

Road Map to College Admission

Lori Brooks, M.Ed.

Assistant Director, School Counseling Services

School District of Lee County

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Presentation Format

- Live webinar
- Submit questions and they will be answered live



Post-Secondary Options

- Public State University or Private College/University
 - Four-year
 - Examples: FSU, UF, FGCU, Boston College, Stetson
- State College
 - Two-year (with select four-year bachelor degree programs)
 - Examples: FSW State College
- Technical College
 - Certificate programs
 - Some matriculate to degree programs
 - Examples: FMTC, CCTC, UTI
- Military
- Workforce

Focus of this webinar:

- University/College Admissions
 - Competitive
 - Selective admissions
- Future webinar topics will cover additional post-secondary options

Why Go To College?

- Increased career opportunities
 - College education prepares students for wide variety of careers
- Greater income
 - College graduates earn more money than high school graduates
 - U.S. Census Bureau: College graduate will earn \$1 million more in a lifetime than someone who does not go to college
- Opportunities to develop and grow
 - Study a variety of subjects
 - Become more independent
 - Make new friends
 - Broader experiences

Webinar Objectives & Outcomes

Make your
college
plan

Work your
Plan

Gain
Admission



Begin With the End in Mind...

- Effective planning and preparation is critical
- Even if uncertain of post-secondary plans, making choices now will keep college available as an option
- Planning includes the student, the parent(s), and the school counselor

8th Grade Student Action Plan

- Consider taking Algebra 1
 - Ensures that Pre-Calculus or Calculus can be taken as a senior in high school
- Take a world language course
- Employ good study habits
 - Will assist students in high school and college

8th Grade Student Action Plan

- Research colleges of interest
- Become familiar with each college's high school curriculum requirements
- Involve your school counselor
 - Tell your school counselor that you want to follow a college preparatory program when planning your high school schedule

