Test Optional Schools  
Quinnipiac Saint Joseph Mitchell  
Fairfield Trinity  
Goodwin Eastern Western  
Charter Oak

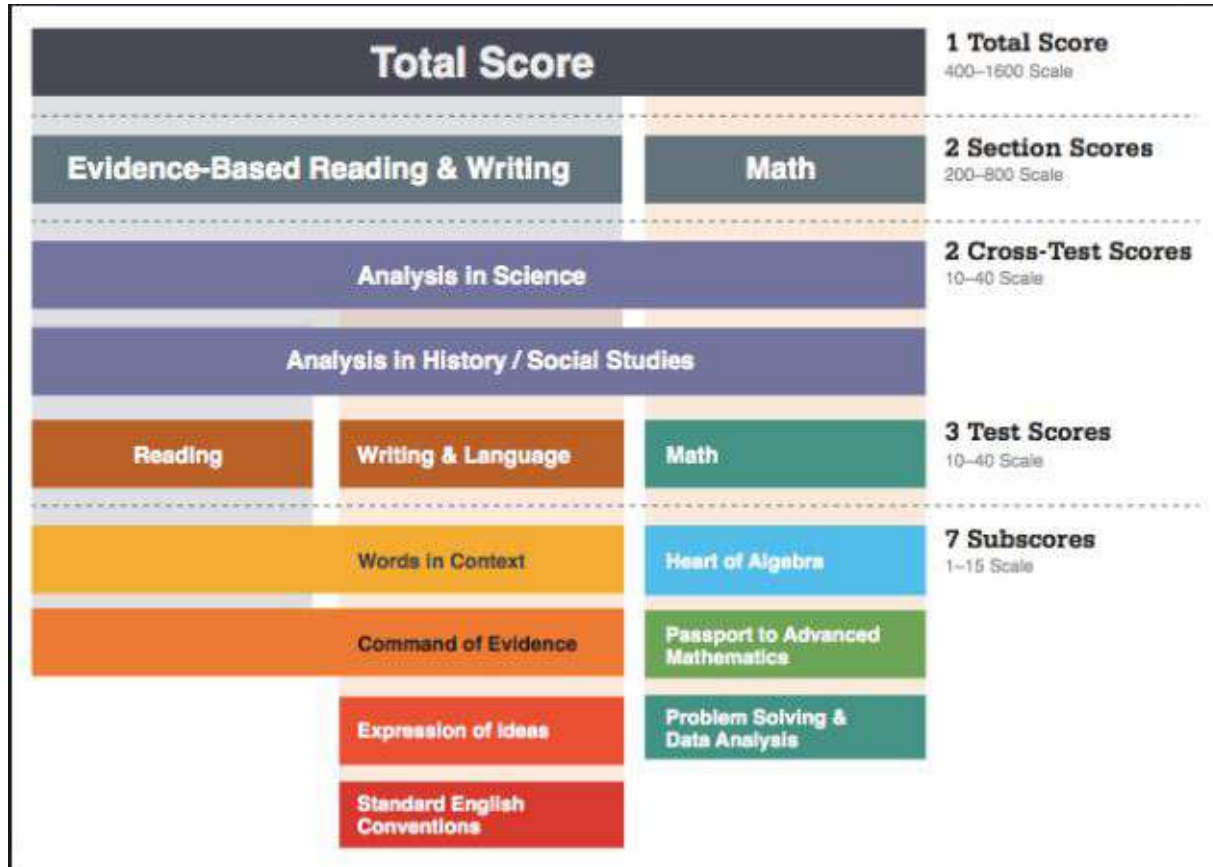
# Introduction to PSAT

- All 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students take in the fall at BHS
- Exposes students to the SAT
- Provides results which can be used as a resource to prepare for the SAT
- Used to determine National Merit Scholarship eligibility for 11th graders

## The SAT® Suite of Assessments



# SAT & PSAT Scores



# PSAT - Scores & What They Mean

Total Score



## YOUR SCORE TODAY

### Your Total Score

**960** | 320 to 1520

You are in the **51<sup>st</sup>** percentile



You scored equal to or higher than 51% of students

Section Scores



### Your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score

**430** | 180 to 780

You are in the **31<sup>st</sup>** percentile



**!** Your score shows that you're **not** on track to be ready for college, but you need to keep building your skills.

### Your Math Score

**530** | 180 to 780

You are in the **69<sup>th</sup>** percentile



**✓** Your score shows that you're **on** track to be ready for college.

### Your Test Scores\*

Reading **23** | 8 to 38

Math **26.5** | 8 to 38

Writing and Language **20** | 8 to 38

\* Additional detailed scores, like test scores, provide more insight into deeper understanding of test performance. Test scores are also used to calculate your MASC-Scores Index.

Test Scores



Go online for your full report

**Ima,**  
this was your score when you took the test; it is not a measure of how far you can grow!



Students with scores like yours increased their performance from the PSAT/NMSQT® to the SAT® by 130 points after 10 or more hours of

\*Under the total and section scores, you'll see percentiles.

