

College Placement & Academic Services

Director: Kelsey Hill

Asst. Director: James Benson

Academic Scheduling Team



MEET YOUR ACADEMIC COUNSELING TEAM!



MRS. KELSEY HILL

Director of College Placement & Academic Services hillkefuma.org 434.842.4272

Academic Counseling for: Grades 9-12 & Academic PGs (last names A K)



DR. JAMES BENSON

Asst. Director of College Placement & Academic Services bensonjefuma.org 434.842.4213

Academic Counseling for: Grades 9-12 & Academic PGs (last names L Z)



MS. RHONDA WHITE

Coordinator of Assessments and Student Records whiterefuma.org 434.842.4203



MS. JEN SCHNELLE

Faculty schnellejefuma.org 434.842.4423

Academic Counseling for: Grade 8



LTC FRANK ARRITT

Faculty
Postgraduate Football Coach
arrittllsfuma.org
434.842.4284

Academic Counseling for: Postgraduate Football



MRS. ELIZABETH PATRICK

Faculty patrickesfuma.org 434,842,4262

Academic Counseling for: Postgraduate Basketball

Fork Union Military Academy 4744 James Madison Hwy Fork Union, Virginia 23055 www.forkenion.com 454 842 5212

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

```
A 4.0
  GPA is determined by
                                       A- 3.7
                                       B+ 3.3
averaging letter grades.
                                       B 3.0
                                       B- 2.7
All formulas are based on the scale
                                      C+ 2.3
                                       C 2.0
          to the right.
                                       C- 1.7
                                       D+ 1.3
                                       D 1.0
   **Schools may have different
                                       D- 0.7
          variations**
```

```
Alg. I A 4.0
World Hist. B 3.0
English I B- 2.7
Health/PE C 2.0
Art B+ 3.3
Earth Sci. A- 3.7
```

4.0+3.0+2.7+2.0+3.3+3.7=18.7 ÷ 6 = 3.12 3.12 = B Avg. for the year All courses are factored into cumulative GPA.

Many GPAs begin calculating 9th grade.

> GPAs can be weighted & unweighted

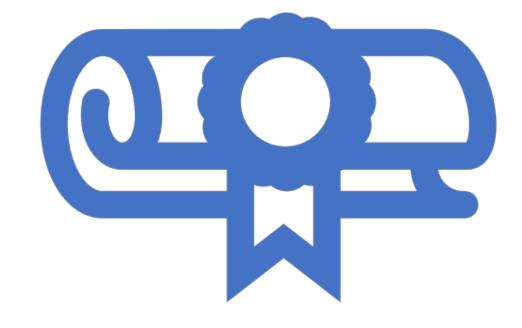
9th & 10th grades have the <u>MOST</u> impact on GPA!

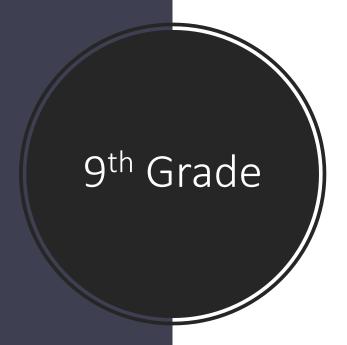
11th & 12th grades have the <u>LEAST</u> impact Think of the GPA as a class grade calculated with assignments, tests, and quizzes. Every course is an assignment that factors into the overall grade point average.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

- Used to establish class rank
- Compiled of all letter grades in all courses attempted during High School
- Most impacting years are 9th and 10th grade
 - 9th grade sets the foundation for the GPA
- Least impacting years are 11th and 12th grade
- Do not take honors/AP/Dual Enrollment courses to "increase your GPA" – can be more negative than positive

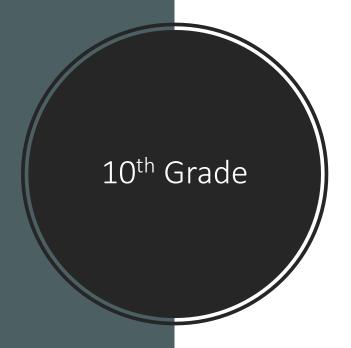
College Prep by Grade Level Collegeboard.org





