



HOW TO START THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

“It’s not an assignment you want to procrastinate – it is your future.”

~ Pina Trinko, Class of 2019



KNOW YOUR RESOURCES

- ▶ Counselor
- ▶ Lisa Neumaier
- ▶ Greg Davison
- ▶ Teachers
- ▶ Parents
- ▶ Drake Graduates
- ▶ Other Adults
- ▶ Websites
- ▶ Books
- ▶ Jolly Roger Senior Issue
- ▶ Coaches
- ▶ Supervisors at Work

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THINGS THAT ARE ALL ORGANIZED FOR YOU

- ▶ Junior Workshops throughout spring semester
- ▶ Senior application support through fall semester
- ▶ College Rep Visits
- ▶ Grad Status Update email (fall of senior year)
- ▶ Senior Class Presentation
- ▶ Senior Night



BE PRO-ACTIVE AND INDEPENDENT

- ▶ We are here to help you.
- ▶ It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to seek us out and ask questions, make appointments, bring lists of ideas, questions, concerns so that we can support you.
- ▶ “Lisa & my counselor were very generous with their time and always willing to answer my questions.” Maya, Class of 2019
- ▶ “What I found helpful was a pass to see my counselor and spending as much time to help me get where I needed to be. I always felt a little lighter after leaving her office.” Kiersten, Class of 2019



WHAT TO EXPECT FROM COUNSELORS & COLLEGE/CAREER SPECIALIST

UNREALISTIC:

- My Counselor will send a pass to me & we will set up multiple check-ins
- My Counselor will ensure that I have a strong list of colleges
- My Counselor will send one specific email only to Seniors with all the information I need
- Lisa will meet with every senior and her office will always be open

REALISTIC:

- I will request to see my Counselor as often as I need help
- My Counselor will review my college list and provide input if I initiate a meeting
- I will be responsible for reviewing all Counseling and College/Career emails and highlighting the information relevant to me
- Lisa will gladly help with all aspects of your application if you initiate a meeting



ATTEND AS MANY JUNIOR WORKSHOPS & COLLEGE VISITS AS POSSIBLE

- ▶ “Go to as many college visits as possible because they are very informative if you don’t know a lot about other schools.” Amaya, Class of 2019
- ▶ NAVIANCE has a variety of workshops for spring and a myriad college rep visits in fall. Sign up in advance.
- ▶ “The workshops gave me a lot of tips on how to write the essay. My counselor was very helpful in the editing process and gave me confidence in my writing.” Naomi, Class of 2019
- ▶ Make informed decisions and get input from the adults on campus who want to support you



THE COLLEGE INVESTMENT: \$\$\$

- ▶ Stop worrying - You'll reject more schools than schools will reject you if you apply wisely.
- ▶ Build a profile of interests & abilities
- ▶ Understand your grades
- ▶ Determine the money available for college
- ▶ There are many schools for every student. It is a buyer's market and YOU are the buyer
- ▶ The secret is to go in a direction that gives you joy and offers a future where more joy can be found



REVIEW SENIOR SUGGESTIONS FROM CLASS OF 2019

- ▶ “Have the money talk with your parents early on. Take a deep breath.” Naomi, Class of 2019
- ▶ “I wasn’t sure of what services were offered or what I could get help with.”
- ▶ “I didn’t speak to anyone during the application process.”
- ▶ “I went to Lisa’s summer Kickstart for Seniors camp which took a lot of stress off of me.”
- ▶ “I took a picture of the map of where seniors went the year before me & contacted people about their school (I had a lot of them read my essays).” Zoe, Class of 2019
- ▶ “The workshops were very helpful, even though I didn’t use them enough.”
- ▶ “Make every student come in to the workshops.”



REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS

- ▶ Don't ask: What will I do for the rest of my life?
- ▶ Do ask: What have I prepared myself to do and where do my interests and aptitudes/skills align?
- ▶ The process will take more time than you expect
- ▶ Starting early will save you in fall of senior year
- ▶ Counselors will make themselves available to you but will not be sending you an individual pass
- ▶ Counselors will be providing workshops to assist in the process
- ▶ "Be proactive, use counselors to help you figure out your plan if you're lost." Anna Liu, Class of 2019

- ▶ "Do not wait till the last minutes because the time to decide comes faster than you'd think." Jackson, Class of 2019