\*Under the section percentiles, you'll see where you fall on the spectrum that measures college readiness:



Need to strengthen skills



Approaching Benchmark



Meet or exceed Benchmark



# PSAT - Scores & What They Mean

**YOUR PATH TOMORROW**

**Here's what else is waiting for you online:**

- 1 A link to free personalized practice on Khan Academy**  
Share your scores with Khan Academy to get your personalized practice.
- 2 A list of the challenging courses you're ready for**  
Congrats! Your scores show you're ready to succeed in AP® courses.
- 3 Your customized starter college list**  
Check out the tools at BigFuture™ to kick-start your college plans.

**SAT** **Don't forget!**  
Register to take the SAT ahead of college application deadlines in spring of junior year and fall of senior year.

**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION**

**Your NMSC Selection Index**  
**139**

NMSC uses a Selection Index score based on PSAT/NMSQT scores on an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. The Selection Index score is double the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

**Eligibility Information**  
You meet entry requirements for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program and your Selection Index score will be considered among 1.6 million program entrants.

If your Selection Index places you among the 50,000 high scorers who qualify for National Merit Scholarship Program recognition, you will be notified next September when qualifying Selection Index scores will be made available.

**Entry Requirements**  
Information you provided on your answer sheet:

High school student: **YES**  
Year to complete high school and enroll full-time in college: **2020**  
Total years to be spent in grades 9-12: **4**

**National Merit Scholarship Corporation**  
National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) sponsors the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships.

To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2020 competition, NMSC will consider the 2018 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.6 million test takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

**National Merit Scholarship Corporation**  
Attn: Scholarship Administration  
1360 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200  
Evanston, IL 60201-4597

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

National Merit  
Scholarship  
Corporation  
Selection Index  
([nationalmerit.org](http://nationalmerit.org))

\*Juniors who scored among the top 50,000 students on the PSAT will be notified in September of senior year.

# PSAT - Scores & What They Mean

Question-Level Feedback by Section indicates:

- correct answer
- student's answer
- level of difficulty

\*This feedback can also indicate if students ran out of time.

## Your Question-Level Feedback

**QUESTIONS OVERVIEW**

<b>READING</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>21</b>
Total Questions		Correct Answers
<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	
Incorrect Answers		Correct Answers
<b>WRITING AND LANGUAGE</b>		
<b>44</b>	<b>17</b>	
Total Questions		Correct Answers
<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>	
Incorrect Answers		Correct Answers
<b>MATH - CALCULATOR</b>		
<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	
Total Questions		Correct Answers
<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	
Incorrect Answers		Correct Answers
<b>MATH - NO CALCULATOR</b>		
<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	
Total Questions		Correct Answers
<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	
Incorrect Answers		Correct Answers

\*Tip: A great way to start improving check out the easy questions you missed first.

**KEY**

- ✓ Correct
- Omitted
- ⊘ Incomplete
- ✗ Marked-Incorrect
- Easy Question
- Medium Question
- Hard Question
- Easy Question Missed

**READING**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	A	✓	●
2	B	Δ	■
3	B	✓	■
4	B	A	■
5	D	✓	■
6	D	✓	■
7	B	✓	■
8	A	✓	■
9	D	✓	■
10	A	✓	■
11	D	✓	■
12	D	■	■
13	D	A	■
14	A	✗	■
15	C	B	■
16	B	C	■
17	D	C	■
18	B	D	■
19	A	✓	■
20	C	✓	■
21	B	D	■
22	D	✓	■
23	B	D	■
24	D	✓	■
25	C	✓	■
26	B	A	■
27	B	C	■
28	A	C	■
29	D	A	■
30	B	A	■
31	D	✓	■
32	A	✓	■
33	C	✓	■
34	A	B	■
35	A	B	■
36	C	D	■
37	A	✓	■
38	C	D	■
39	C	✓	■
40	C	✓	■
41	B	✓	■
42	B	✓	■
43	A	B	■
44	A	✓	■
45	A	C	■
46	D	A	■
47	C	B	■

**WRITING AND LANGUAGE**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	D	○	■
2	B	✓	■
3	C	D	■
4	C	A	■
5	B	D	■
6	B	✗	■
7	A	D	■
8	B	D	■
9	A	B	■
10	D	✓	■
11	D	✓	■
12	B	✓	■
13	C	✓	■
14	C	B	■
15	D	✓	■
16	B	A	■
17	B	D	■
18	A	✓	■
19	B	✓	■
20	C	D	■
21	A	✓	■
22	A	B	■
23	C	B	■
24	D	C	■
25	C	D	■
26	A	✓	■
27	A	D	■
28	B	✓	■
29	D	A	■
30	C	B	■
31	D	✓	■
32	B	✓	■
33	D	✓	■
34	D	B	■
35	D	✓	■
36	B	A	■
37	C	○	■
38	A	✓	■
39	C	✓	■
40	D	A	■
41	D	B	■
42	A	B	■
43	C	○	■
44	B	C	■

