

October 15, 2020 LHS School Counseling Department

Tonight's Goals

- Identify How to Start the Post-Secondary Search Process
- The Search Process during COVID
- Finding the "Right Fit"
- Working with Your School Counselor
- Resources Available for Support
- Using Naviance
- Looking Ahead and Next Steps

Focus on finding the RIGHT FIT...

a school that complements your values, learning style, and goals!





The Right Fit: What Are My Priorities?

- Size of school/program
- Location
- Type of campus
- Campus personality
- Diversity
- Athletics and activities
- Areas of study available (majors/minors, etc.)
- Cost/financial aid/scholarship needs and opportunities

- Entrance requirements
- Competitiveness
- Selectivity
- Public vs. private
- Reputation of a program or department
- Honors Programs
- Learning/LivingCommunities

What Are Colleges Looking For?

- Transcript and GPA
 - Recalculation of GPA and/or examination of transcript
 - Ask each program how they handle this & what their practices are
- SAT/ACT scores
 - Due to COVID-19, there are more colleges becoming "test optional"
 - FairTest.org

- Teacher/School
 Counselor
 recommendations
- Essay or writing sample
- Interview and/or campus visits
- Extracurricular activities
- Portfolio, Video
 Submission, etc.

Where do I start?

- Begin and continue conversations at home and with your school counselor
 - Remember: ongoing conversations
 - Be mindful: be present, in the here and now, with kindness and curiosity
- Talk to friends and family, teachers and coaches about their experiences

- Identify possibilities
 - Create a list!
- Know your resources
 - School Counselor
 - Naviance
 - Program websites
- Research and visit
 - Ask questions
- Gather materials and stay organized

The Post-Secondary Search Process during COVID

- Flexibility and patience
- Ask questions along the way
- Visit college websites regularly for updates
- What have we learned so far in working with the Seniors who are applying right now?
 - Colleges are making changes and adjustments as well
 - Some colleges have changed deadlines
 - Many colleges have adopted "test optional" admissions practices
 - Colleges are meeting with students and families,
 virtually

Connecting with Colleges



- Campus tours & open houses virtual counts!
- Program tours talk with advisors, faculty & students
- Interviews
- Contact an admissions counselor and a financial aid counselor
- Naviance accept communicates from colleges directly



The Lost of Lollege

- Have the conversations at home, as a family
- How much can our family afford?
 - o (including tuition, books, travel, spending money, etc.)
- Compare lower tuition at a public school with the possibility that a private school may have more financial resources and be able to offer more aid
- Don't let the initial cost of college dissuade you from applying
- Consider and plan applying for financial aid & scholarships
- Talk with the Financial Aid offices at each program they are there to help!

The Lost of College

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Financial Aid presentation October 22nd
- When do I start?
 - The FAFSA available to families in October of senior year and you're allowed to use prior-prior year's data to complete it.
- Do you have to fill it out?
 - Yes, for any state or institutional financial aid consideration. It may also be required for scholarship consideration at individual institutions.
- Additional financial aid & scholarship resources will be shared

Post-Secondary Planning Meetings & LHS

- Each school counselor will meet with students individually starting in December to develop post-secondary plans.
- Parents are welcome to attend. You will receive a letter from Mrs. Crews.
- Meetings will be scheduled during the school day based upon student schedules.
- Naviance Student is used in these sessions to support your use of Naviance at home as a family.
- Goal: to develop personalized post-secondary plans for the upcoming year.

What Resources Should I Use in my Search?

- Naviance
- Your School Counselor
- School Counselor Schoology group
- Individual program websites
- Sign up for college email lists
- Brochures/reading materials, virtual tours
- College fairs -
 - Millburn November 2nd
 - LHS on April 22nd
 - Virtual NACAC fairs (October 18th, November 8th)



What Resources Should I Use in my Search?