9TH GRADE

- Create a four-year high school plan. Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years. Make sure you know which high school courses are required by colleges, and that you're taking the right classes as early as the ninth grade. You can ask your counselor about what those "right" classes are. Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school. Start thinking about your life after school, including the types of jobs that might interest you. Of course, these will change - often - but it's good to start thinking about the possibilities. Identify your interests — likes and dislikes — not just in classes but also in every area. This will help you focus on your goals. Talk to other people, such as your school counselor, of interest. teachers, recent college graduates who are working, professionals in the community, etc., about careers you might find interesting. Meet with your high school counselor. Your counselor knows how to help you get the most out of high school. Be sure to take some time during the school year to discuss post-high-school plans with him or her.
 - Participate in extracurricular activities. Academics aren't everything. Explore your interest in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
 - Remember that colleges would rather see real involvement in one activity instead of a loose connection to several.
 - If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at ncaaclearinghouse.net.
 - Save for college. It's not too late to put money aside for college. Every little bit helps! Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.
 - Explore summer opportunities. Look for a job, internship, or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
 - ☐ Get familiar with the PSAT-related assessments and SAT*. Most four-year colleges consider applicants' scores on college admission test. Download the free Daily Practice for the New SAT app to get a feel for the kinds of questions you might face on test day.
 - Take the PSAT™ 8/9. If your school offers it, sign up to take the first of the College Board assessments to set a baseline. This test will help you build up your skills to take the SAT in 11th or 12th grade.



10TH GRADE

 Meet with your high school counselor — again. Be sure to meet with your school counselor to ensure that your course schedule is challenging enough to prepare you for college. Check into any prerequisites for advanced-level juniorand senior-year courses. 	□ Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid. Many students use financial aid to cover college costs. Find out what financial aid is, where it comes from, and how you can apply for it. Read the U.S. Department of Education's Funding Your Education (about federal aid programs).
Take the PSAT/NMSQT* or PSAT™ 10. Depending on	Attend college and career fairs. The fairs often take place
your school, you might have the opportunity to take the	in the fall at your school or in your area.
PSAT/NMSQT in October or the PSAT 10 in February or	□ Participate in school activities or volunteer efforts.
March. It provides valuable feedback on your college	Extracurricular activities can help you develop time-
readiness and a free, personalized plan to help you start	management skills and enrich your high school experience.
getting ready for the SAT — and for college. Ask if the PSAT/NMSQT is offered to 10th-graders. Although this test is usually given in the 11th grade, it is also often offered in the 10th grade. That's because it provides valuable feedback through the Student Score	□ Talk to your counselor about your plans for life after high school. He or she can help you plan your schedule, search for colleges, and navigate the financial aid process. The more your counselor knows about you, the more he or she can help you along the way.
Report. You can then work on any of your academic	■ Tour college campuses. If possible, take advantage of
weaknesses while there is still plenty of time to	vacation or other family travel time to visit colleges and see
make improvements.	what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending
Are you interested in attending a U.S. military academy? If so, you should request a precandidate questionnaire.	the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college.

11th Grade

Start with you: Make lists of your abilities, social/cultural	
preferences, and personal qualities. List things you may want to study and do in college.	
Learn about colleges. Look at their websites and find	
colleges at bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search.	

- Le Talk to friends, family members, teachers, and recent grads of your school now in college. List the college features that interest you.
- Resource check: Visit the counseling office and meet the counselors there. Is there a college night for students and families? When will college representatives visit your school? (Put the dates in your calendar.) Examine catalogs and guides.
- At school, speak to your counselor about taking the PSAT/NMSQT*, which is given in October. If you plan to ask for testing accommodations (because of a disability), be sure the College Board has approved your eligibility.
- Make a file to manage your college search, testing, and application data. If appropriate (for example, if you're interested in drama, music, art, sports, etc.), start to gather material for a portfolio.
- Estimate your financial aid need. Financial aid can help you afford college. Use the College Board's Getting Financial Aid and the financial aid calculator at bigfuture.org to estimate how much aid you might receive.

WINTER

FALL

- Sign up to take the SAT' in the spring. You can register online or through your school. SAT fee waivers are available to eligible students. To prepare for the SAT, you can access free, personalized SAT practice tools at satpractice.org, including thousands of interactive questions, video lessons, practice tests, and more.
- Begin a search for financial aid sources. National sources include the College Board's Scholarship Search and electronic sources. Don't overlook local and state aid sources. (Ask a counselor for help or check your public library.)
- With your family, make an appointment with your counselor to discuss ways to improve your collegepreparation and selection processes.