**MATH - CALCULATOR**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	B	○	■
2	A	✓	■
3	B	✓	■
4	D	✓	■
5	B	D	■
6	A	✓	■
7	B	✓	■
8	C	B	■
9	A	✓	■
10	D	✓	■
11	D	✓	■
12	A	✓	■
13	B	✓	■
14	C	✓	■

**MATH - CALCULATOR**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
15	C	✓	■
16	B	✓	■
17	D	✓	■
18	B	A	■
19	C	✓	■
20	B	✓	■
21	B	✓	■
22	D	✓	■
23	D	✓	■
24	C	✓	■
25	D	✓	■
26	B	✓	■
27	D	✓	■

**MATH - CALCULATOR**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
28	85	80	■
29	112	7	■
30	1588	0	■
31	85	76	■

**MATH - NO CALCULATOR**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
1	D	○	■
2	A	✓	■
3	B	✓	■
4	C	B	■
5	C	✓	■
6	B	✓	■
7	A	✓	■

**MATH - NO CALCULATOR**

Question #	Correct	Your Answer	Difficulty
8	B	C	■
9	C	✓	■
10	D	✓	■
11	A	C	■
12	C	✓	■
13	B	A	■

psat.org/myscore

Go online for your full report

\*Beginning Dec. 11, students can log on to College Board to view their full report, including

- Questions and answers
- Subscores
- Strengths and Weaknesses

# PSAT - What now? Khan Academy



A college readiness partnership  
CollegeBoard + KHANACADEMY

## Official SAT® Practice

Start Practicing

Personalized practice, anytime, anywhere—for FREE.



**Practice tests and more**  
6 official full-length practice tests, plus study and test-taking tips.



**A tailored practice plan**  
We'll import your PSAT/NMSQT results and pinpoint your areas for practice.

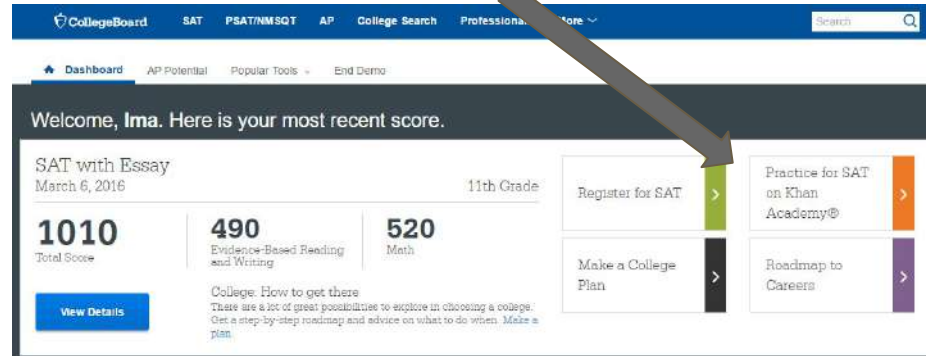


**Interactive practice**  
Thousands of practice questions, video lessons, and hints.



**Instant feedback**  
Get constant feedback and progress so you know where you stand.

Students can link College Board accounts to Khan Academy to begin practicing.



CollegeBoard SAT PSAT/NMSQT AP College Search Professional Store

Dashboard AP Potential Popular Tools End Demo

Welcome, Ima. Here is your most recent score.

SAT with Essay March 6, 2016	11th Grade	
<b>1010</b> Total Score	<b>490</b> Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	<b>520</b> Math
<a href="#">View Details</a>	College: How to get there There are a lot of great possibilities to explore in choosing a college. Get a step-by-step roadmap and advice on what to do when. <a href="#">Make a plan.</a>	<a href="#">Practice for SAT on Khan Academy®</a>
<a href="#">Register for SAT</a>	<a href="#">Make a College Plan</a>	<a href="#">Roadmap to Careers</a>

“20 hours of practice is associated with a 115-point average score increase from the PSAT to the SAT, nearly double the average gain of students who do not practice on Official SAT Practice.”

