



COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL

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August 2023

Dear Twelfth Grade Students and Parents/Guardians:

As the end of the summer nears and a new school year is upon us, the Counseling Center is working to prepare for a productive school year. Please carefully review the accompanying documents that provide essential information regarding the college application process, important dates and events for seniors, and standardized testing information.

Most importantly, and to prepare for processing college applications, students will be asked to verify their transcript. Included with this letter is a copy of your child's unofficial transcript. We ask that you review this transcript for accuracy with particular attention to the option to indicate an "Exemption" for some Regents during the 2020-21 school year. If an error is identified, mark it in red, and return your corrected transcript to the Counseling Center by Friday, September 8th. Students will be given an updated transcript from their school counselor during a Senior Class Assembly in early September.

The Counseling Center will be offering our College Application Summer Camp this year in late August. This group program will allow students to be guided by a member of the counseling staff to learn more about the application process and continue working on the Common Application. Information has been included in this mailing as a reminder. In the event that your child is unable to attend our College Application Summer Camp, please pay special attention to the information provided about setting up a Common Application account and signing the FERPA Release Authorization Form, as well as completing the Common Application Account Matching process in Naviance. The Counseling Center website has videos explaining all of these steps. Additionally, information is included on our College Essay Writing Workshop, hosted by college admissions officers. **Students must register in Naviance to attend both workshops.**

The College Application Help Desk will resume this fall, to provide on-the-spot assistance to students, in addition to individual counselor meetings. Students can ask questions about the various application platforms, application processing procedures, the submission of testing scores and more. Detailed information regarding program days and hours has been posted to our website.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their counselor during a Senior Class Meeting on either September 21st or September 22nd. More information will be shared with students upon return to school. Lastly, Senior College Night is scheduled for both parents/guardians and students on September 20th at 7:00pm.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this information. I hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer and have a successful senior year!

Please contact the Counseling Center at (631) 912-2121 with any questions concerning this information.

Sincerely,

Nicole Kregler

Nicole Kregler
Director of Counseling

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DATES FOR SENIORS 2023-2024

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

The Counseling Center will submit our portion of your applications electronically through Naviance. For us to do so, students must complete the following steps:

1. **Have an active Naviance Student account.**
 - Naviance Student can be accessed through the High School Counseling website (<http://www.commack.k12.ny.us/CounselingCenter.aspx>) by selecting the College Planning tab then the Naviance tab on the left side of the page.
 - If you have forgotten your username or password, please contact the Counseling Center.
2. **Create an account with www.commonapp.org.**
 - This account is required to submit applications electronically through Naviance, for colleges who utilize the Common Application.
3. **Complete the FERPA Release Authorization on the Common Application.**
 - The FERPA question is found within the “Assign Recommenders” tab of the application and the “release authorization” link must be checked with the FERPA decision.
 - Students can only see the “Assign Recommenders” tab once (at least) one college is added to the account. **Watch the video on the Counseling Center website to be guided through this process.**
4. **Complete the Common Application Account Matching Process.**
 - Once logged in to Naviance, select the “Colleges” tab, then “Colleges I’m Applying To.”
 - The Common Application Account Matching screen is displayed at the top of the page.

Students must complete the **COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESSING REQUEST GOOGLE FORM**.

- The counselor will review the application, complete the secondary school report, and attach the appropriate materials before submitting.
- It is important that an **updated Activity Resume** and **two teacher Letters of Recommendation** be on file with us.
- Teacher letters, a copy of the official transcript and, if required, a counselor letter of recommendation, are sent with each application.

It takes us approximately four (4) weeks to process and submit application materials from the time students submit them.

Therefore, please be aware of your colleges’ deadlines as well as our processing deadlines in the Counseling Center to ensure that your applications are submitted in sufficient time for us to complete our responsibilities.

- **IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR EITHER EARLY ACTION OR EARLY DECISION, BE SURE TO INDICATE THE DATE THE APPLICATION IS DUE TO THE COLLEGE ON THE PROCESSING REQUEST FORM.**
- Additionally, since many schools have a rolling admissions policy (the first applications received are the first considered), you should file applications as soon as possible.
- **IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED IN THE ORDER THEY ARE RECEIVED AND APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PASSED OVER TO MEET THE DEADLINE OF A LATE APPLICATION.**

PROCESSING DEADLINES

COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:	REQUESTS DUE TO COUNSELING CENTER BY:
November 1	October 1
November 15	October 15
December 1	November 1
December 15 - January 1	November 15
After January 1	15 School Days in Advance

ON-SITE ADMISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Commack High School will continue to offer onsite admissions opportunities for some of the colleges in our local area. This option allows students to meet directly with admissions representatives from these schools and often receive immediate decisions regarding their application. More specific information regarding the dates and times of these visits, as well as registration information, will be available on the Counseling Center website, through morning announcements, and in the Counseling Center.