- Ask a counselor or teacher about taking the SAT Subject Tests" in the spring. You should take them while course material is still fresh in your mind. You can download
- The SAT Subject Tests Student Guide, which offers testprep advice, from SATSubjectTests.org.
- Explore AP". The Advanced Placement" Program helps hundreds of thousands of high school students achieve their college dreams each year. Get the facts at apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap. If you're in AP classes, register for the AP Exams given in May.
- Opt in to the College Board Opportunity Scholarships at cb.org/opportunity. You can earn scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 by completing individual college planning steps. Complete all six steps and you'll be eligible for the \$40,000 scholarship.

SPRING

- Contact your counselor before leaving school for the summer if you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- Develop a list of 15 or 20 colleges that are of interest to you. You can find many colleges at which you'll be happy and get a great education. The college search is about exploring who you are and what you want and then finding colleges that will meet your goals.
- Stay open to all the possibilities—don't limit your search. To find the best college for you, you should apply to colleges of varying selectivity. Selective colleges admit a portion of students who apply. Some colleges are highly selective while others are less selective. Make sure to apply to public, private, in-state, and out-of-state schools so that you have plenty of options from which to choose.
- ☐ Take the SAT. The test is typically offered in March, May, and June. Make sure you start preparing for the test several months in advance using the tools available at satpractice.org. And remember, if you're not happy with your scores when you get them, you might want to test again in the fall. Many students take the test a second time as seniors, and they usually do better.
- Start to gather documents for financial aid: Be sure to keep a copy of your tax returns handy. You'll use these to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which opens on Oct. 1.

SUMMER

- Register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center if you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college (ncaaclearinghouse.net).
- Get your FSA ID: Before you can fill out your FAFSA, you need to get a username and password (also known as an
- Find a full-time or part-time job, or participate in a summer camp or summer college program.
- ☐ Visit colleges. When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. While you're there, talk to as many people as possible. These can include college admission staff, professors, and students. Take campus tours and, at colleges you're serious about, make appointments to have interviews with admission counselors.
- ☐ Create a résumé—a record of your academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, and work experiences since you started high school.

- Download applications. Go to the website of each college's admission office and either complete the application online or request a paper application from colleges to which you'll apply. Check application dates-large universities may have early dates or rolling admission.
- ☐ Visit some local colleges—large, small, public, and private. A visit to a college campus can help you decide if that college is right for you. Make a plan ahead of time to get the most from your visit. Check out the campus checklist at bigfuture.org. Attend college fairs, too.
- Scan local newspapers to see which civic, cultural, and service organizations in your area award financial aid to graduating seniors. Start a file.

12th Grade

FALL

- □ Strengthen Your College List*: Meet with a counselor about your college choices and, if you've not yet done so, download college applications and financial aid forms.

 Make sure you have a balanced list of academic safety, fit, and reach schools. Plan to visit as many of these colleges as possible.
- ☐ Create a master list or calendar that includes:
 - Tests you'll take and their fees, dates, and registration deadlines
 - College application due dates
 - Required financial aid application forms and their deadlines (aid applications may be due before college applications)
 - Other materials you'll need (recommendations, transcripts, etc.)
 - Your high school's application processing deadlines
- Ask a counselor to help you request a fee waiver if you can't afford application or test fees.
- ☐ Improve Your Score*: Many seniors retake the SAT in the fall. Additional coursework and practice with Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® since your last test could help you boost your performance. Plus you already know what to expect on test day.
- Be sure to have your SAT scores sent to the colleges to which you are applying.

- Complete the FAFSA*: To apply for most financial aid, you'll need to complete the FAFSA. Oct. 1 is the first day you can file the FAFSA.
- □ Complete the CSS Profile: CSS Profile[™] is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for their aid dollars.
- ☐ Prepare early decision/early action or rolling admission applications as soon as possible. Nov. 1–15: Colleges may require test scores and applications between these dates for early decision admission.
- Ask a counselor or teacher for recommendations if you need them. Give each teacher or counselor an outline of your academic record and your extracurricular activities. For each recommendation, provide a stamped, addressed envelope and any college forms required.
- ☐ Write first drafts and ask teachers and others to read them if you're submitting essays. If you're applying for early decision, finish the essays for that application now.
- Apply to College*: Submit your applications to the schools that you want to attend.
- Ask counselors to send your transcripts to colleges. Give counselors the proper forms at least two weeks before the colleges require them.

WINTER

- Keep photocopies as you finish, and send your applications and essays.
- Give the correct form to your counselor if the college wants to see second-semester grades.
- Have your high school send a transcript—it is sent separately by mail to colleges if you apply online to colleges.