# SAT vs ACT

(adapted from collegeboard.org)

Structure and Timing	SAT	ACT
Testing time	3 hours + 50 minute essay (optional)	2 hours 55 minutes + 40 minute essay (optional)
Structure	3 test + optional essay  <b>Reading Test</b> 65 minutes, 52 questions <b>Writing and Language</b> 35 minutes, 44 questions <b>Math Test</b> 80 minutes, 58 questions	4 tests + optional essay  <b>Reading Test</b> 35 minutes, 40 questions <b>English Test</b> 45 minutes, 75 questions <b>Math Test</b> 60 minutes, 60 questions <b>Science Test</b> 35 minutes, 40 questions
Number of questions	154	215
Time per question	1 minute, 10 seconds	49 seconds
Score range	Composite: 400-1600	Composite 1-36

Some key differences

# SAT vs ACT

(adapted from collegeboard.org)




Features	SAT	ACT
Tests the vocabulary you'll use	Yes	Yes
Everyday math formulas provided	Yes	No
Essay is optional	Yes	Yes
Penalty for guessing	No	No

# SAT Subject Tests (SAT II)

- College admission exams on specific subjects
- You choose which tests best showcase your strengths
- 1 hour long (up to 3 tests can be taken on a given date)
- Multiple choice
- **List of colleges that use subject tests**



# Comparing Scores Among CT Schools

COLLEGES	 <p><b>Western Connecticut State University</b> Danbury, CT</p> <p><a href="#">+ Add to My College List</a></p> <p><a href="#">Remove college from comparison</a></p>	 <p><b>University of Connecticut</b> Storrs, CT</p> <p><a href="#">+ Add to My College List</a></p> <p><a href="#">Remove college from comparison</a></p>	 <p><b>Yale University</b> New Haven, CT</p> <p><a href="#">+ Add to My College List</a></p> <p><a href="#">Remove college from comparison</a></p>
ADMISSIONS	<p><b>Somewhat selective</b> 71% of applicants admitted</p> <p><b>Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAT Reasoning Test or ACT: Recommended</li> <li>SAT Subject Tests: Consider If Submitted</li> </ul> <p><b>SAT Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Math: 490-590</li> <li>Evidence Based Reading &amp; Writing: 500-590</li> </ul> <p><b>ACT Composite Scores</b></p> <p>--</p>	<p><b>Very selective</b> 49% of applicants admitted</p> <p><b>Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essay(s): Required</li> <li>SAT Reasoning Test or ACT: Required</li> </ul> <p><b>SAT Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Math: 610-710</li> <li>Evidence Based Reading &amp; Writing: 600-680</li> </ul> <p><b>ACT Composite Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26-31</li> </ul>	<p><b>Most selective</b> 7% of applicants admitted</p> <p><b>Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essay(s): Required</li> <li>SAT Reasoning Test or ACT: Required</li> <li>SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests, or ACT: Recommended</li> </ul> <p><b>SAT Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Math: 710-800</li> <li>Evidence Based Reading &amp; Writing: 710-790</li> </ul> <p><b>ACT Composite Scores</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32-35</li> </ul>

\*Chart generated using Big Future section of College Board

\*Naviance features scattergrams which are also very helpful.

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Should I take the SAT, ACT, or both?**
  - Colleges will accept either the SAT or ACT.
  - We recommend students take one SAT and ACT and then focus on the test on which they performed better and retest as needed.
- **How many times should I take them?**
  - Simply retesting will not necessarily improve scores.
  - We recommend that students complete some type of targeted test preparation/intervention in order to see score improvement.
- **Should I take a test with an essay?**
  - Some of the more selective colleges require the SAT/ACT with essay.
  - Some students like to have that score just in case a school requires it.



# Frequently Asked Questions

- **What will colleges see?**
  - Most colleges utilize *Score Choice* and will only see the scores you choose to send them.
- **What is superscoring?**
  - Combining section scores from different test dates to create a new “superscore”
  - Most colleges will superscore the SAT; some will superscore the ACT.
- **How can I compare an SAT score with an ACT score?**
  - Concordance tables are available on the College Board website
- **What can I do as a parent to help my student?**
  - Help ease students’ anxiety about the tests
  - Help students determine if test prep is needed and the best option

# Suggested Testing Timeline

<b>Freshman &amp; Sophomore Year</b>	Fall - PSAT Test
<b>Junior Year</b>	Fall - PSAT Test
	Winter/Spring - Use PSAT results to prepare for SAT and prepare for ACT
	April 9 - SAT in School (No registration required)
	December-June - Take ACT
	Spring/Summer - Take SAT/ACT with Writing and SAT Subject Tests (if needed)
<b>Senior Year</b>	Fall - Retest if needed

**\*When determining a testing plan, families should consider which times of the year are busiest for students and when they will have time to complete test preparation prior to a test.**

# Connecticut SAT School Day

- April 9, 2019
- Given in school
- No cost
- School will register students
- Evidence-Based Reading & Writing & Math Sections
- No essay
- Scores can be sent to colleges just like any other SAT test