- LHS Student Information Packet: The Post-Secondary Search Process
- O*Net: career exploration and job analysis
- College Board <u>Big Future</u>
- NCAA
- Peterson's College Search
- Colleges That Change Lives
- Online College Tours

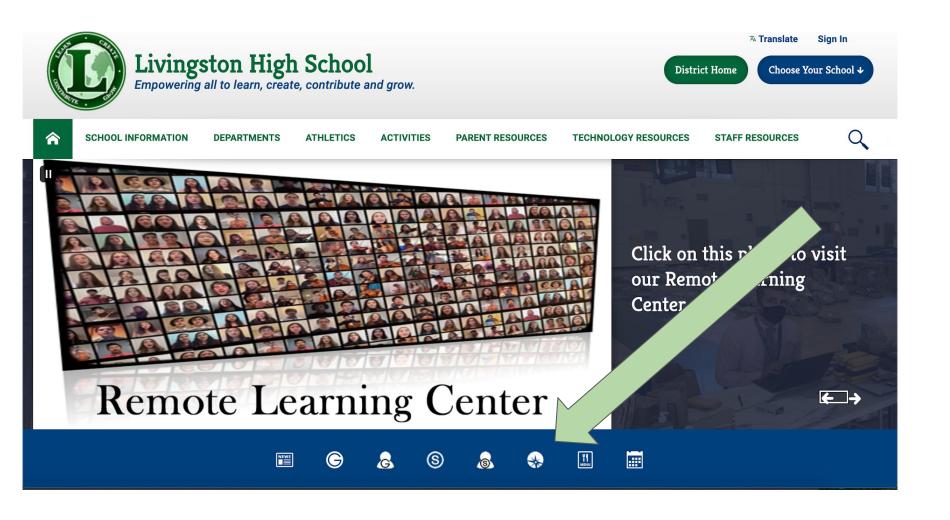


What Do I Need to Know About Naviance?

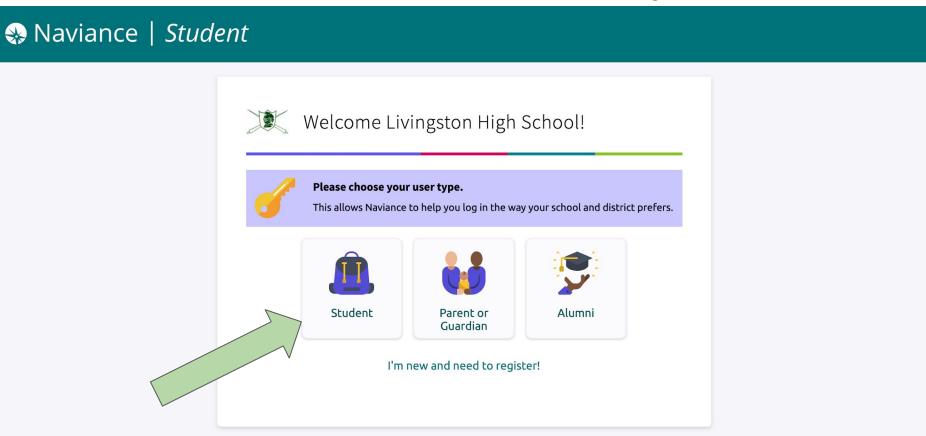
- My "hub" to search and develop my post-secondary plans
- Share information directly with my School Counselor
- Complete surveys about strengths, career interests and post-secondary options
- Compare and research post-secondary programs
- View and compare data from previous years, including records of admissions decisions
- Sign up for college visits at LHS
- Link directly to colleges, programs and third-party resources
- Explore and apply to scholarships