SPRING

- Keep active in school. If you are waitlisted, the college will want to know what you have accomplished between the time you applied and the time you learned of its decision.
- □ Visit your final college before accepting. You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April. Notify your counselor of your choice. If you have questions about housing offers, talk to your counselor or call the college.
- Inform every college of your acceptance or rejection of the offer of admission and/or financial aid by May 1.
 Colleges cannot require your deposit or your commitment to attend before May 1. Talk to your counselor or adviser if you have questions.
- Send your deposit to one college only.
- ☐ Take any AP® Exams. Show what you've learned in your
 AP classes. A successful score could even earn you credit,
 advanced placement, or both in college.

- Waitlisted by a college? If you intend to enroll if you are accepted, tell the admission director your intent and ask how to strengthen your application. Need financial aid? Ask whether funds will be available if you're accepted.
- Work with a counselor to resolve any admission or financial aid problems.
- Ask your high school to send a final transcript to your
- Review your financial aid awards: Not all financial aid awards are the same, so it's important to choose the aid package that's best for you and your family. Be sure to note what you have to do to continue receiving financial aid from year to year, and how your aid might change in future years.

Big Future: Collegeboard.org

∀ BigFuture

Helping Millions of Students Plan for Life After High School

Inspired by Students, Powered by College and Career Experts

BigFuture" is a free, comprehensive set of digital resources that helps all students take a productive first step after high school. With feedback from students, insights from professionals, and over 100 years of College Board expertise, the BigFuture personalized dashboard simplifies a complex process into key actions across three categories:

Plan for College



COLLEGE SEARCH

Students can search and fifter over 3,000 college profiles with rich content about earnpus life and admissions provided by the colleges themselves.



STUDENT SEARCH SERVICE"

On average, students contacted by colleges through this service receive 29% more college admission offers.

Pay for College



SCHOLARSHIP SEARC

Students explore and match with over \$4 billion in scholarships each year



BIOFUTURE SCHOLARSHIPS

Juniors and seniors who complete steps on their dashboard earn entries for monthly scholarship drawings that award nearly \$3 million each year.



FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

We offer guides and an Expected Family Contribution Calculator to help families understand college costs, student loans, the FAFSA', and more:

Explore Careers



CAREER SEARCH

Students connect their interests and skills to **over 1,000 career profiles** across a variety of education levels. They can view job requirements, projected salaries, and growth potential. "As a low-income, first generation college student, BigFuture ensured that I had the information I needed to be successful throughout the error process. Without it, I may not have found, or gotten into, my top choice school."

Shylyna Clade of 2022 MansSeld Birt' High School, MC



"[BigFuture] has really inspired me to look into new scholarships and showed me that it is possible to get a lot of financial aid if you look in the right places. I have started to plan ahead for my future and this was an encouraging experience!"

Heyel Class of 2022 Battle Mountain High School, CO



"I think that this is an amoung program that helps to provide opportunities for lides like me who are low-income and worrying about how they'll be able to pay for furthering their education.

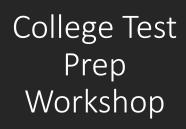
[BigFuture] is very helpful and also easy to owigate, which makes the process of going to college less stressful."

Cori Class of 2022 Lamus Feight School, TX



Explore the dashboard, resources, and more at **bigfuture.org**.

U.S. S. College Branch





WORKSHOP FOR JUNIORS ONLY

The workshop will run twice a week through Terms 4 & 5 during seminar time

SAT TEST PREP & COLLEGE APPLICATION PREP



COURSE OFFERED AT AN ADDITIONAL FEE







College Leave Requests

What is a College Visit? Steps to Request a College Leave

Visiting a college or university is a significant part of the college search process. Junior Cadets are permitted **ONE** excused absence for a college visit. Juniors should take advantage of major leave times (Winter Break, Spring Break) and summer prior to senior year to schedule. Senior Cadets are permitted a total of **TWO** excused absences for a college visit.

What is not considered a college visit:

- · simply driving (or passing) through the campus
- · A self-guided tour not coordinated with admissions
- · solely attending a sporting event
- · solely visiting a friend
- · Essentially, anything not officially coordinated through the College Admission office.

College Leave Request Procedures

For the College Leave Request to be initiated, you must contact your cadet's college counselor (Mrs. Hill for cadet last names A-K. Dr. Benson for cadet last names L-Z). Once approved by the college counselor, please follow the steps below to complete the leave request in ORAH.

If a cadet will miss any school required activities (sports, cadet life activities/parades, academics, etc.) it is the responsibility of the cadet to obtain permission and any missed work/assignments from all appropriate adult/supervisor/coach/teacher/TAC officer/etc.