# How to Register

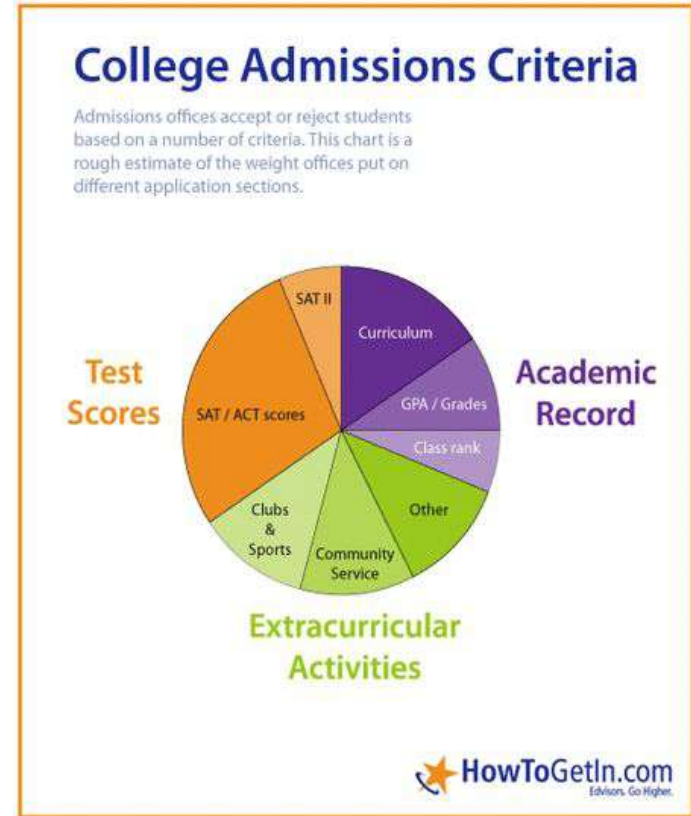
- Register for **SAT and SAT Subject Tests** at **CollegeBoard.org**
- Register for **ACT** at **ACT.org**
- Fee waivers are available to those participating in the free/reduced lunch program - **Talk with your school counselor if you are enrolled.** (Counselors don't have access to this information and therefore don't contact families.)

# Test Prep Options

- Khan Academy
- CollegeBoard.org and ACT.org
- More test prep resources on BHS School Counseling website
- Local test prep companies
  - Group/classroom settings
  - Weekend bootcamps
  - Individual tutoring
- **Use PSAT Results & knowledge of yourself as a learner to choose which test prep method is best for you!**
- **Regardless of the method, we recommend completing prep in the weeks/months leading up to a scheduled test.**

# College Admissions Overview

- Rigor of Curriculum
- Grades
- Admissions Test Scores
- College Essay
- Letters of Recommendation
- Extracurricular Activities & Community Service
- Supplemental Materials (e.g., auditions, portfolios)
- Interview



***College is a match to be made,  
not a prize to be won.***

# Transcript & Grades

- Seniors applying to college will send transcripts that show
  - 9th, 10th, and 11th grade courses and final grades
  - 9th, 10th, and 11th GPA **AND** Cumulative GPA (weighted)
  - Senior Year Courses
- Colleges don't just look at the GPA; they also consider the rigor of a student's curriculum.
  - Students should challenge themselves appropriately and consider courses related to an anticipated field of study.
  - Senior year courses are also taken into consideration.

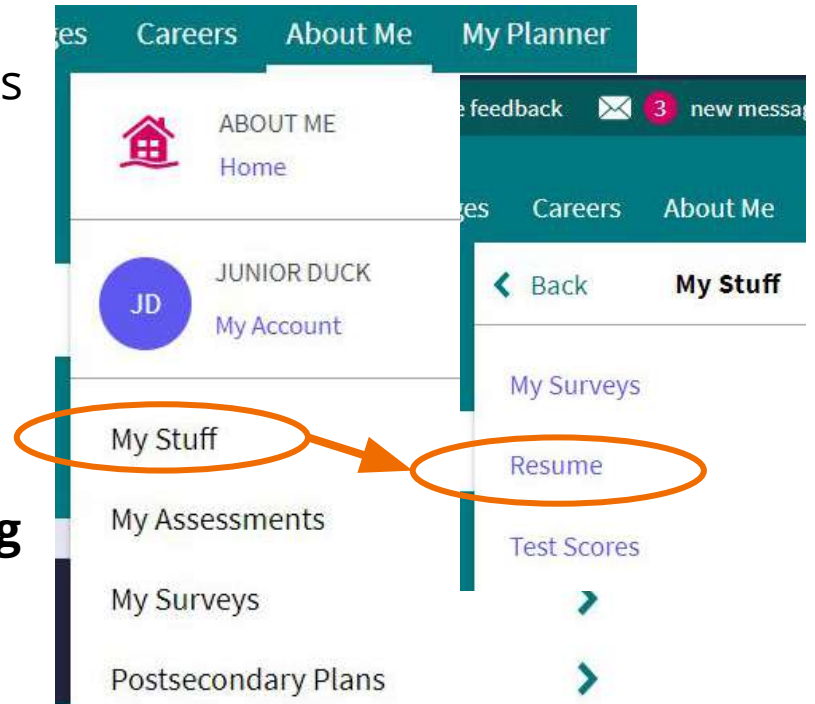


# Transcript & Grades

- Senior year matters!
  - Some colleges will want to see first quarter and/or first semester grades.
- The school will also report decile ranking when sending transcripts.
  - Based on cumulative GPA
  - Shows where you rank in class (i.e., top 10%, top 20%, top 30%, etc.)

