

## Junior Class Information Update

### Junior Seminar student activities and important reminders:

- **PSAT scores** were reviewed and students learned how to interpret their score data. Students understand that meeting the benchmark score in a subject area of the PSAT indicates that a student has the potential to earn a “C” in a college course. Students who took the official PSAT with accommodations have access to more customized SAT practice using Khan Academy. This benchmark indicator helps students evaluate their readiness for the rigor of college courses and set goals for improving specific subject scores on the upcoming SAT.
- **College Board** account - <https://www.collegeboard.org/>  
Students have created this account to use for college planning and career exploration, registering for the SAT, practicing for the SAT, viewing SAT scores, and sending SAT scores to colleges.
- **Big Future** – part of the College Board site - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>  
This site contains tools for college planning, exploring college majors and career opportunities. Students searched and compared colleges to learn how to use the search criteria for finding colleges and used these tools to discover the wide variety of majors and related careers that are available.
  - Students have begun using the search tools like location, size, major, public/private, SAT/GPA criteria) to make an initial list of colleges. Students looked at GPA/SAT score requirements to help them begin to make **a list of colleges that fit in the following categories:**
    - **Safety (highly likely to get accepted)**
    - **Good Fit (probable acceptance based on current grades/test scores)**
    - **Reach (colleges that may require improving grades and/or test scores for acceptance)**
  - Mrs. Harley will be reaching out to junior parents to schedule a joint meeting with parents and students after spring break. Together, we will work on creating a plan and refining the college list in preparation for your college visits over the summer and finalizing applications in the fall/winter.
- **SAT Prep Weekly** – we are alternating math and reading/writing & language practice each week. Students have linked their **College Board** accounts to a **Khan Academy** accounts. Students use Khan Academy in class periodically and are encouraged to use it regularly for SAT Prep outside of class.
  - All juniors in Junior Seminar will take the **SAT on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at TNCS.**
  - Mrs. Harley will apply for accommodations for students who have not been previously approved by College Board and who have or will be providing updated testing.
  - The test is taken on campus over two days, typically from 8:15-1:00.

- Students will register for the SAT in class after spring break and student accounts will be charged the **\$47.50** fee imposed by College Board.
  - Students will be encouraged to take the SAT again in the fall based on their scores and their selected colleges' application requirements.
  - SAT test dates can be found here: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/dates-deadlines>
  - Information on TNCS tutoring services: <http://tncs.org/tutoring/>
- Students have learned about the **differences between the SAT and ACT**.
    - Information can be found here: <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-act>
    - Students do not take the Essay portion of either test.
    - Students who are stronger in reading than math are encouraged to take the ACT because it has 3 sections of reading and 1 section of math; however, the math may be more difficult than the SAT math for some.
    - Students who decide to take the ACT should notify Mrs. Harley and request instructions on how to register for the test. Mrs. Harley must apply for accommodations ***before the registration deadline***.
    - Most students take the SAT first and then evaluate whether to take the ACT in the fall.
    - Any student interested in taking the **ACT on April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>**, should contact **Mrs. Harley by February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. ***Student's testing must be within 3 years.***
    - Here is a list of ACT dates: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>
- **The Common Application** - <https://www.commonapp.org/> Students have set-up accounts. This site is used by most colleges and it helps students input personal information once. It also provides students with a dashboard of their selected colleges' application requirements and deadlines.
    - Mrs. Harley will also be able to see students' lists of colleges and progress in completing applications, as well as use this site for uploading transcripts, letters of recommendation, and other information required from the college counselor.
    - We need your help completing parts of the Common App. Please fill out this form to provide the family information required for the application.
      - [Common App Parent Questions - Google Form - Google Form](#)
- The RAIS **College Fair will be held at Collegiate School on April 9<sup>th</sup>**. All juniors are encouraged to attend, and we will review in class some things to look for when attending.
- **Psychoeducational Testing Information**  
**Tests Required for SAT/ACT:**

**Cognitive/Intelligence Test**

- **WISC** (Wechsler Intelligence Test for Children) or **WAIS** (Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale – must be 16 years or older)

**Skills Test** – either of these skills tests

- **Woodcock Johnson Test of Achievement**
- **WIAT** (Wechsler Individual Achievement Test)

**SAT** – testing must be with in **5 years**.

**ACT**- testing must be with **3 years**.

### **College Accommodations**

Many colleges require testing within **3 years** of college admittance, but each college should be researched to find out specific requirements.

1. **WAIS** (Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale – 16 years or older)
2. **Woodcock Johnson Test of Achievement** or **WIAT** (Wechsler Individual Achievement Test)