TESTING INFORMATION

For colleges that require official scores, your college application is not complete until you send your official scores from the SAT or ACT to the college of your choice. You can do this simply by logging on to your College Board or ACT student accounts. Students have the option of selecting which SAT and ACT scores they wish to submit to colleges. Please know that there is a fee to send scores, and scores must be received before the college application deadline.

Exam Dates

*EXAM NOT OFFERED AT COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL
**SAT WILL BE IN THE NEW DIGITAL FORMAT

<u>Exam</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u> (fees apply)
SAT	August 26, 2023*	July 28, 2023	August 15, 2023
ACT	September 9, 2023*	August 4, 2023	August 18, 2023
SAT	October 7, 2023	September 7, 2023	September 26, 2023
ACT	October 28, 2023	September 22, 2023	October 6, 2023
SAT	November 4, 2023	October 5, 2023	October 24, 2023
SAT	December 2, 2023	November 2, 2023	November 21, 2023
ACT	December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 17, 2023
ACT	February 10, 2024*	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024
SAT**	March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	TBD

SAT: www.collegeboard.org

ACT: www.act.org

IMPORTANT CODES FOR EXAM REGISTRATION

COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL CODE (C.E.E.B.): **331-453**
COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL TEST CENTER (ACT): **181210**
COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL TEST CENTER (SAT): **33-336**

EXAM FEES

SAT: \$60.00
ACT (no writing): \$68.00
ACT (writing): \$93.00

Note: It is highly recommended that students register for these exams as early as possible.

THE PRINCETON REVIEW will be offering SAT and ACT review classes at Commack High School for a reduced fee. Visit the Counseling Center website for more information and free online test prep options.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The cost of post-secondary education is a major element involved in the final choice of a school. To help you with this aspect, we will provide you with as much financial aid and scholarship information as possible. We distribute **Scholarship Bulletins** through email notifications, make PA announcements regularly and post scholarship information on the bulletin board outside the Counseling Center, as well as on the Counseling Center website. All scholarship applications requiring official records must be processed through the Counseling Center so that we can attach the appropriate materials, ensure the mailing is submitted and issue a receipt. **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS will be accepted every day and require ten (10) days for processing.**

Students will be able to file a 2024-25 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as early as **December 1, 2023**.

The **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) AND THE CSS/FINANCIAL AID PROFILE** are available at www.fafsa.ed.gov and <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>, respectively.

EVENTS FOR SENIORS

SENIOR CLASS ASSEMBLY

Monday, September 11, 2023

All seniors will meet with their counselor for a welcome back assembly. Students will prepare for their smaller Senior Class meetings.

SENIOR COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT

Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet with their counselor regarding the college selection and application process. This presentation is virtual.

SENIOR CLASS MEETING

Thursday, September 21, or Friday, September 22, 2023

Seniors will meet with their counselor in small groups to review graduation requirements and the college application process. Counselors will instruct students on how to complete college applications, sign the FERPA agreement, match their Naviance account, and remind them of deadlines and procedures. Additionally, seniors will receive information concerning the Scholarship Bulletins.

NASSAU COUNSELORS' ASSOCIATION – FALL COLLEGE EXPO

Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

This event is sponsored by the Nassau Counselors' Association and will take place at Adelphi University. Over 200 schools plus military and career schools are represented.

COLLEGE DAYS

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 and March 12, 2024, Period 2 & 3

This mini-fair will consist of 40 colleges and universities. Students will have the opportunity to learn about college programs, admissions criteria and ask questions to college admissions representatives.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

A financial aid counselor will discuss how to construct a College Budget, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), CSS Financial Aid Profile, Financial Aid Package, Federal and State loans, and Scholarships.

NCAA NIGHT

Wednesday, November 29, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The seminar will be led by a college coach who will explain everything student-athletes need to know about the college athletic recruiting process, understanding the NCAA Clearinghouse, recruiting rules and determining scholarship potential. This presentation is virtual.

ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB) EXAM

Thursday, March 7, 2024

Seniors are invited to participate in a Career Interest Survey sponsored by the U. S. Army.

SENIOR TRANSITION TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Seniors will have an opportunity to meet with current college students and learn more about life on a college campus. Students will learn about academics, internships, study abroad, social life and more.