# Extracurricular Involvement

- Colleges want students who will be active, engaged members of the campus community.
- It's about quality, not quantity.
- Students should seek out opportunities for extracurricular involvement and community service that align with their interests. **Check the School Counseling website for updated opportunities.**
- Keep resume updated in Naviance.



# Starting the College Search

Location

Major

Size of School

Athletics

Other factors that are important to you

● Identify the MOST important, key aspects you are looking for in a college.

- If you don't have a major in mind, that's OKAY! Your search will focus more on college environment and other factors.

# “Goldilocks Search”

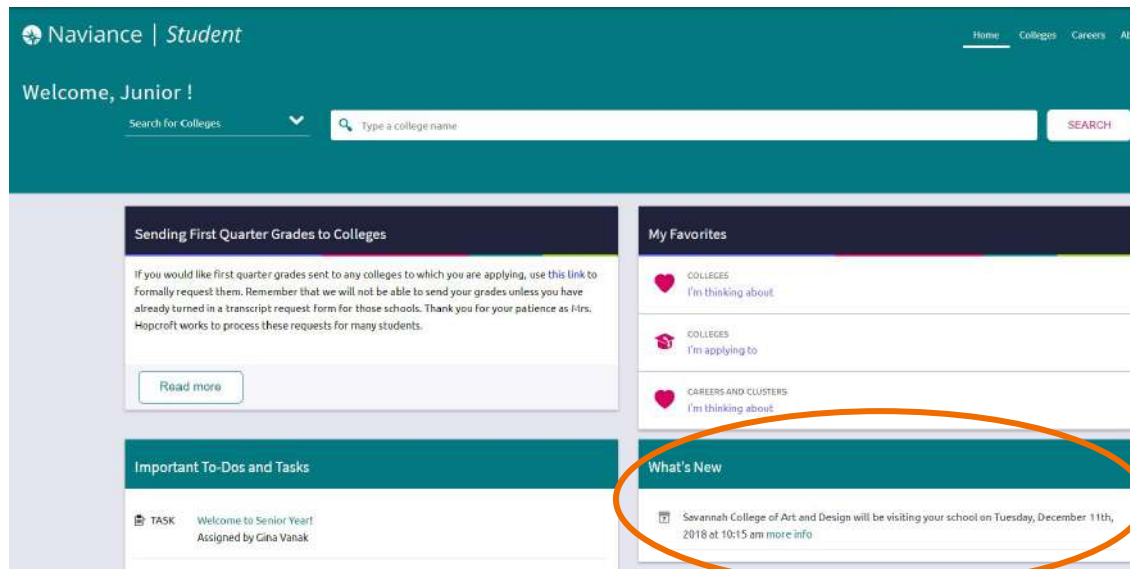
- Visit a small, medium, and large size school.
- Visit both a private and public school.
- Go on tours with your friends ... check out schools you might not have considered!
- Start a broad search with an open mind. Look at a wide range of schools.
- *What are you looking for?* You don't know until you start to look!

# College Visits

- April vacation is a great time to start looking at schools! Make your list of all the schools you want to see, and visit their websites for information about tours and open houses.
- In addition to taking a tour, consider scheduling an appointment with an admissions counselor if possible.
- Make a list of possible questions, and **DO YOUR RESEARCH** in advance!

# College Fairs & College Rep Visits

- Local college fairs are great opportunities to speak with representatives from a wide variety of schools. The Danbury Mall usually hosts one in October.
- In the fall many college representatives will visit BHS. Sign up on Naviance to speak with the people who will most likely be reviewing your application.