Creating College Leave Request in ORAH (step-by-step)

- 1. Create New Pass
- 2. Select "College Leave" for Location
- 3. Enter College/University name for Address
- 4. Choose who will signing out/picking up cadet for leave
- 5. Select Departure time
- 6. Select appropriate Departure transport (FUMA Transportation is coordinated with Mr. York)
- 7. Select Return Time
- 8. Select appropriate return transport (FUMA Transportation is coordinated with Mr. York)
- 9. In the Notes section, please indicate that this a college leave, and add the name of the College Counselor.
 - a. Mrs. Hill endorses cadet last name A-K
 - b. Dr. Benson endorses cadet last name L-Z
- 10. Submit the Leave Request, which will be sent to the TAC officer.

College Visit Form:

The cadet will be responsible for returning the completed college visit form to the appropriate college counselor (Mrs. Hill or Dr. Benson) the next academic day upon returning. If the form is not turned in, demerits will be issued for Failure to Comply and/or Improper Leave Procedures.

,	Date:	
\		

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

NACAC

DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

Types of College Application Deadlines



Early Decision Deadlines: Early Decision (ED) is a binding agreement, meaning you can apply to only one school under this admission plan. Early Decision is binding. You must enroll if admitted. There are penalties if you decline, specific to the school. If you are accepted Early Decision, you must withdraw applications to other institutions. You enroll without knowing any financial aid packages. May be a greater commitment financially for families; use the FASFA EFC or the Net Price Calculator amount to know amount to pay

Deadline: October - November 2022 (Check each school for specific date deadline)

When should you apply Early Decision? Early Decision benefits top-performing students who have identified their first-choice college. You should only apply ED if you know this is the only school you want to attend.

Benefits: You finish your college application sooner; Admission Offices review your application early; Admission offer comes in or around December

Myths: it does not help earn more scholarship awards, does not guarantee offer of acceptance

Early Action Deadlines: Early Action (EA) is a great option for those who want an early admission. decision to one or more schools without having to commit to a school. Early Action is not binding.

Deadline: October-November 2022 [Check each school for specific date deadline]

When should you apply Early Action? If you know the school is one of your Top 3 schools. It shows colleges you are a strong applicant to accept admission, if offered.

Benefits: You finish your college applications sooner; Admission Offices review your application early; Admission offer doesn't require a response until May 1; Admission Offices can defer to Regular Decision (giving another opportunity for review instead of straight denial); Early Action may have a higher percentage of accepted students than Regular Decision; Know Admissiondecision early, learn financial aid package to compare to other schools

Myths: it does not help earn more scholarship awards, does not guarantee offer of acceptance,

Regular Decision Deadlines: Regular Decision (RD) allows students ample time to put required materials, admission offers will not come until April/May, more time to decide (May 1: National Decision Day), largest application submission pool. If admission is denied, you cannot reapply until the next academic year.

Deadline: January/February 2023 (Check each school for specific date deadline)

When should you apply Regular Decision? Regular Decision benefits those who need additional time to properly compile all required materials (Letters of Recommendation, Personal Statement, Information to complete application, etc.).

Benefits: You have more time to complete the materials required for the application

Rolling Admission Deadlines: Admission offices evaluate applications as they are received (or "roll in") versus waiting to evaluate all applications after a hard deadline. Schools will continue to evaluate applications until they've filled all the slots for the upcoming academic year. Rolling Admission policy can set policies for priority deadlines (for example, priority deadline to gain scholarships or other financial aid, special classes, programs or organizations).

Deadline: Anytime of year (check with each school for specific date deadline for Fall enrollment)

When should you apply Rolling Admissions? Still apply to schools with rolling admission as soon as you can. Colleges and universities have limited number of seats for each incoming class. Waiting until the last possible minute, the college may "fill up" prior to the rolling admission

Benefits: Helps attract high-quality applicants, fewer applications to be processed at once, more time to apply, allows applicant to space out college applications submitted, applying earlier in the rolling admission process more seats/spots are open



Parent Involvement: To Be Involved



How to Be Involved in Your Child's College Application Process

Spreen Mercur, Ed.D.

Corfamilies, the process of applying to college is I not always easy.

Naturally, parents want to be involved because there is a lot at stake. But children may not always perceive a parent or quardian's involvement in a positive light.

As a result, conversations at home about college can cause good relationships to become somewhat strained during the (at times lengthy) college application process.

As a parent, you may have encountered this problem: before or heard of someone who has. One of the most common questions parents ask me is: "How can I be involved in the right way?"

