



**WELCOME TO
COMMACK HIGH SCHOOL'S
SOPHOMORE COLLEGE
PLANNING NIGHT**

APRIL 13, 2022

INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLEGE APPLICATION & COLLEGE RESEARCH PROCESSES

5 PARTS OF THE COLLEGE APPLICATION:

1. Official Transcript
2. Resume
3. Letters of Recommendation
4. Standardized Testing (SAT/ACT)
5. The Application (online)

EVERYTHING COUNTS...NOW!




#1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRANSCRIPT

- The TRANSCRIPT is the report sent to colleges that reflects every course enrolled for high school credit
- Courses taken in grades 9 through 12, as well as any high-school-level courses taken in middle school
- Final grades, course weighting, credits earned, and Regents scores are on the transcript (E for Exemption)
- Placement in Pre-IB, Pre-AP, Enriched, IB, AP, and college-level Classes receive **advanced weighting**
- Elective selections – what are you passionate or curious about?
- Unweighted and weighted grade point averages
- Cohort groupings
- Colleges utilize freshman, sophomore, and junior grades as admission criteria along with in-progress senior grades
- Colleges may recalculate the GPA according to their methodology
- **Video** “Understanding & Interpreting the Transcript”
 - [CLICK HERE](#)



#2 - GET INVOLVED!

Involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership positions, participation in athletics, employment, and Honors/Awards all to be included in the college application and your **Activity Resume**

- Quality over quantity! A healthy balance is key.
 - Find your passion and follow it. Develop as a leader, if possible
 - Select school activities that demonstrate your interests, strengths, passions, or leadership abilities
 - Student Organization Presentation
 - Discover what is available in the community
 - Volunteer...CSIP requirements
 - *Effects of COVID
- 

START DRAFTING YOUR RESUME NOW!

- In Naviance or using Microsoft Word
 - Naviance Resume – user-friendly and printable
 - Sample Activity Resume Template: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Keep track of what you are doing. Items that could be included on a resume:
 - Community Service (CSIP)
 - Clubs/Honor Societies
 - Leadership positions
 - Athletics (in- and outside of school)
 - Honors/Awards/Accolades/Recognitions
 - Work (paid) experience
 - Research conducted
 - All paid and unpaid experiences
 - After school, weekends, summer, show it all!



POTENTIAL COLLEGE-BOUND ATHLETES

- Speak with your coach regarding ability level
- Meet with your counselor to discuss potential colleges
- Visit the NCAA website at www.ncaa.org for registration and eligibility information
- Communicate with college coaches during Junior year
- **NCAA Night** – December 2022
 - [NCAA Night Presentation Slide Show](#)
 - [NCAA Night Recording](#)

***Choose your college based on an academic and overall personal fit, not solely athletics!**



#3 MAKE CONNECTIONS, BUILD RELATIONSHIPS!

○ Letters of Recommendation

- School Counselor
- 2 Teachers

- Personal; not about test grades and data illustrated on the transcript!
- Speaks to the qualities, strengths, attributes, areas of growth, etc. of the academician
- Letters will be requested the spring of Junior year



#4 COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

SAT AND/OR ACT

- The SAT and ACT are college entrance exams - they are used for the same purpose: College Admissions. These tests are administered around the world, to test high school students on knowledge-base and college-readiness. However, the two tests are very different...
- ***Test Optional vs Test Blind**
- ***COVID influencing Test Optional conditions**
- List of Test Optional schools and more information:
www.fairtest.org