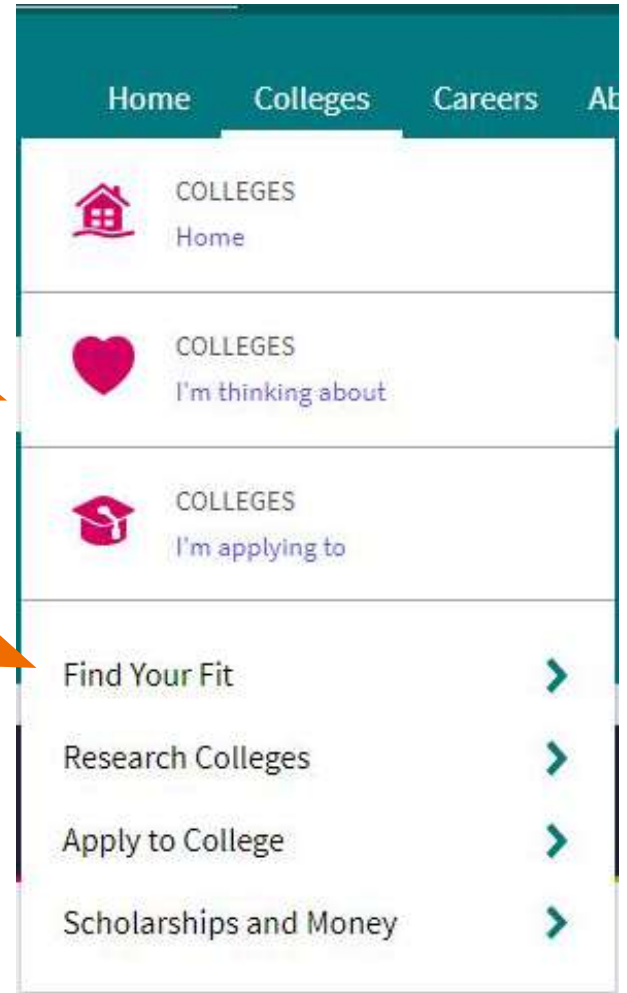


The screenshot shows the Naviance Student dashboard. At the top, it says "Naviance | Student" and "Welcome, Junior!". Below this is a search bar for colleges. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Sending First Quarter Grades to Colleges:** A section with a dark header and light background. It contains text about sending grades and a "Read more" button.
- My Favorites:** A section with a dark header and light background. It lists three items: "COLLEGES I'm thinking about", "COLLEGES I'm applying to", and "CAREERS AND CLUSTERS I'm thinking about".
- Important To-Dos and Tasks:** A section with a dark header and light background. It shows a task titled "Welcome to Senior Year!" assigned by Gina Vanak.
- What's New:** A section with a dark header and light background. It features a notification: "Savannah College of Art and Design will be visiting your school on Tuesday, December 11th, 2018 at 10:15 am more info". This section is circled in orange.

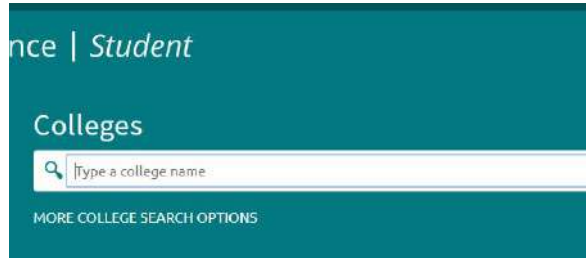
# Naviance

- In the **Colleges section** you can:
  - Add schools of interest to the “Colleges I’m Thinking About” list
  - Conduct a College Search
  - Examine scattergrams to help determine chances of admissions
  - Search for scholarships and summer/enrichment opportunities (also on Counseling Dept website)



# Naviance - Scattergrams

Step 1:  
Type in the name of a college, or use the college search tool to generate a list of results.



nce | Student

Colleges

MORE COLLEGE SEARCH OPTIONS

Select	College
<input type="checkbox"/>	♥ Community Culinary School of Northwestern Connecticut
<input type="checkbox"/>	♥ * Northwestern Connecticut Community College
<input type="checkbox"/>	♥ * Western Connecticut State University

Step 2:  
Select the college

Great news! Western Connecticut State University is looking for students like you. [♥ Add to colleges I'm thinking about](#) [No Thanks](#)



Western Connecticut State University ♥  
Danbury, CT, United States | [www.wcsu.edu](http://www.wcsu.edu)

[Communicate](#) [Apply online](#) [L](#)

Overview

Studies

Student Life

Admissions

Step 3:  
Click on the Admissions Tab



# Naviance - Scattergrams

Step 4:  
View BHS applicants' admission status based on GPA + test scores & see where you are in the chart.



# Additional Resources

- CollegeBoard
  - \*Use the **BigFuture** section to access information on planning for college, finding colleges, exploring majors and careers, getting application advice, and paying for college
  - \*Explore AP test options
- Rugg's list: Ask your counselor for a copy of the best schools for a specific major.
- US News
- Fiske Guide
- Princeton Review
- 350 Best Colleges: Princeton Review

# New England Regional Tuition Break Program

- **Get comparable in-state tuition at out-of-state schools.** Some majors that are not offered by a CT State College are eligible for a reduced tuition amount at other New England region state schools.
- **Visit [www.nebhe.org](http://www.nebhe.org)** to see a list of participating schools in the New England region, as well as eligible majors for CT residents.
- ***Some of the majors:*** Architecture (BFA), Business Psychology, Cinema Production, Creative Writing (BFA), Dance, Entrepreneurship, Ethnic and Gender Studies, Fashion Design & Retailing, Film Media/Studies, Game Design, Homeland Security, Meteorology, Music Business, Photography

# Connecticut Transfer Ticket Program

- Begin at CT community college
- 26 Available Majors
- Complete 2 years (earn Associate's Degree)
- Maintain 2.0 GPA
- Transfer to Western, Southern, Central, or Eastern
- Complete 2 more years to earn Bachelor's Degree
- <http://www.ct.edu/transfer/tickets>

# Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP)

