



Senior Parent Night Program Minnetonka High School

Sept 16, 2019



- **MHS Counselors:**

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College Counselor



An Overview of this presentation

- Introduction of MHS Counselors & College Counselor
- Role of the parent and counselor, as well as the student
- Profile from Minnetonka High School
- The Application Process
- Trends in College Admissions
- Important Dates for Seniors and Senior Parents
- How to Use Naviance Student (website)
- How to Apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships (website)
- Q & A



- **What is the role of parents?**
 - a) Believe in your child's abilities
 - b) Continue to take an interest in your child's academic life
 - c) Keep an open dialogue about the college search and be clear about financial expectations
 - d) Stay in touch with your child's counselor – we all want to help our students find good matches!
 - e) Address any special needs



- **What is the role of counselors?**
 - a) Believe in the student's abilities
 - b) Communicate about deadlines/timeline and provide information about the admissions process
 - c) Stay in touch about student's progress – for post high school plans, as well as graduation
 - d) Monitor application activity – for admissions and financial aid/scholarships



Minnetonka High School – Profile from 2018 & 2019

- % attending 4 year colleges 79%
- % attending 2 year colleges 11%
- % attending MN institutions 39%
- % attending out-of-state institutions 51%
- Average number of applications 4.7



- **Class of 2019**

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota – TC

Univ of Wisconsin – Madison

Normandale Community
College

University of St. Thomas

Iowa State University

Univ of Nebraska, Lincoln

Univ of Minnesota – Duluth

- **Class of 2018**

The top 7 schools include:

Univ of Minnesota - TC

Normandale Community
College

University of St. Thomas

Iowa State University

Univ of Wisconsin – Madison

Univ of Minnesota – Duluth

Montana State University



Apply for admission and financial aid in the fall!

- As the student gets ready to become an applicant, the top priority – finding the right fit! NOTE: “You apply for admission to a college because you want to go there!”
- Most MHS students apply between September and December
- Separate deadline for need-based financial aid -- Filing the FAFSA can be done any time after October 1.
- The selection process could last for months, especially when cost of attendance is a significant factor.



Admission Application Options

Early Decision

Early decision plans are binding – a student who is accepted as an ED applicant must attend the college.

Early Action

Early action plans are non binding – students receive an **early** response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the candidate reply date of May 1.

Regular Decision

Regular decision is the process by which students apply by published deadlines, with promise of receiving an admissions outcome no later than April 1.

Rolling Admission

Rolling admission is a policy used by many colleges to admit freshmen to undergraduate programs. Under rolling admission, candidates are invited to submit their applications at any point within a large window of time.



The Application Process

Anatomy of the application:

- Complete the application
- Send a transcript
- Send test score(s)
- Other items (teacher and/or counselor recommendation), or any supplementary materials

Different application sources:

- School Application
 - For example: www.umn.edu
- Common Application
 - www.commonapp.org
- Coalition Application
 - www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org



Trends in the world of college admissions

- ACT and SAT scores are accepted by all colleges.
- Huge increase in the number of colleges that are test score optional For the list, <http://fairtest.org/>
- Growing number of colleges that have adopted a self-reported academic record in the application (including all three Iowa universities, and the U of M, Twin Cities)
- Also, many more colleges now allow students to self-report test scores on the application.
- Admission outcome could be an offer for January enrollment, rather than for fall.



Timeline – some upcoming dates

- Oct 1 Performing & Visual Arts Fair, at MIA
- Oct 2-3 National College Fair (Minneapolis)
- Oct 6 National Portfolio Day, at MCAD
- Oct 11 Parent-Teacher conferences at MHS
- Oct 16-18 No school for seniors (MEA) – perfect time for college visits!
- Oct 23 Financial aid program at MHS
- Nov 1 Deadline for many early action/early decision applications



Timeline (continued)

- Nov 1 Priority deadline for U of M, Twin Cities, and UW-Madison
- Nov 8 No school; opportunity for college visits
- Nov 15 EA/ED deadline for some colleges
- November Deadline for application to University of California schools
- Jan 1 Regular decision deadline for many colleges and universities
- May 1 National candidate reply date
- June 9 Graduation day for the Class of 2020



Handouts for tonight's presentation

- Post High School Planning Guide, 2019-2020
- College Visits at MHS
- MHS Transcript Release form

NOTE: the College and Career Center and the Counseling Office have additional copies of these handouts.

Web sites referenced

<http://student.naviance.com/minnetonka>

www.commonapp.org

www.fafsa.ed.gov

collegecost.ed.gov

<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

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