Preparing for University
-Junior Year
We are here to HELP!

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College & Career Counselor

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College & Career Assistant

Sue Coast  
A -D Counselor

Sandra Breeden  
E –K Counselor

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S -Z Counselor

Teachers, Parents, Coaches, etc.
Overview

- Compiling Your List
- Visiting Schools
- Develop Leadership and Involvement
- Keeping Up Your Academics
- Test Prep/Entrance Exams
- Academies
- NCAA
- Financial Aid
- Deadlines
- Beginnings of an Application
Make sure to develop a list of schools that YOU are interested in (remember you will be the one attending)

Use SuperMatch in Naviance or Collegeboard search database

Variety in your list

“Just Because It Is On Your List OR You Apply Doesn’t Mean You Will Or Have To Go There.”

Figure out finances later – good to start the conversation, but don’t let it drive your list right now.

A good goal is 8-15 schools by May (apply to 5-10)
How To Narrow It Down...

- Area/Location (weather, city, rural, close to home or far away, etc.)
- Admission Standards/Requirements
- Major/Program of Study
- Academic Supports
- Size of University
- Private vs. Public (tuition)
- Study Abroad/Religious Affiliation
- Clubs/Sports
- Admission Reps Visit DCC frequently
- Take advantage of this opportunity
- Visits are schedule in Naviance (College Tab) – sign up, check with your teacher, and we will send you a pass. It’s Easy!!
- Remember – Admission Reps often read your application. Put a face to your application. Ask questions!
- NAVIANCE Sign - In:
  Username: Student ID #
  Password: first initial of your first name, last initial of your last name, and birth date (2 digit year)
  e.g. ldo42700
Visiting Schools

- Most schools have a set time each day for campus tours
- You may also call ahead of time and arrange to meet with a specific department if you plan ahead
- Look on the website to see about visits throughout the year that are just for high school students and are usually the entire day
  - A good way to get a feel of the campus as a student
  - Some visit days are set up by area of study as well
  - Overnight?
- Make sure to visit if at all possible, especially in-state schools
  - You can tell a lot about the feel of a university
Examples

- UCCS – Mountain Lion Experience
  - Feb 12th – Business
  - March 11 – Science
  - April 1 – Liberal Arts
  - April 22 – Engineering
  - April 29th - Nursing

- Colorado State University – Fort Collins
  - Discover Days: Feb 15th & Apr 9th
  - Women in Business: Feb 26th
Visiting Schools

CU – Boulder Student for a Day

- Typically held on Fridays throughout the fall and spring semesters. This is a full-day program that begins at 8:30 a.m. and offers activities until 5:00 p.m.

- Friday, February 12, 2016
- Monday, February 15, 2016
- Friday, February 26, 2016
- Friday, March 18, 2016
- Monday, March 21, 2016
- Monday, March 28, 2016
- Friday, April 1, 2016
- Monday, April 18, 2016
- Friday, April 22, 2016

Additional Schools...

- Colorado School of Mines – preview day usually in Oct and Nov
- Denver University – Pioneer Days: Feb 29th, April 4th, April 11th
- University of Northern CO – Discover April 15th
If you haven’t already, now is the time to start to take on leadership roles and volunteer projects.

Colleges are looking more and more at a student’s “passion” – make your time meaningful and unique.

Making Caring Common, a project of the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Harvard Study: Asked youth to rank what was most important to them: achieving at a high level, happiness (feeling good most of the time), or caring for others. Almost 80% of youth picked high achievement or happiness as their top choice, while roughly 20% selected caring for others.

Academics

- Last semester before you apply
- Finish strong
- If you are worried about a particular semester that brought your GPA down because of a special circumstance, address it in your application
- Select a challenging course load your senior year – it is a part of your application
If you are thinking of playing sports at the D1 or D2 level you will need to register with the NCAA

http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp

Check the list of approved NCAA courses at DCC

Counselor Recommendation

Contacts

Official Name / Title  Mrs. Laurie Derickson / College and Career Counselor
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School / CEEB  Discovery Canyon Campus High School / 060244

Evaluation

How long have you known the student, and in what context?
During his senior year as his College and Career Counselor

What are the first words that come to mind to describe this student?
Motivated, Passionate, Caring

Comments

Please provide comments that will help us differentiate this student from others. Feel free to attach an additional sheet or another reference you have prepared for this student. Alternatively, you may attach a reference written by another school official who can better describe the student.

[ ] Please check here if you will not be sending a letter of recommendation with this form.

Signature

Please mail this form and accompanying documents directly to each college/university admission office. Do not mail this form to The Common Application offices.
Common App Reports

*Also report on discipline

**Academics**

- **Class Rank**: We do not rank. Class size 252. Covering a period from (mm/yyyy) ______ to ______.
- **Cumulative GPA**: 4.1000 on a 4.0 scale, covering a period from (mm/yyyy) 08/2013 to 06/2016.
- **IB Diploma Candidate**: [ ] Yes [ ] No. Advanced Cambridge (AICE) Diploma Candidate? [ ] Yes [ ] No.
- In comparison with other college preparatory students at your school, the applicant’s course selection is: [ ] Most demanding [ ] Very demanding [ ] Demanding [ ] Average [ ] Less than demanding [ ] Prefer not to respond.

