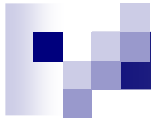


# Flower Mound High School COUNSELING CENTER



The College Search:  
Finding the Best Match



# FMHS Counselors

- Phyllis Hamilton  
    □ Lead Counselor
  - Celeste Boggs
  - Michelle Derebeew
  - April Moody
  - Lori Lewis
  - Amy Berry
  - Janet Dougherty
- A – Bot
- Bou-D
- E-Hol
- Hom-Maq
- Mar-Pic
- Pid-Sta
- Ste-Z



# Step 1: Discover Your Resources and Start your Research

- Web links – FMHS website –
  - <http://fmhs.lisd.net/counseling/index.htm>
  - <http://www.collegedata.com>
  - <http://www.collegeprowler.com> (rankings from students' perspective)
- Counselors – College Career Center
- Teachers, Friends, Family



## Step 2: Get to Know Yourself

- <http://fmhs.lisd.net/counseling/index.htm>
- <http://personalitytype.com/quiz.asp>
- <http://pics.collegetrends.org>
- Find password to MyRoad on PSAT score report  
<https://myroad.collegeboard.com/myroad/navigation.jsp>



## Step 3: Find Colleges that are Potential Matches

- [http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv\\_typeofschool.jsp](http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv_typeofschool.jsp)
- <http://www.ecampustours.com/>
- [https://www.collegedata.com/cs/search/college/college\\_search\\_tpl.jhtml](https://www.collegedata.com/cs/search/college/college_search_tpl.jhtml)
- <https://www.Cappex.com>
- Career Cruising—more to come



# Top 6 Factors that Influence Admissions Decisions — NACAC Admission Trends Survey-2007

- Grades in College Prep Courses-80%
- Strength of Curriculum-64%
- Standardized Admissions Test- 58%
- Grades in All Courses- 51.2%
- Essay or Writing Sample-25.8%
- Class Rank-23%

% of college admission officers rating the factor to be of considerable importance in admissions process



# **What Are Colleges looking for in a holistic review**

- Community service or volunteer work
- Interview with admissions counselor
- Essay or personal statement
- Letters of recommendation
- A good match also!

# Step 4: Follow college planning calendar

<b>■ <u>To Do:</u></b>	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
■ Explore Careers	----->								
■ Study PSAT results	----->								
■ Prep for ACT/SAT	----->								
■ Take ACT/SAT	----->								
■ Research SAT II req	----->								
■ Submit course requests	----->								
■ <b>Credit check your transcript</b>	X				X				
■ Use websites for research	----->								
■ Schedule college visits	----->								
■ Prepare resume	----->								
■ NCAA clearinghouse	----->								
■ Registration if DI or DII bound	----->								
■ Narrow choices to 4-5	----->								



# How To Select The Right College For You

- Think about your interests.
- Do your homework.
- Consider geography and size.
- Visit the campus
- Don't be swayed by a school's reputation or status.
- Do not go to a school because of your friends.
- Use the college searches available on web.
- Talk to your school counselor.



# Take advantage of...

- College admissions representatives on FMHS campus – Lunch visits and classroom visits
- Check FMHS website for dates/times
- Sign up in the counseling office



# COLLEGE INTEREST SESSIONS

November 12, 2009

Flower Mound High School

7:00 and 7:50

- **Benefits of an Undeclared Major** – Erma Nieto-Brecht, Texas Women’s University
- **Dual Credit Options** – Amy Klohn, NCTC
- **Financing a College Education** – Cheri Whitten, Chase Bank
- **Finding Scholarships** – Stacey McNeely, LISD
- **How to Find the Best College Fit for You** – Hope Young, Texas A&M Commerce
- **How to Have a Competitive College Application** – Kycia Spriggins, Texas Tech
- **Ins and Outs of College Life** – Kimberly Rutland, OU
- **Interviews and Campus Visits** – Dimitri Lyon, Texas Women’s University
- **Military Academies** – Lt. Col. Greg Anderson, Air Force Academy
- **Military Opportunities** – Sgt. David Coker, US Marine Corps
- **NCAA/Recruiting** – Earl Johnson, The University of Tulsa
- **Public out of State Schools are Within Your Reach** – Tom Becker, Iowa State State
- **Small Universities vs. Large Universities** – Jonathan Ferrel, Centenary
- **The Financial Aid Process** – Chris Shubert, Texas A&M University



## Step 5: Visit each College

- Most colleges ask for a reservation
- Arrange to meet with specific departments
- Visit when colleges are in session, when possible
- Do your research before you arrive and prepare questions



# Consider Military Academies

- 7:00 Interest Sessions November 12
- Contact academy of your choice after March 1, junior year for packet
- Also after March 1, contact state congressional nominator



# Make your senior year count

- Senior year – an opportunity to strengthen skills and broaden experiences – in school and out
- Colleges pay particular attention to the senior schedule and performance