The Ultimate Goal for Parents' Involvement

One of the wisest things I have heard anyone say. about the college admission process is that applying is in-and-of-itself part of the student's education. A great deal of learning happens in college, inside and outside of the classroom. But the actual process of applying is also an important part of the student's education.

To that end, being supportive should be the parents' fundamental goal.

In other words, you must make the process something your child takes ownership of, letting them do the work and make most of the decisions.

Of course, it may not be easy to strike the right balance. There is a fine line to walk between guiding, supporting, and assuring that things do not entirely go wrong and, at the same time, backing off enough to let this process happen for your deld.

But it is of utmost importance that you light the urge to impose yourself on your child and let the process be overnur by your desires and dreams. Nor can you merely avoid giving them responsibility. It has to be their experience as much as possible.

What Parents Can Do to Be Involved in a Positive Way

Consider four specific things you can do to assure your very best involvement in your child's college application process:

1. Invite collaboration.

invite - not demand or mandate - your child to collaborate with you. For instance, you could ask them what colleges they have looked at. Then, invite themto investigate some others together, collaborating on research, but not doing it for them. You could also work together on planning visits to colleges and handling timelines.

2. Share information.

Of course, at times, you may come across great. information about a college by yourself. How can you present what you found without imposing your ideas? It is as simple as saying, "I was reading about a college that I think you may really like." And then, share the information, nothing more. It has to be presented only as an option, not a demand.

3. Serve as the operations and logistics manager.

Being a manager does not mean you are the boss. it means you are the part of a team, made up of you and your child, that handles the operations and logistics. While it is up to each family how to exactly do this, it is another opportunity for you to be supportive.

Parent Involvement: To *Not* to be Involved



How Not to Be Involved in Your Child's College Application Process

Shirvery Marriet, Ed.D.

The ideal goal for parents' involvement in their child's college application process is to be supportive without taking over the process. This means that even if you went to college, you should not assume that applying nowadays is similar to what it was back then for you. There is a lot that has changed since that time and a lot that will continue to evolve. So, no matter if there are similarities, the healthy approach should be to assume very little.

Keeping this in mind will help you, as the parent, to not impose-not even unintentionally-any personal. idea about what you want as opposed to what is good for your child.

Consider four specific things you absolutely should not do:

1. Never write the college application essay for your child; never complete the application for them; never contact the colleges as if you are your child.

First of all, doing any of these things is entirely unethical and will backlire. College admission officers are smart people. They know when a college application essay has been written by somebody. other than the student. Even if they merely suspect this to be true, the consequences for your child can be severe.

Second, it will not help your child learn.

2. Do not talk about the application process constantly.

inundating or bombarding your child with questions about their college application can feel uncomfortable, stressful, and frustrating. Doing so at what they may feel are unpredictable and unsuitable times - as soon as they get home or as soon as they wake up - can seem like an imposition or an attack.

If you want to know what is going on, schedule a timefor it and save your questions until then. Consider scheduling regular weekly meetings, such as every Monday at 6 PM, for example. Once that time comes around, put everything on the table, ask all the questions you have been saving, review applications and essays, etc. This approach will save you and your child a lot of stress.

3. Do not use "we" when referring to matters related to the process.

When you say things like, "we are applying to..." or "we are completing applications" or "we are taking the SAT," you are sending the wrong message.

Your child is the one in the driver's seat. It is their college application, not yours. They are the ones with the most responsibility, and they should be the ones with the privilege of making a lot of the decisions as well. So, make sure you let them lead.

4. Avoid assigning the words "good" or "bad" to a college.

The truth is, there is no reliable way to determine: if a college is good or not good in any objective way. Often, when someone says, "that is not a good college" or "that is a great college," they are not referring to the quality of the education, Instead, they are alluding the prestige of a college.

Of course, there is nothing wrong with a prestigious college that is well known and has a lot of students applying. However, when you attach the language of "good" and "bad" to a college, it suggests that you are relying too much on the prestige of the school.

instead, make it a goal to focus on whether a college is good for your child. Choosing a college that is a good fit includes a complicated set of factors:

MERCER

info@merconed.com moreowed.com

SCHEDULING

- You received a copy of your cadet's schedule at check-in. Please consider this a tentative schedule.
- A schedule will be emailed home once school starts
- Schedule Changes will be dealt with on an individual basis, must follow proper procedures, and cannot be guaranteed
- If you have any questions, please contact your designated academic advisor/college counselor (refer to Academic Counseling Team handout for correct contact and contact information)