**Ratings**

- **Academic Achievement**: [ ] Below Average [ ] Average [ ] Good (above average) [ ] Very Good (well above average) [ ] Excellent (top 10%) [ ] Outstanding (top 5%) [ ] Top Few.
  - Extracurricular Accomplishments: [ ]
  - Personal qualities and character: [ ]
  - **OVERALL**: [ ]
• All Juniors will take ACT in Colorado this year (next year changing to SAT)
• New redesigned SAT in March
• Utilize Naviance Test Prep
• Zappos Tests Prep at DCC – April 9th (more info to follow)
• Take once now and a couple times in the fall if needed
• How many times should I take?
• Should I send my scores to my university?
• Does my school Superscore? (e.g. Mines does not superscore, CSU and CU does superscore)
• New redesigned SAT in March
  • we do not know normative date as of yet....

• No penalty for guessing
• Score is out of 1600 now (previously 2400)
• Essay is now optional
• Calculators permitted for 37 of 57 questions
• Partnering with Khan Academy – free online test prep
  • https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/new-sat
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<th>Test Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 Critical Reading sections</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 20-25 minutes each</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Math sections</td>
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<td>• 20-25 minutes each</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Writing sections</td>
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<td>• 10-25 minutes each</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Includes 1 Essay test (25 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Experimental test</td>
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<td>5 answer choices for multiple-choice questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Essay test</td>
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<td>• 50 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 answer choices for multiple choice questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Evidence-Based Reading and Writing test</td>
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<td>• 65-minute Reading section</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 35-minute Language and Writing section</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Math test</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 55-minute section with calculator</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 25-minute section without calculator</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Essay test (optional) - 50 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 answer choices for multiple choice questions</td>
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SAT Essay and Subject Tests

- In-state public schools in Colorado do not require the writing, so many of our students do not need it.
- Some out of state public schools do require the writing (examples: Univ. of AL, Univ. of Michigan, Univ. of Washington, Univ. of CA schools).
- Many private schools require the writing (examples: Rice Univ., Baylor Univ., Boston Univ., Cornell Univ.)
- The highly selective schools require the writing (examples: Stanford, Princeton, MIT, West Point)
- Subjects tests depend on major and university – CSU, Boulder and Mines do not require subject tests
Applying to Academies...

Things to Do Now...

1. Check your eligibility (if you have an active IEP or 504 please make an appointment with me)
   - DodMerb - qualifying medical examination review

2. Find your Admission Liaison Office and touch base
   Do this early....

3. Complete your pre-candidate questionnaire
   - E.g. Air Force Academy opens March 1st of Junior Year

4. Seek nomination – Recommended you start spring of Junior Yr

* Also look into ROTC scholarship options!!!
Begin looking at scholarships

Majority completed during senior year

Utilize university websites and DCC College & Career – great resource for current scholarship and merit based scholarship

FastWeb – national scholarship database

Retake ACT/SAT into your senior year to hit scholarship benchmarks

FAFSA is NEW for 2017-2018.
  - FAFSA opens Oct 1, 2016
    - Will utilize 2015 tax information (prior prior)

Good to start the conversation

CSS Profile – also available in the fall, required by some universities
Deadlines

- Helpful to start to put together a list of deadlines now
- Excel spreadsheet is often times helpful for families
- Early Action, Early Decision, California Schools
- Scholarship Deadlines (are applications apart of the school application or separate)
- Academy Nominations
- ACT or SAT Registration Dates
- FAFSA Dates
Beginnings of an Application

- Common App – What is it and when it is beneficial?
- Letter of Recommendation
  - Plan ahead
  - Some may require counselor/admission recommendation
  - Use teachers in your subject field
  - Letters from outside sources??
- Personal Statement
PERSONAL STATEMENT

The personal statement demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores?

Choose the topic that best helps you answer that question and write a statement of no more than 650 words, using the topic below to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal, though your response must be at least 250 words. Use the full range if you need it, but don’t feel obligated to do so.

Topics:
- Describe a problem you’ve solved or you’d like to solve: an intellectual challenge; ethical dilemma; or research query, anything of personal importance. Explain its significance to you and what steps were (or could be) taken to identify a solution.
- Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.
- Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
- Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

Statement:
Where To Find Information

- College and Career Webpage – forms, newsletters, scholarships, PowerPoint presentations
- Newsletter – make sure email address is up-to-date in Infinite Campus and Naviance
- Daily Planet
- Bulletin Boards
- Remind: sign-up today!
Welcome to College and Career!
School CEEB Code 060244

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RESOURCES

JUNIOR PARENT MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED:

Tuesday – February 9, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Room 508 in the High School

College and Career Newsletter
2016 Newsletters
- Senior February Newsletter.pdf
- Junior February Newsletter.pdf
- January Newsletter.pdf

2015 Newsletters
Stay Informed!

DCCHS Counseling would like you to join DCCHS Class of 2017!

To receive messages via text, text @dcchs2017 to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @dcchs2017

Trouble using 81010? Try texting @dcchs2017 to (719) 375-2397 instead.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to dcchs2017@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.
YOU GOT THIS!