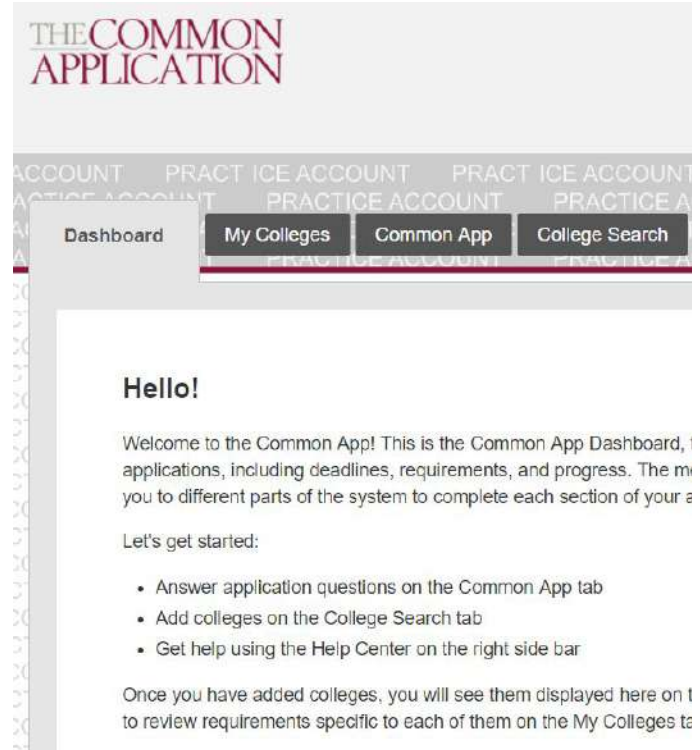
- Begin at CT community college
- 3 Areas of Study: Liberal Arts/Sciences; Ag, Health, & Natural Resources; Business
- Complete 2 years (earn Associate's)
- Meet GPA & Course Requirements (3.0-3.3)
- Transfer to University of Connecticut
- Complete 2 more years for Bachelor's
- <https://admissions.uconn.edu/apply/transfer/gap>

# Financial Aid

- We host a **Financial Aid Night** in the fall with more detailed information.
- **FAFSA** - [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - an application required to be considered for grants, loans and work study
- **CSS Profile** - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - an application required by some private schools to help them determine eligibility for financial aid
- **Scholarships**
  - Research scholarships using the School Counseling website, websites of the colleges you are considering, and Naviance.

# Common App

- One standardized online application (with supplemental requirements for each school)
- Accepted by over 600 colleges/universities
  - Naviance will note if a school is a Common App school.
- Rising seniors can begin filling out the application in August before senior year.
- Essay component - Students will draft an essay in their junior English class.



# Student Athletes

- In order to be eligible for DI and DII athletics, you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center - [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- By the end of Grade 11
  - Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Once you've registered, Mrs. Hopcroft will be notified to send your transcript.
  - Submit SAT/ACT scores to the NCAA using code 9999.
- High school coaches can be a great resource throughout this process.
- When visiting colleges, consider reaching out to coaches to set up a meeting.

# Other Tips for the College Search Process

- **Create an appropriate personal e-mail address** that can be used to receive and organize information from colleges.
- **Be mindful of social media posts.** Some colleges review applicants' social media accounts as part of the admissions process.
- **Students should take the lead on their college search process.** They should reach out to college representatives, ask questions during their tours, and complete their own applications. Counselors are here to support students through this process.



# Next Steps

## 9th Graders

- \*Link PSAT scores to Khan Academy to prepare for 10th grade PSAT
- \*Get involved in extracurriculars
- \*Develop strong study skills and seek out extra help if needed
- \*Work with teachers & counselor to develop 10th grade schedule
- \*Meet with counselor during second semester to review the year and plan for next year

## 10th Graders

- \*Review PSAT results & use Khan to prepare for 11th grade PSAT
- \*Continue extracurricular involvement and consider new opportunities
- \*Keep resume updated
- \*Work with teachers & counselor to develop 11th grade schedule
- \*Begin career exploration in school and through outside research and experiences

## 11th Graders

- \*Review PSAT results and consider test prep options
- \*Develop testing timeline and consider taking ACT
- \*Stay tuned for information about junior advisement
- \*Begin college search process through research and visits
- \*Work with teachers & counselor to develop 12th grade schedule

# Thank you for attending!

Refer to the Counseling Department website for updated information about scholarships and student opportunities.

Follow us on Twitter @CounselorBobcat for info and tips about the college application process and scholarships.

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@CounselorBobcat  
Joined September 2016

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**Felicia Liebler** @LieblerBHS  
Follow

We are here to help!

## BHS Counseling Department

Jennifer Gioglio - A - Di

Gina Vanak - Do - K

Debbie Burch - L - Q

Kaitlyn McCabe - R - Z

Shannon Lungariello - College/Career

Rosa Hopcroft - Secretary