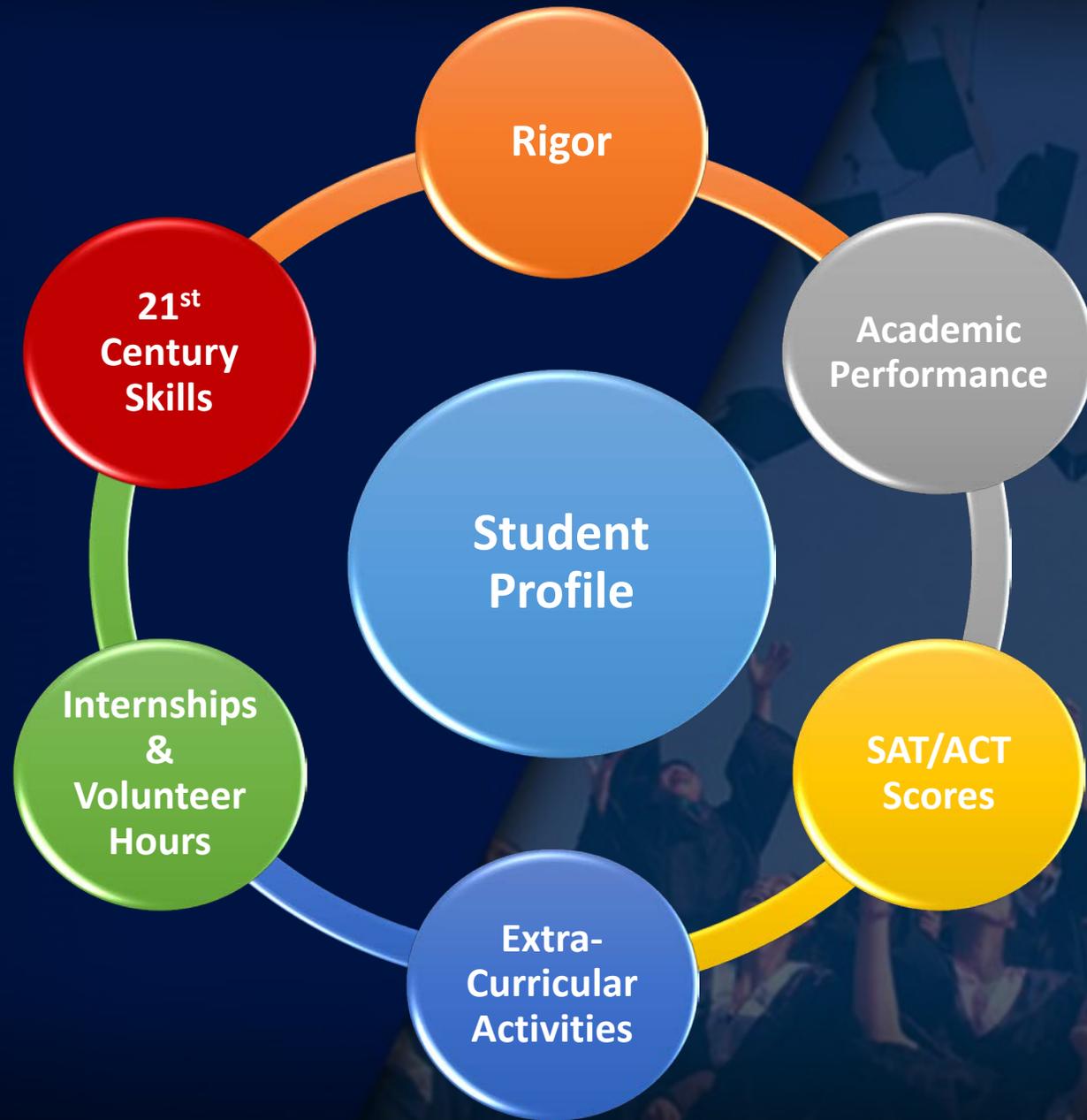
8th Grade Student Action Plan

- Help your child set goals for the year
 - Working towards specific goals will help your child stay motivated and focused
- Review the school calendar and put important dates on a shared calendar in an easy-to-view place
- Check in with your child regularly to review schoolwork
 - Celebrate successes and head off problems as a team
- Attend high school open houses to learn about academic programs and select high school of choice



8th Grade Family Action Plan

- Discuss ways to take on challenges
 - Rigorous courses can build confidence and prepare students for higher level high school courses
- Visit a nearby college together
 - Look for events that are free for the community
 - Simply being on a college campus may spark interest in college



9th Grade Student Action Plan

- Do your best to get good grades
 - When making admission decisions, colleges review academic performance starting with the ninth grade year
 - Continue good study habits – aim for an hour of study each weeknight
- Research colleges that interest you
 - Keep a notebook
 - Course requirements
 - List of likes/dislikes regarding specific colleges
- Begin identifying areas of academic strength
- Visit your school counselor regularly



9th Grade Student Action Plan

- Create a four-year high school plan
 - Know the high school courses required by colleges
 - Plan when these courses should be taken
- Meet with the school counselor
 - School counselors can help your child get the most out of high school
 - Helpful in mapping out courses to take during the rest of high school
- Explore interests/abilities and careers that may align
 - www.floridashines.org

100% FREE



9th Grade Family Action Plan

- Encourage your child to develop a tentative career goal
 - Help your child identify interests, which will help to focus on goals
 - Career goal may change; it is the thought process that counts
- Suggest extracurricular activities
 - Encourage your child to take part in a sport, club, music or drama group.
 - Explore community volunteer opportunities

10th Grade Student Action Plan

- Continue earning good grades
 - Aim for two hours of study each weeknight
- Visit colleges that most interest you
- Consider job shadowing to learn more about careers of interest
- During the summer months participate in meaningful activities
 - Workshops, Community Programs, Enrichment Opportunities
- Take the PSAT 10 test in October
- Visit your school counselor regularly



10th Grade Family Action Plan

- Meet with the school counselor - *Again*
 - Check to see that any prerequisites to advanced-level junior and senior year courses are being taken
- Ensure your child takes the PSAT 10
 - Free to all 10th grade students
 - Provides valuable feedback on the student score report

