

*Norwood High School*  
**EARLY COLLEGE  
READINESS NIGHT**



**Duke University?**

**UMass Dartmouth?**

**Mass Bay? Providence College?**

**Middlebury?**

**Harvard? Syracuse?**

**Stonehill?**

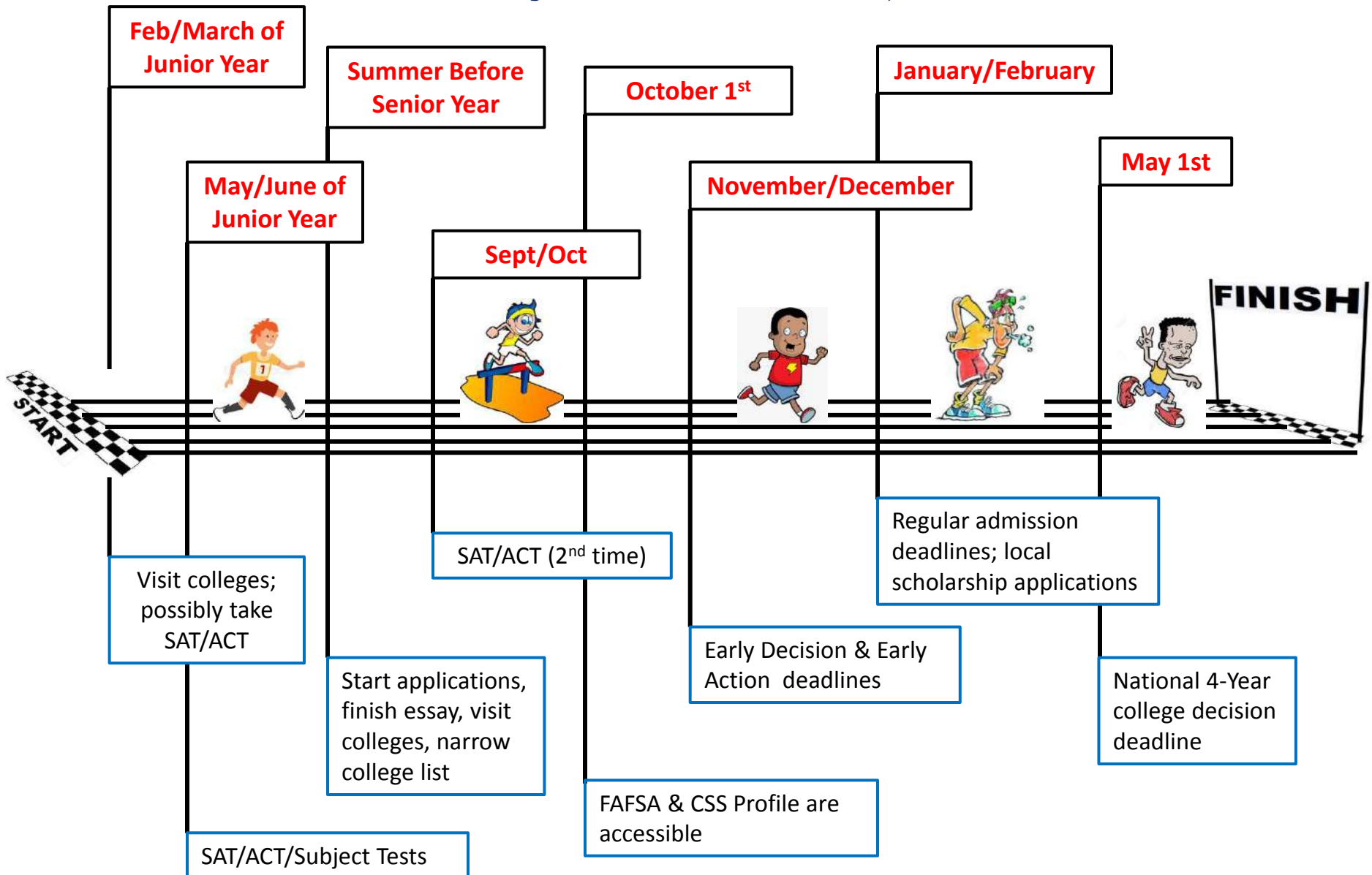
# Tonight's Agenda

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ General College Application Timeline  
*Looking ahead to Junior & Senior Year*
- ✓ General Academic Plan & Requirements
- ✓ College Entrance Exams
- ✓ How to Set Yourself Apart
- ✓ Financial Aid
- ✓ Online Resources
- ✓ Questions??