Comparing the ACT® with the SAT®

ACT		SAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Math Reading Science Optional Writing Test 	SECTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence-based Reading and Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Writing and Language Math Optional Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composite score: 1-36 Section scores for English, Math, Reading and Science: 1-36 each Writing Test: 2-12 	SCORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total score: 400-1600 Section scores for Math and Evidence-based Reading and Writing: 200-800 Essay: 2-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 hours, 55 minutes (without Writing Test) 3 hours, 35 minutes (with Writing Test) 	LENGTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 hours (without essay) 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sections (English, Reading) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passage-based grammar—including punctuation Four reading passages in 35 minutes that are drawn from Fiction, Social Sciences, Humanities and Natural Sciences 	READING AND WRITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sections (Reading Test, Writing and Language Test) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more sentence completions; focus on multiple-meaning words Five reading passages in 65 minutes that are drawn from significant historical or scientific documents—may include informational graphics, such as charts Passage-based grammar—including punctuation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One 60-minute section Calculator allowed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry Trigonometry 	MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sections totaling 80 minutes Calculators are only allowed on one of the two sections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry Trigonometry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Writing Test is optional (40 minutes, timed) Students will need to write about perspectives on an issue relevant to high school students and evaluate and analyze multiple perspectives on that issue; they will be scored on ideas and analysis, development and support, organization, and language use 	ESSAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is optional (50 minutes, timed) Students will be provided with a substantial passage (600-700 words) and asked to analyze how the author built his or her argument; students will need to understand the techniques the author used to write persuasively

Still not sure which test is for you? We can help! Call us at **1-800-2Review (800-273-8439)** or visit **PrincetonReview.com**.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR AN SAT AND/OR ACT

- SAT vs. ACT: All You Need to Know- [CLICK HERE](#)
- PSAT is offered fall of grades 10 and 11
- Practice ACT for free is available online through Princeton Review
- Pre-ACT Saturday, April 30th, 8:00AM at Commack High School
 - **Register by April 15th:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- The summer after 10th grade is an excellent time to review PSAT/Practice ACT results
- FREE SAT and ACT Resources: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Check websites for more information and registration:
www.collegeboard.org
www.actstudent.org



#5 LAST, BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, THE APPLICATION

- Much more information to come!
- Group sessions with Counselors - Students create and begin college application(s) in the spring of junior year
 - Common Application
 - Coalition Application
 - Essay/Writing sample
- Applications, with all supporting materials, are submitted in the Fall of senior year

Everything counts NOW and will be included in your college applications!




COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

- ❖ Strength in Curriculum: Pre-IB, Enriched, IB, AP, College-Level, Dual Enrollment [Curriculum Guide](#)
- ❖ Course grades and Grade Point Average (GPA)
- ❖ Standardized Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
- ❖ Cohort Group (class standing)
- ❖ Essay or writing sample
 - ❖ COVID writing prompt
- ❖ Counselor Recommendation
- ❖ Teacher Recommendations
- ❖ Interview or Audition (if required or recommended)
- ❖ Leadership roles
- ❖ Community Service/Involvement
- ❖ Employment and Extracurricular Activities (**Quality over quantity!**)



FUTURE COLLEGE RESEARCH RESOURCES

- Junior Class Meetings & Junior College Planning Night - Fall 2022
 - Junior Planning Conference
 - Comprehensive individual family meeting with your Counselor
 - College Info Sessions at CHS – throughout every Fall
 - Use the Commack High School & Counseling Center websites → “College Planning” tab [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Access to the College Board (SAT) and ACT websites, Naviance, and countless college resources for information regarding the application process, financial aid, scholarships, college majors, career exploration, and more!
- 

EXPLORE AND RESEARCH NOW!

- Utilize Naviance to begin researching colleges
 - College and career research database
- Visit college campuses and attend college fairs, **virtually** and in-person
 - Use virtual visits and virtual information sessions on Admissions websites, and social media to get to know colleges!
 - Use family trips and vacations for college visits, when possible
 - Call college(s) ahead to inquire about scheduling a private family tour
- Mark your calendars for **College Fairs**:
 - **Mini College Days, Commack High School**
 - October 17, 2022 and March 13, 2023
 - **Commack High School's College & Career Fair**
 - March 22, 2023
 - **50th Annual Spring College Expo Presented by the NCA**
 - April 28th at LIU Post: [CLICK HERE](#) to register
 - **WSCA College Fairs**
 - April 26th College Fair at Radisson Hotel: [CLICK HERE](#)