# 35% of Colleges Revoked Admission Offers in 2007

Percentage of colleges that revoked  
admission offers for various reasons

Final Grades – 68.7%

Falsification of Application – 26.7%

Disciplinary Action – 25.0%

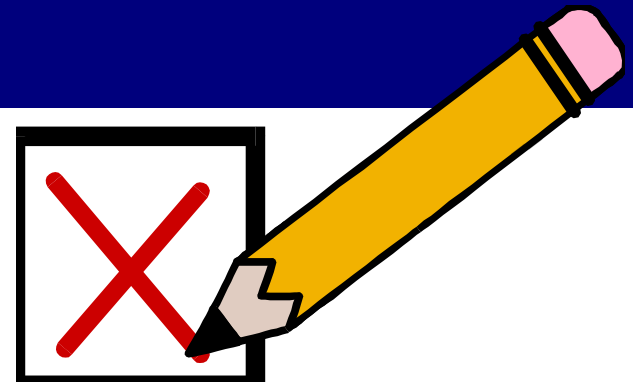
Source: NACAC Admission Trends Survey. 2007



# ■ Top 10 %

- University of Texas at Austin will automatically admit all eligible 2011 summer/fall freshman applicants who rank in the top 8% of their high school class, with remaining spaces to be filled through holistic review.

# WHAT ABOUT ADMISSIONS TESTING?





# College Admission Testing Information

- SAT & ACT test require pre-registration.
- Registration and test preparation websites
  - [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
  - [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
  
- AP test given in May each year.
  - Student does not have to be in AP to take tests
- See AP Instructor or [fmhs.lisd.net](http://fmhs.lisd.net)



# Step 6: Plan for and take spring tests

**ACT** vs

**SAT**

■ Cost

**\$32.00**

**\$45.00**

With Writing

**\$47.00**

Score Report

**1-36**

3 portions, each 800 pts=2400

National Avg.

**21.1**

CR 501, M 515, W 493=1509

FMHS Avg.

**24**

CR 545, M 580, W 551 =1676

Test Content

**English(75 items, 45 min.)**

**Math(60items, 60 min.)**

**Reading(40 items, 35 min.)**

**Science(40 items, 35 min.)**

**Writing(optional 1prompt  
30 min.)**

**Writing Mandatory(60 min.)**

**Math (70 min.)**

**Reading (70 min.)**

**No Science**

# How will I do on a Retest?

## ■ ACT

- 55% of students increase by 1 to 2 pts.
- 22% of students have no change
- 23% of students decrease



## ■ SAT

- 55% of students increase by 10-30 pts.
- 10% of students have no change
- 35% of students decrease



# THEA



[www.thea.nesinc.com](http://www.thea.nesinc.com)

- Placement test required for Texas state schools, or check for exemption:
  - ACT-
    - Eng. & Math =19, 23 Composite
  - SAT-
    - Verbal=500+, Math=500+, 1070 Composite
  - TAKS-
    - ELA=2200 w/ 3 on Writing, Math=2200



# College Admission Procedures

- Complete 4 years of high school
- Pass the TAKS
- Pass the THEA
- Update resume of all activities, awards, and jobs
- Take SAT or ACT
- Campus Visits
- Appointments with college admissions and financial offices
- Interviews
- Apply and search for scholarships
- Acceptance deadline May 1



# College Readiness – Not just academics

- Problem Solving Skills
- Conflict Resolution
- Long term Projects
- Following Through
- No “Do Overs”

# Scholarship Success

- Search for scholarships (some available for grades 9-12)
- Scholarship newsletter
- Apply, Apply, Apply- The more you apply for the better your chances of receiving one.
- Plan Ahead- it takes time to get transcripts and letter of recommendation.
- Be organized- Keep your Resume up to date and meet deadlines.
- Follow directions- Correctly Fill Out!
- Proof read.
- [Fafsa.ed.gov](http://Fafsa.ed.gov)
- [Studentaid.ed.gov](http://Studentaid.ed.gov)
- [Collegeispossible.com](http://Collegeispossible.com)



# GRADUATION PLANS



# Graduation Plans



- Recommended Program
- Distinguished Achievement Program
- You must be **PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE** for meeting the requirements of **THE DISTRICT** Graduation Plan.



# Distinguished Achievement Program

- Students must meet the requirements of the Rec. plan and the fourth math credit must be a course in which Algebra 2 is a prerequisite. IPC will not count as a science credit and Bus. Comp. Prog., and AP Computer Prog. cannot be used as the fourth math or science credit respectively.
- 3 years of same foreign language
- 4 additional advanced measures
  - College Course with 3.0 or higher
  - AP Exam with score 3 or higher
  - Original Research Project
  - PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as commended or higher by National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

If you are not on the DAP graduation plan and have met these requirements see your counselor.