Accessing Naviance Student

LHS Website



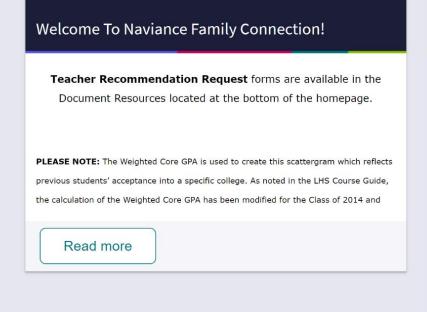
Naviance Student Log-In

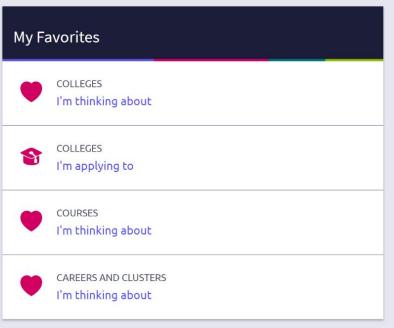


After you click on the "student" button, it will then prompt you to sign in using your LPS email and set password.

Naviance Student Home Page

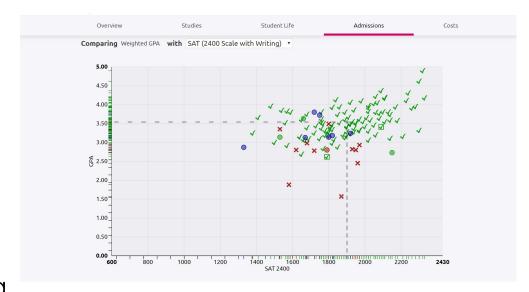


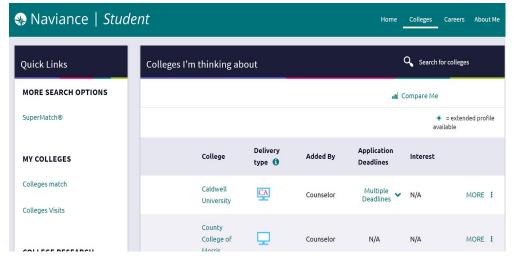




What is Naviance?

- Naviance Student: updates from this summer
 - Students can download the app
- Supports career and post-secondary planning
- Specific to Livingston High School
- Available to LHS students
- Easy to use





