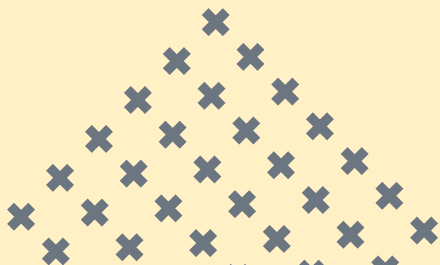




The Post-Secondary Planning Process

An Overview and Preview of Junior year


LHS School Counseling Department
May 2020





Goals:



- Identify Post-Secondary Options
 - Outline the Planning Process
 - Preview the Timeline of the Junior Year
 - Available Resources
- 

The Right Fit

Where will I thrive and be successful
after high school?

Military/Armed Services

Vocational Education

Community College

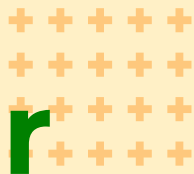
Gap Year

Employment

Four-Year College



End of Sophomore Year



Why is it so important?

- Choose appropriate courses
- Demonstrate interest
- Challenge yourself
- Balance academics with clubs, sports, work, etc.
- Explore personal and academic interests
- Maintain academic success
- Finish sophomore year strong!
- Take advantage of the summer to explore interests
- Relationships with teachers and school counselor
- Reflect on interests and goals!



Military



Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard

Options: Enlisting, Reserve/National Guard, ROTC at a 4-year college, Service Academies

- Meet with local recruiter (find recruiter via website)
- Take the ASVAB (offered at LHS in November)
- Investigate requirements for each branch
- Determine which option is the best fit

Contact Information:

Air Force: 908-686-2000

Army: 973-677-1900

Coast Guard: 973-674-2993

Navy: 973-676-9633

Marine Corps: 908-420-0290



Vocational Education



What can I get out of a vocational program?

- Career training
- Hands-on education
- Non-traditional learning environment
- Licensure in a specialized field
- Immersion in areas of interest – no core curriculum
- Internship and apprenticeship opportunities



Community College



Why should I consider going to community college?

- Prepare for transfer to a four-year college
- Save money
- Prepare for a career
- School-life balance
- Academic flexibility
- Personalized attention



Gap Year Programs



What do gap year students typically want from this experience?

- A gap year is an opportunity to gain professional or personal experience, accomplish goals, and/or explore one's interests in the year or two following graduation.
- "Give back" or be of service to communities in need
- Seek immersion in a new culture (ethnic, geographic, and/or socioeconomic)
- Gain insight or address issues impacting a specific community of people
- See a part of the world from a "local" perspective
- Acquire professional skills in a challenging work environment
- Do meaningful, interesting, or different types of work before career-related employment or graduate school



Employment



How can getting a job after high school help me?

- Allows time to think about your future if you are still uncertain
- Learn how to earn your own income
- Gain experience and employability skills
- Learn the value of a dollar
- Entry-level opportunities
- On-the-job training and apprenticeships