NAVIANCE – COLLEGE AND CAREER RESEARCH TOOLS

You are viewing Naviance Student as [redacted]

[Give feedback](#) [new messages](#) **4** [LOG OUT](#)

 Naviance | *Student*

[Home](#) [Colleges](#) [Careers](#) [About Me](#) [My Planner](#)

Welcome, [redacted]

Search for Colleges



 Type a college name

SEARCH


Welcome


The Commack High School Counseling Center is pleased to have upgraded to Naviance Student. This Web-based service is designed especially for students and parents. Naviance Student is a comprehensive website that you can use to help in making decisions about courses, colleges, and careers. Naviance Student is linked with Counselor's Office, a service that we use in our office to track and analyze data about college and career plans, so it provides up-to-date information that's specific to our school. Among the features that you can currently use are:


- Researching colleges and career paths
- Comparing Colleges

[Read more](#)

My Favorites

 COLLEGES
[I'm thinking about](#)


 COLLEGES
[I'm applying to](#)

 CAREERS AND CLUSTERS
[I'm thinking about](#)

Important To-Dos and Tasks

 **TACK** [Individual Annual Review](#)




What's New

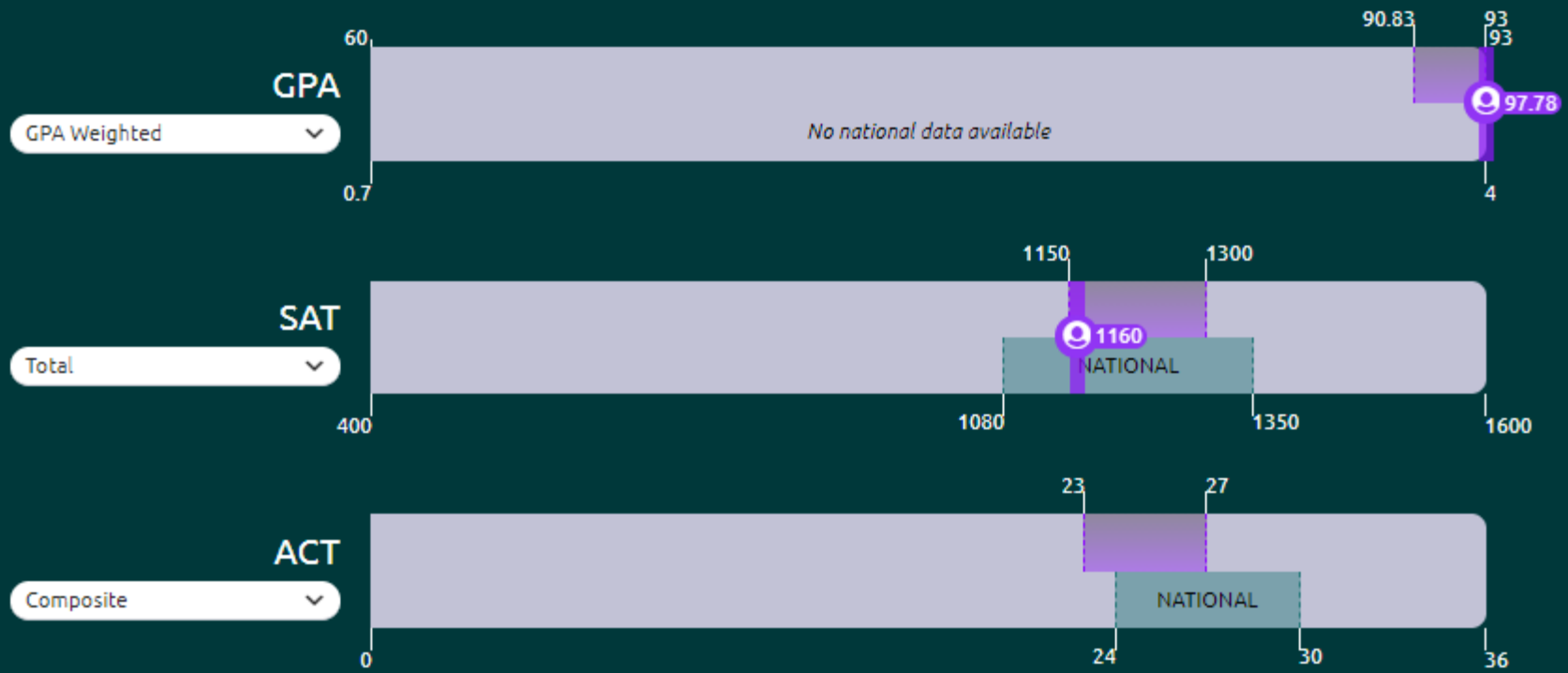
 Mini College Day - Period 2 will be visiting your school on Monday, March 11th, 2019 at 8:15 am