Connect To More Resources

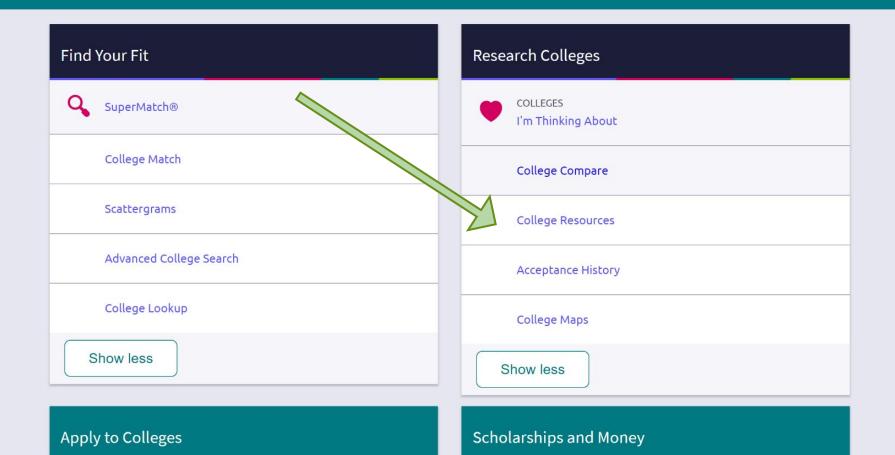


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Type a college name

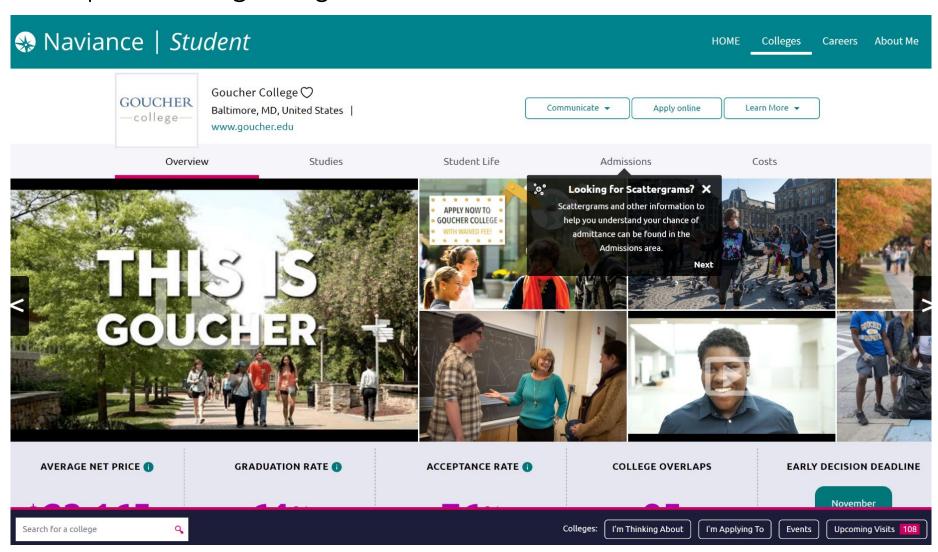
SEARCH

MORE COLLEGE SEARCH OPTIONS



Researching Post-Secondary Information

Updated regularly from Princeton Review database



NCAA: What Do I Need to Do?

- Have the conversation with your school counselor
- Make sure you stay eligible academically
 - Go to the <u>NCAA website</u> and stay current with approved core content courses
 - Visit the <u>Course Guide</u> on the LHS School Counseling website for detailed information & resources: <u>click here</u>
- Fill out the NCAA Eligibility Center form toward the end of your junior year





College Admissions Testing

- <u>FairTest.org</u> for list of test-optional schools
- NACAC for list of test-optional schools
- Practice & preparation:
 - PSAT/SAT/AP College Board
 - o <u>ACT</u>
 - Khan Academy
 - These websites also have useful resources such as practice tests, questions of the day, study and test-taking tips, and college searches. Take advantage of them!
- You will be informed of testing options at LHS



Staying Organized: LHS Digital Skills Toolkit

This is an online collection of lessons to further support your post-secondary search and application process! Lessons include:

- Searching for colleges online
- Creating your resume
- Asking someone to be a reference/recommender
- Organizing college information and your applications in google sheets

For senior year, additional resources include:

- Drafting your college essay
- Preparing for a college interview
- Preparing for the FAFSA (financial aid application)

LHS Digital Skills Toolkit

- Visit the site here
- Click "Sign in" in the top right
- Sign in with your Google account
- Click "I am a student"
- Click "Join a class" and enter class code: wxx434



Junior Year Timeline

- Attend college visits at LHS: Sept. 2020 Nov. 2020
- Financial Aid evening program: October 2020
- Millburn College Fair: November 2020
- Individual Post-Secondary Planning meetings with your school counselor: December - February 2021
- Senior Year Scheduling meetings
 - Use the <u>LHS Course Guide</u> and complete AP applications by the February deadline
 - The Course Guide will be updated in January and parents will be notified
- Register for SAT/ACT/Subject Tests/AP Exams @ LHS
- Continue conversations with your counselor, at home and use Naviance to research and explore list of potential post-secondary options!

Junior Year Timeline

- Spring Break Great time to research, explore and visit programs!
- Individual follow-up meetings with school counselor April -June 2021
- College Admissions Panel: March 2021
- LHS College and Career Fair: April 2021
- AP Exams: May 2021
- Post-Secondary Application Program: May 2021
- Prospective athletes register with NCAA Eligibility Center: June 2021
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation: April/May 2021

Remember: This is an exciting time!

- Have fun planning for life after high school!
- Practice your mindful techniques
- Keep all lines of communication open
- Stay in touch with your LHS School Counselor often – we're here to help!



Thank Joul

Please email your School Counselor with any questions!

This presentation will also be available on the LHS School
Counseling website.