10th Grade Family Action Plan

- Is your child interested in attending a U.S. military academy?
 - Attend the student/parent briefing event offered by the school district
- Attend college and career fairs
- Support your child's participation in school activities and volunteer efforts
- Tour college campuses

11th Grade Student Action Plan

- Visit your school counselor regularly
- Fill your schedule with a majority of academic courses
- Maintain good grades
 - College admission officials will be reviewing your grade point average from grade nine through grade eleven
- Sign up to take the PSAT/NMSQT in October
- Take the ACT or SAT exam between February and June
 - Test, Re-test

11th Grade Student Action Plan

- Continue looking at college websites and narrow search to three to five potential colleges
- Campus visits are important—Visit as many colleges that interest you as you can
- Search for potential scholarships
- Plan for senior year and choose rigorous academic courses

11th Grade Family Action Plan

Summer

- Get the facts about college costs—higher education can be affordable
- Explore financial aid options
 - Grants, scholarships, loans, work-study

11th Grade Family Action Plan

Fall

- Make sure your child meets with the school counselor
- Prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT in October
- Encourage your child to set specific goals for the year, which will help with staying focused and motivated

11th Grade Family Action Plan

Winter

- Review PSAT/NMSQT Score Report
 - Shows areas of strength and those in need of improvement
 - Advanced Placement courses that might be a good match
- Free, personalized SAT practice on Khan Academy
- Help your child prepare for the SAT
- Discuss taking challenging courses next year



11th Grade Family Action Plan

Spring

- Search together for colleges that meet your child's needs
- Help your child research scholarships
- Attend college fairs and financial aid events
- Look into summer learning programs
- Colleges look for students who pursue meaningful summer activities
- Visit colleges together



12th Grade Student Action Plan

- Visit your school counselor regularly!
- Keep your grades up
 - Many colleges review final grades and may rescind an offer of admission if grades slip this year
- Take rigorous academic courses (extra)
- Take the ACT or SAT (if you have not already done so)
 - Fall, senior year should be final testing attempts
- Apply for admission, by October, to three to five colleges that interest you the most
 - Reach, target, safety schools



12th Grade Student Action Plan

- Revisit the colleges that interest you the most
- Attend a financial aid workshop with your parents
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Scholarships, scholarships, scholarships!
- When you receive admissions offers remember to send in any required deposits

12th Grade Family Action Plan

Summer

- Visit colleges together
- Help your senior finalize his/her college list
- Visit college websites to determine actual cost of attendance
- Encourage your child to get started on applications

12th Grade Family Action Plan

Fall

- Encourage your child to meet with the school counselor
- Create a calendar with application deadlines and other important dates
- Ensure your child is taking admission tests, if needed, for the final time
- Help your child find and prepare for scholarships
- Offer to review your child's college applications
- Complete the FAFSA beginning on October 1st
- Encourage your child to set up college interviews



12th Grade Family Action Plan

Spring

- Help process college responses
 - Once your child starts hearing from colleges about admissions and financial aid he or she will need your support to decide what to do
- Review financial aid offers together
 - Help your child determine which package works best
 - Be sure to pay attention to deadlines
 - Get more information about financial aid awards
- Help your child complete paperwork to accept a college's offer of admittance
 - Review and accept the offer
 - Mail tuition deposit



College Planning Tools

- Lee County College Night (every September)
- District Financial Aid Nights (every October)
- Florida Shines: www.floridashines.org
 - Includes the *My Career Shines* career planning system
- College Board: www.collegeboard.org
 - SAT information, college planning and search tools, access to free SAT prep software through Khan Academy
- Khan Academy Free SAT Prep:
<https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>



College Planning Tools

- Florida State University System Admissions Matrix:
http://www.flbog.edu/board/office/asa/doc/admission_2016/2017SUSMatrix.xlsx
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):
www.fafsa.ed.gov
- National College Athletic Association (NCAA):
www.eligibilitycenter.org
- Lee County School District “the Link”:
<http://www.leeschools.net/thelink>