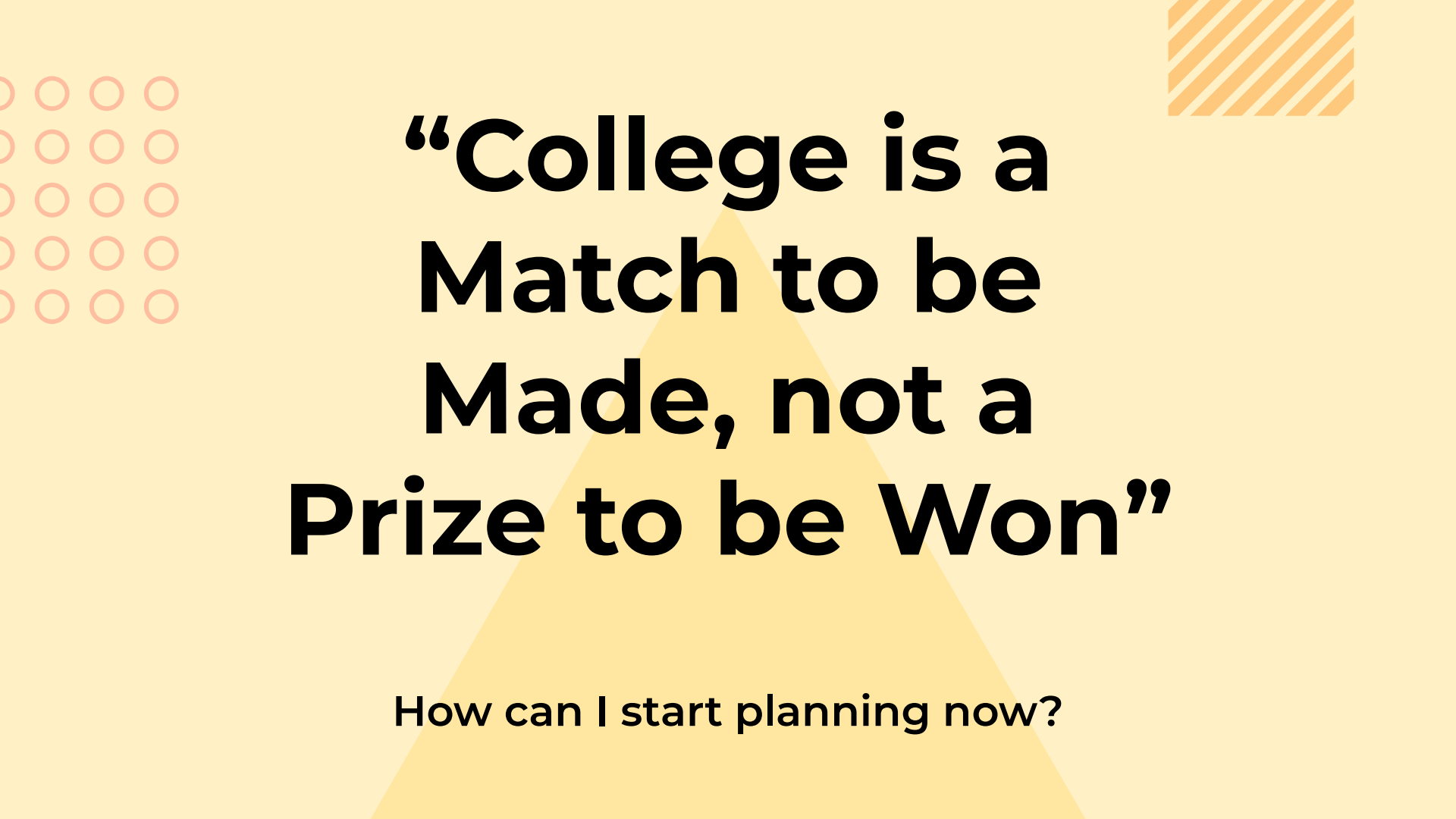
Four-Year College



How can I start planning now?

- Start thinking about a potential career path and major of interest
- College fit – environment, location, size of institution, etc.
- College visits and virtual tours
- Communicate with New Jersey admissions representatives
- Explore college websites
- Research admissions criteria
- GPA/grades
- Utilize Naviance
- Maintain a balanced academic and extracurricular schedule






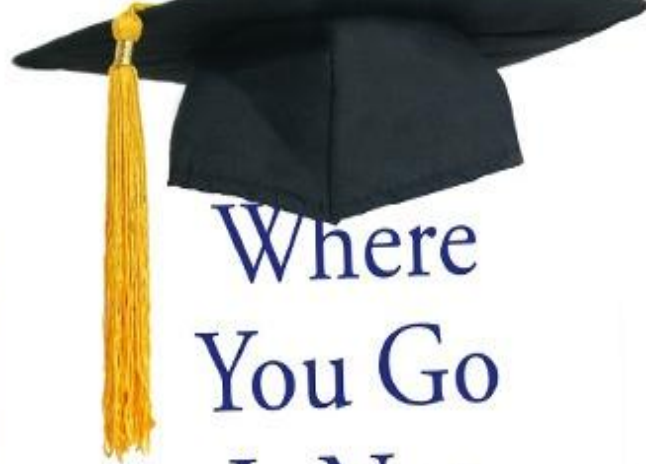
**“College is a
Match to be
Made, not a
Prize to be Won”**

How can I start planning now?