# General College Application “Track”

## (Junior & Senior Year)



# COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

HIGH SCHOOL CAREER	FRESHMAN & SOPHOMORE YEAR	JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit &amp; research colleges</li> <li>• Maintain academic progress in college prep classes</li> <li>• Become involved in extra-curricular activities</li> <li>• Save for college expenses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make an academic plan by identifying courses to take during high school</li> <li>• Take the PSAT (fall of sophomore year)</li> <li>• Complete the FAFSA4caster - estimates your eligibility for federal student aid; can also use the Net Price Calculators which are located on all college websites</li> <li>• Gain access to Naviance, NHS's college &amp; career planning tool</li> <li>• Naviance – update resume, take Career Interest Profiler, &amp; generate a list of prospective colleges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take the PSAT again (fall of junior year)</li> <li>• Pursue roles in extra-curricular activities that suit your strengths &amp; interests</li> <li>• Attend the NHS Post-secondary Fair and Career Interest Seminar</li> <li>• Sign up to tour college campuses (these are excused absences)</li> <li>• Take the SAT and/or ACT in the spring (may also need to take SAT Subject Tests depending on college admission requirements)</li> <li>• Start drafting your college essay</li> <li>• Ask teacher(s) to write letter of recommendation</li> </ul>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register to take the SAT and/or ACT again in October or November</li> <li>• Review requirements and deadlines of prospective colleges</li> <li>• Manage admissions and financial aid application deadlines</li> <li>• Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and CSS Profile</li> </ul> <p><b>DECEMBER – FEBRUARY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply for scholarships</li> <li>• Compare financial aid packages for early action schools (if applicable)</li> </ul> <p><b>MARCH – MAY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive admission decisions</li> <li>• Financial aid letters are sent</li> </ul> <p><b>MAY 1<sup>st</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Tuition Deposit Deadline</li> </ul>

# Make an Academic Plan

	Suggested High School Courses
English	4 years
Math	4 years (Algebra 1 & 2 and Geometry or Trigonometry)
Science	3 years (with a lab component in each one)
Social Science	3 years (including World and US History)
Foreign Language	<u>Minimum</u> of 2 years in the same foreign language (3+ years are recommended)
Electives	1 year in the arts and 5 additional “core” courses such as business education and technology

*Course plan recommended by MA Department of Higher Education to prepare for college and career.*

# Academic Preparation

- Exceed minimum requirements
- Take classes relevant to college plans
- Good grades vs. challenging classes
- Try to improve your grades over time
- Explore your favorite subjects
- Visit college campuses to show "demonstrated interest"



# College Entrance Exams

- PSAT: Grade 10 and 11
- SAT and ACT: Grade 11 and 12
- SAT Subject Tests: Check college's requirements
- Advanced Placement Exams
- Test Optional Schools ([www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org))
- SAT Prep Course @ NHS



# How to Set Yourself Apart

- TEC Collaborative Coursework ([www.tec-coop.org](http://www.tec-coop.org))
- Dual Enrollment  
(Earn high school AND college credit)
- School to Career Partnership Opportunities
- Job Shadowing/Internships
- Summer Pre-College Programs/Courses





# College Funding & Financial Aid

## Net Price & Net Price Calculators

- **Net Price** = The amount that a student pays to attend an institution in a single academic year AFTER subtracting scholarships and grants that the student receives. Scholarships and grants are forms of financial aid that don't need to be paid back.
- **Net Price Calculator** = Available on all college/university websites that allow prospective students to enter information that can generate a cost estimator for that specific institution.

## FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

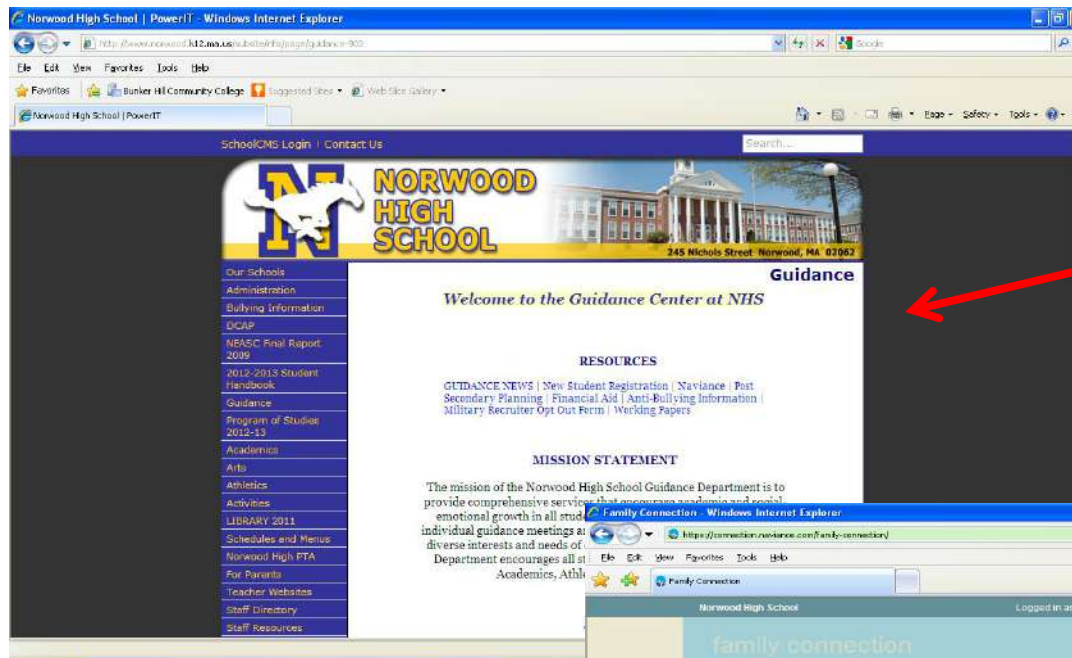
All colleges require this form in order to access any federal aid ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov))



## CSS Profile

Private colleges may require this form as well ([www.cssprofile.collegeboard.com](http://www.cssprofile.collegeboard.com))

# Online Resources

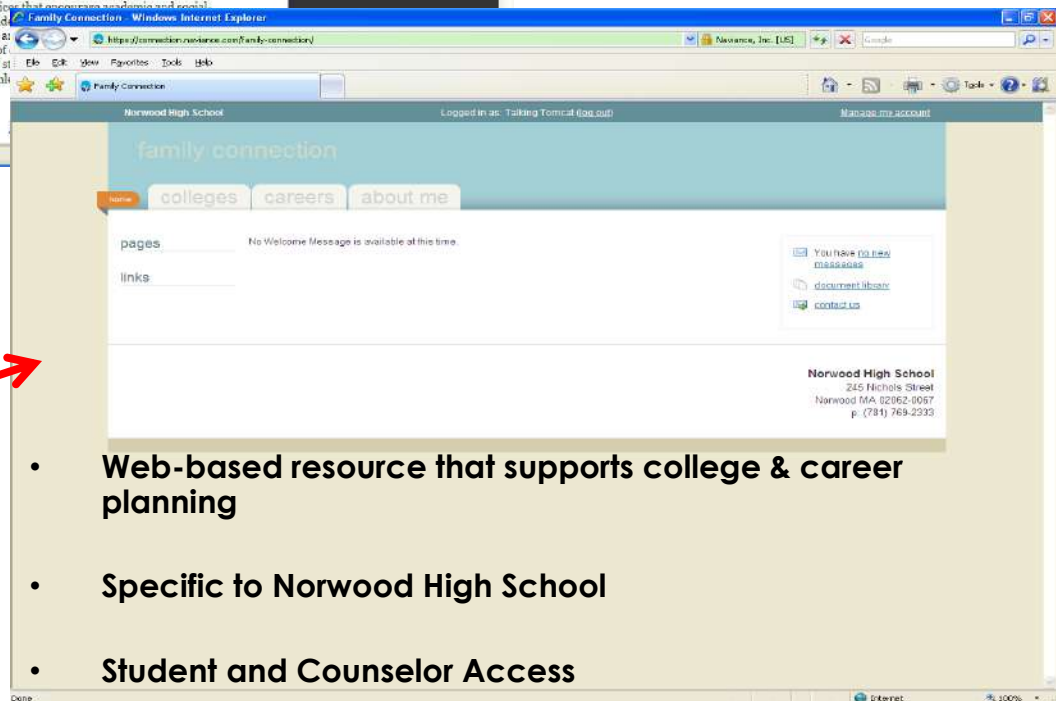


**NHS Guidance Website**

[www.norwood.k12.ma.us/subsite/nhs](http://www.norwood.k12.ma.us/subsite/nhs)

**NAVIANCE**

<http://connection.naviance.com/norwood>



- Web-based resource that supports college & career planning
- Specific to Norwood High School
- Student and Counselor Access

# QUESTIONS?