VIEW INFORMATION ABOUT PARTICULAR COLLEGES & COMPARE YOURSELF TO AVERAGE CRITERIA

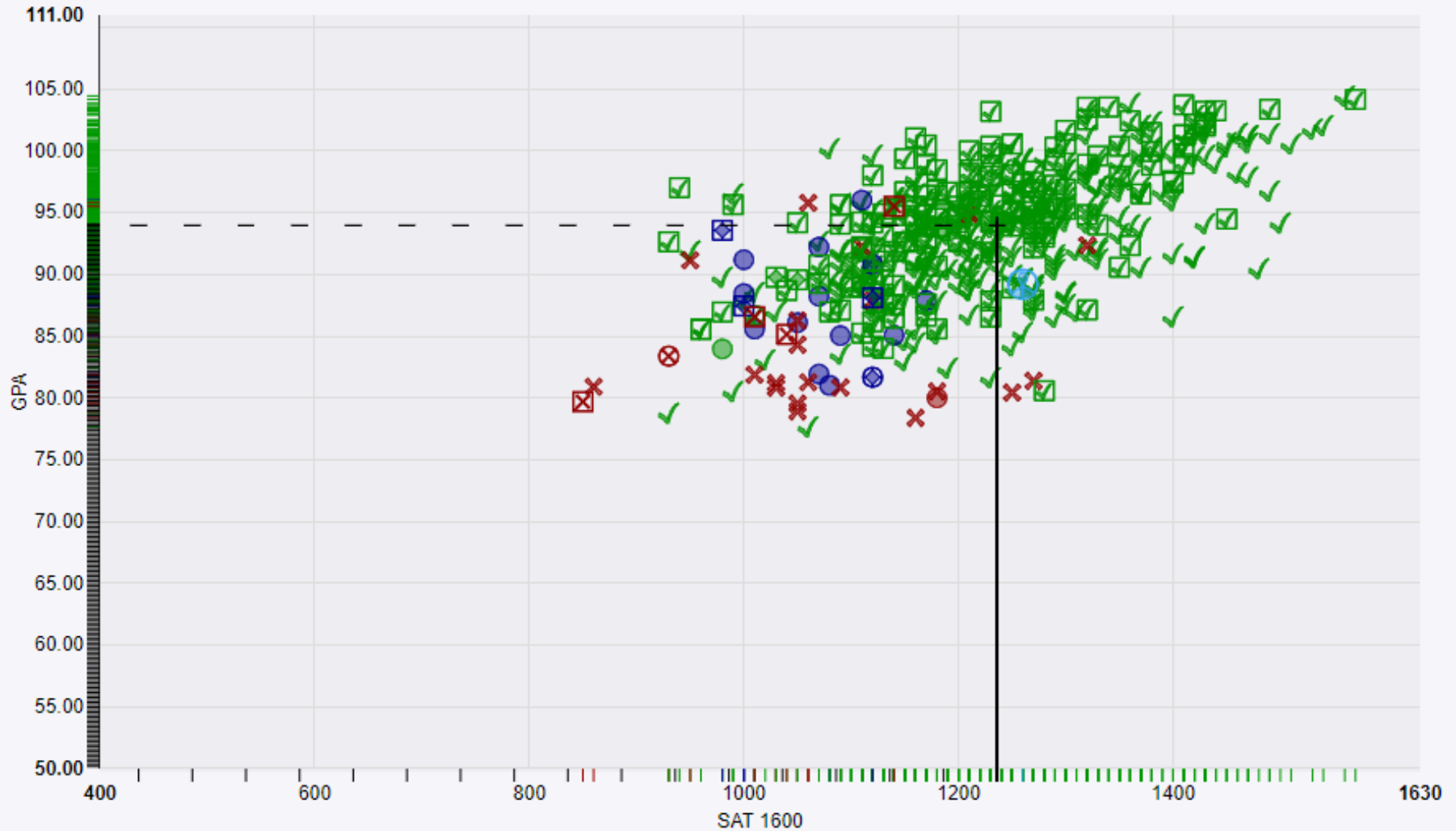
How you compare with others who have applied to University at Buffalo, State University of New York

This institution is a **Match**: Your academic qualifications (GPA & test scores) are **similar** to the academic profile of students nationally who are typically enrolled at this institution.

 You  Your High School's Middle 50% of Accepted Students  National Middle 50% of Enrolled Students




VIEW SCATTERGRAMS



CONDUCT A COLLEGE SEARCH

Advanced College Search

 Search for colleges

To start, begin with a section that's important to you. It's up to you which questions you answer and in what order. You can view your results at any point along the way by clicking **View Matches**. Once you have narrowed down your list of schools, you will be able to compare these colleges using historical admissions results from your own school.

0 Matches

View Matches

Start Over

Type Location Students Admission Athletics Majors Costs Special Programs

School Type

Two-Year vs. Four-Year

- Two-Year
- Four-Year
- No preference

Coed vs. Single-sex

- All Male
- All Female

Public vs. Private

- Public
- Private
- No preference

College Groups

No Preference 

Religious Affiliation

Campus Surroundings

- Large City
- Small City
- Large Town
- Small Town
- Rural

HELPFUL COLLEGE & CAREER RESOURCES

Naviance	https://student.naviance.com/commack
In Like Me	Home - InLikeMe.com
NY Career Zone	CareerZone Index (ny.gov)
CollegeData	www.collegedata.com
ACT	www.actstudent.org
College Board	www.collegeboard.org
Princeton Review	www.princetonreview.com
Occupational Outlook Handbook	https://www.bls.gov/ooh/
Continuing Education	CLICK HERE
Counseling Center's Scholarship website	CLICK HERE
Scholarship Search Engines	CLICK HERE



THERE IS A SCHOOL OUT THERE FOR EVERYONE!

- Public and Private colleges and universities
- More than 6,800 in the U.S.
- 460 in New York
- Come in various shapes and sizes
 - Major research universities
 - Comprehensive universities
 - Small liberal arts colleges
 - Faith-related colleges and universities
 - Specialized colleges for Arts and Technology
 - 2-year & 4-year colleges



SOPHOMORE YEAR

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL:

- Select strong, appropriate challenges for junior year courses – push yourself! Take on a new challenge or interest!
- Monitor academic progress
- Parents, foster independence and autonomy. Communicate with teachers and counselor, as needed.
- Utilize the Parent/Student Portal and teachers' eSchoolView webpages
- Develop strong study skills and time management techniques
- Work on building a strong vocabulary – READ, READ, READ!
- Attend extra help and review sessions
- Get involved and stay involved!
- Take on leadership roles
- Review PSAT and Practice ACT results, plan test preparation strategies
- Naviance– Career Interest Inventory, research careers, college searches, visit colleges virtually or on family road trips!
- Get to know your counselor!

We advise students to make decisions based on a great personal
& academic fit!



REMEMBER TO HAVE SOME FUN
&
REACH OUT TO YOUR
COUNSELOR ANYTIME!