Pillars of a Great College Search



- Have an open mind
 - Ask good, difficult questions
 - Remember your strengths & investigate how a college will cultivate and grow your strengths and interests
 - Be authentic
 - Be excited, enjoy the journey and have fun
- 



Where
You Go
Is Not
Who
You'll Be

An Antidote to the College
Admissions Mania

FRANK BRUNI



Your LHS Transcript



Why is it so important?

- Choose appropriate courses
- Challenge yourself
- Show your interests in your course selections
- Balance academics with clubs, sports, work, etc.
- Explore personal and academic interests
- Maintain academic success
- Growth over time



What does this look like in a post-pandemic world?

- Many colleges are offering virtual tours and online resources
- Check with each college/university to see what (if anything) is changing
 - Are they going test optional? [Click here to see test optional schools!](#)
 - Are any deadlines changing?
 - Look for new financial aid resources
- Remain flexible
 - Colleges **may** change their admissions requirements
 - Register to be on the mailing list for any college/university you are thinking about so that you can stay updated/informed on any changes within their admissions procedures.
 - NACAC created a resource to track changes in admissions: [click here](#) to explore

Junior Year College Timeline



August – December:

- Sign up for the PSAT through Total Registration: Aug. - Sept. 2020
- Attend college visits at LHS: Sept. 2020 - Nov. 2020
- Post-Secondary Search Process evening program: October 2020
- Financial Aid evening program: October 2020
- PSAT: Saturday, October 17, 2020
- Millburn College Fair: November 2020
- ASVAB hosted at LHS: November 2020
- Individual Post-Secondary Planning meetings with your school counselor: December - February 2021



Junior Year College Timeline



January – March:

- Individual Post-Secondary planning meetings with your school counselor continue – January - February 2021
- Senior Year Scheduling meetings: February 2021
 - Use the LHS Course Guide and complete AP applications by the February deadline
- Register for SAT/ACT/Subject Tests/AP Exams
- Continue conversations with your counselor, at home and use Naviance to research and explore list of potential post-secondary options!



Junior Year College Timeline



April – June:

- 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



NCAA Eligibility



Please visit www.ncaa.org and the [LHS Course Guide](#) for more information

- All prospective student-athletes who want to play NCAA Division I or II intercollegiate athletics must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to be eligible to play.
- To be certified by the Eligibility Center, a student must complete and submit an application at www.eligibilitycenter.org for certification by the end of junior year.
- The NCAA Eligibility Center will issue a preliminary certification report when all materials have been submitted
- Following graduation from high school, the NCAA Eligibility Center will review the final high school transcript and will make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards.
- **It is important to speak with your School Counselor regarding NCAA eligibility requirements in regard to course selections and levels.**



Available Resources



- LHS Counseling Department website, including School Counseling presentations (past presentations posted online): [click here](#)
- Counseling Newsletters: [click here](#) and the 2020 College & Career Fair Virtual Brochure: [click here](#)
- Emails sent through Naviance: (info. on programs, scholarships and more!)
- Schoology - your School Counselor has a group where additional information and resources are posted for your class
- Class of 2022 Junior College Series Presentations
- Naviance - use and explore as a family!
- College Open Houses/Campus Visits/College Fairs/Virtual Tours and Webinars
- LHS College Representative Visits – September through November
- College/University Websites
- The College Board (Big Future) and ACT websites



Available Resources



New Applied 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)



Available Resources

New Applied Digital Skills Toolkit!



- Go to g.co/AppliedDigitalSkills: [click 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





**Help your child find the
RIGHT FIT...**

**a school that complements their
values, learning style, and goals!**



Thank you!

**Please email your School Counselor with any questions!
This presentation will also be available on the LHS
School Counseling website.**



**KEEP
CALM
AND SEE YOUR
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR**