



Santa Clara High School

Counseling Newsletter

WINTER 2024

www.santaclarahighschool.com/counseling

UPDATE NAVIANCE LISTS

Seniors — Be sure to update your college decision list on Naviance! Please let me know all the schools you applied to, schools you got accepted to, denied, and waitlisted. Additionally, please let me know which schools on your list you did not apply to.

FAFSA

Seniors — The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) must be submitted by **March 2nd** for Cal Grant consideration, and April 2nd for most state financial programs. Check with your interested schools for more information! This is the form required by all colleges in order for them to award any aid, federal grant, or loan money.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE APP ASSISTANCE

Seniors — For those planning to attend a 2-year community college, there will be application and Community College Promise Grant assistance during lunch and after school beginning in March. Even if you do not plan to attend a community college, it is a good safety net. Be sure to have the following:

- Social Security Number (SSN)
- Parent/guardian 2022 tax income and background information.

ACTIVATE COLLEGE PORTALS

If you are an applicant or admitted student, many of you may receive an email regarding the activation of a student portal! If you receive an email regarding a student portal, be sure to register and activate your account! College applicant portals contain key, personal information for every applicant at a college and allows you to update contact information, monitor application status, upload and track documents, and view the decision on the application (accepted, denied, waitlisted).

WAITLISTED?

If you have been placed on the waitlist at a college that you are still interested in attending, you must respond to the college's offer letting them know that you want to stay on the waitlist. Because many waitlist decisions are not made until after May 1st, you must accept another offer of admission if you want to attend a four-year school.

FIRST SEMESTER GRADES

Seniors — Mid-year reports with updated transcripts have been sent to all private and out-of-state schools. If you have applied to a UC or CSU, your transcripts will be sent to the university you plan to attend following your graduation from SCHS, unless they are specifically requested.

If you received a grade of D or F, you must notify the university, UC Application Center, and/or CSU schools immediately!

SCHS COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR

Monday, March 18th; 5-7pm

Mark your calendars! Santa Clara High School is offering another College and Career Fair! Join us to learn more about universities and hear from representatives of law enforcement, health, military, and more. The Event will be held in the Coach C Gym. See you there!

ANTICIPATING UC ADMITTANCE?

If you're admitted to UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Merced, UC Riverside, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, UC Santa Cruz you will receive information in May about taking the Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE) or the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR), and will need to review campus-specific options for satisfying the ELWR requirement.

This exam notification email will indicate the date and time of the test, information about fees and instructions for any needed test accommodations.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Seniors — Submit applications now! This quick, online application will get you started in the process to meet with a college advisor and register for classes. Visit Mr. Ramirez for assistance!

Questions? Stop in to see your counselor!

MARCH MADNESS

Grades 9-11 — Be ready for Course Request Forms as the month of March approaches! Students will have the opportunity to request courses for the following school year. Keep in mind, requests are not guaranteed. Course enrollment include factors of current-year performance, teacher recommendations, and standardized test scores. Review the course catalogue for course availability, placement expectations, and prerequisites.



NAVIANCE

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors should be updating their resumes, completing the strengths inventory survey and the career interest profiler, and adding schools to the list of colleges they are thinking about.

Seniors should continue to update their college decisions received and indicate what school they plan to attend in the Fall 2024. We use this information to finalize our mailing for sending out your graduation transcript to the college you will attend. More information will be sent via email.

PERKS OF NAVIANCE

About Me — Here you will find test scores (PSAT, ACT, SAT, AP), most recent GPA, and more.

Resume — Enter all activities you are involved with at school, in church or local community.

Strengths Inventory Survey — Take a short test to see what your strengths are.

Career Interest Profiler — Complete this survey to see what careers match your interests.

Colleges Section — Students can research colleges, look at graphs of admission decisions for SC alumni, and add schools to a list of colleges they are thinking about.



You are not alone

afsp.org



WHAT YOU COULD BE DOING NOW

JUNIORS

- Review course catalogue
- Consider Dual Enrollment
- ACT/SAT Testing
- Naviance—Resume and Brag sheets
- Attend college and career fairs
- Career Interest Profiler
- Research potential colleges
- Tour/virtual tour college campuses

SOPHOMORES

- Review course catalogue
- Strengths Inventory
- Career Interest Profiler
- Attend college and career fairs
- Participate in school activities or volunteer efforts
- Get started on a resume
- Tour/virtual tour college campuses

FRESHMEN

- Review course catalogue
- Create a four-year high school plan
- Start thinking about life after high school
- Explore summer opportunities
- Participate in extra-curricular activities