

# SENIOR PARENT NIGHT



Thursday  
October 6, 2011

## Program

- Welcome  
Speaker: Lisa Follman, AP/Supervisor of School Counseling K-12
- **General Overview for PHS Seniors and the Application Process**  
Speakers: PHS School Counseling Department
- **Application Process for Highly Selective Schools**  
Speaker: David P. Weisbord, Associate Director/Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Columbia University
- **Financial Aid**  
Speakers: Donna Wilkoski, Director of Financial Aid, Bucks County Community College & Bonnie Behm, Director of Financial Assistance, Villanova University

## General Overview

PHS Seniors and the Application Process

## School Counselors

### East Building

- Katie Lyons: A - Boy
- Dana Arbakov: Dau - Fal
- Joyce Cesari: Fam - G
- Kimberly Krajci: Rag - Sb
- Lisa Rugarber: Sc - Tad

### West Building

- Tracey Mountford: Boz - Dat
- Brooke Bergmann: H - Kej
- Erin Salmon: Joi - Lar
- Joyce Burger: Ma - Mor
- Shannon Barnum: Mos - Raf
- Micah Wright: Taf - Z

Lisa Follman – AP and Supervisor of School Counseling K-12

## Application Process

- Carefully complete applications at home and mail or send online.
- Provide your school counselor with an addressed, stamped (3) envelope for transcript information.
- Please be sure to include Pennsbury High School's return address.
- Complete **Transcript Request Form** and **Label Release**.
- Pay careful attention to fees, deadlines and essay requirements.
- Counselors must be given enough time (at least a week) to properly process all transcript requests.

## Deadlines

- All applications with November 1, 2011 deadlines must be turned in by **Friday, October 14, 2011**.
- All applications that need to go out before Thanksgiving break must be turned in by **Friday, November 4, 2011**.
- All applications that need to go out before the winter break must be turned in by **Friday, December 2, 2011**.

## Senior Year Checklist

- Continue to research and visit colleges
  - Identify categories of schools
  - Identify schools that have your intended major
- Look at applications online/paper applications
  - Note deadlines
- Register for SAT I & SAT II or ACT, if required
  - Send score reports officially to intended schools
- Make certain graduation project is complete

## Résumé of Activities

- Organized and professional appearance
- Saves time on applications
- Important information to include:
  - Name, address, and phone number
  - School Activities - clubs, sports, offices held
  - Community Service - volunteer work
  - Work Experience - employment and dates
  - Awards/Honors - dates

## NAVIANCE

- Online college planning and application management system
- Allows students to research and compare colleges
- Students can verify that information submitted has been received by Counseling Office
- Provides students with access to important Counseling Office forms
- Scholarship and financial aid information is available
- Information on college visits is also available

## Recommendations

- Counselor Recommendations
  - Activity Sheet and Résumé
  - Parent Brag Sheet
- Teacher Recommendation
  - Teacher letter of recommendation request form
  - Send a thank you note
- College Visit

## NCAA Clearinghouse

- Potential Division I or II athletes must attend to certain requirements.
- Information on who needs to register with the NCAA Clearinghouse and document requirements can be found online in **"The Guide For College-Bound Athletes."**
- The website for the NCAA Clearinghouse:  
[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

## NCAA Eligibility Center

- All necessary information is included on the NCAA Eligibility Center web site at <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/>
- To complete an online student release form, click on New Account.
- Follow the instructions to register. There is a \$60 registration fee that must be paid online.
- If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Bergmann at 215-949-6750.

## Essay

### Our opinion on what makes a great essay...

#### o Answer the essay question

Most essay questions are looking for specific information and thus help you segment your answer.

#### o Be yourself

Your own life is the most unique thing about you.

#### o Use it to your advantage

Write your story. Express your passions, beliefs, and struggles honestly. It is your conviction or passion about what you genuinely enjoy that shows up in your writing and makes your essay 'admission material'.

#### o Proofread carefully

Remember to use spell check.

Consult a skilled proofreader ( i.e. parent, English teacher)

from COLLEGE-ESSAYS.COM™

## PHS College Essay Seminar

- o For a more personalized approach to the college essay, students are encouraged to register and attend this seminar.
- o The College Application Seminar will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:15 to 3:15 in the PHS East 244.
- o To reserve a space, please contact Mrs. Macchia via email: [dmacchia@pennsbury.k12.pa.us](mailto:dmacchia@pennsbury.k12.pa.us)
- o Please note that space is limited.

## Scholarships

- o Naviance
  - o Scholarships are posted on **NAVIANCE**
  - o Scholarship lists are also available in the Counseling Offices and PHS libraries
- o Internet Resources: Scholarship search sites in Naviance

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

## Pennsbury High School The Inside Scoop on College Admissions

David Weisbord  
Associate Director/Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
Columbia University

## The Golden Rules

- o It is all about the FIT
- o Do not get caught up in all the HYPE
- o There is a HOME for everyone
- o Follow the INSTRUCTIONS

## Trying to Get in to College?

- o These are facts and not meant to scare you...
- o Good News
- o Bad News

## Selective College Admission

- High School Transcript
- Standardized Tests
- Letters of Recommendation
- Extracurricular activities
- Essay
- Interview (when available)

## High School Transcript

- Grades are important
- Course selection is extremely important!
- Performance over all 4 years is important
- Admission Offices understand that grading systems vary
- High Schools vary

## Standardized Test Scores

## Letters of Recommendation

- Choose carefully who writes your letter of recommendation
- Please don't send too many!
- Give plenty of time to whoever writes your letter of recommendation

## Extracurricular Activities

## Essay

- Student's voice
- Spell Check

## Essay (cont.)

- o "...and that is why I want to attend Old Ivy University."

## Interview

## AND FINALLY....

**REMEMBER IT ALWAYS WORKS OUT  
IN THE END!**

## Financial Aid Information

Ms. Bonnie Behm  
Director of Financial Assistance  
Villanova University

Ms. Donna Wilkoski  
Director of Financial Aid  
Bucks County Community College

## The Financial Aid Process




## Begin with the End

- o 2011-2012 Tuition & Fees
 

BCCC =	\$ 4,022*
W. Chester =	\$ 8,116*
PSU =	\$ 15,124*
Holy Family =	\$ 23,990*
Villanova =	\$ 40,530*
- o Room & Board
- o Books & Supplies
- o Transportation
- o Personal

\*estimates/averages (based on 14hrs or FT)



## To be considered for Financial Aid you must...

### o Complete the FAFSA form.

- Online – [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- Obtain PIN #'s for student and parent [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)
- Apply for the PIN now!!!
- Be sure to include school code & signatures.
- Make copies of all applications.
- You can complete the FAFSA on Estimated Tax information.
- You can check out this web site: [www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)



## To be considered for Financial Aid you must...

- o Check with your school to see if they require any additional forms, such as the CSS PROFILE form
- o Complete tax returns as early as possible; it will help with the completion of the FAFSA.
- o Make copies of all forms submitted.
- o Meet all deadlines for completion of forms.



## FAFSA on the Web's Homepage [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

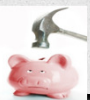


## HOW TO APPLY FOR A PIN using the [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) website



## How Financial Need is Determined...

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Cost of Attendance} \\ &- \text{Expected Family Contribution} \\ &= \text{Financial Need} \end{aligned}$$



## Cost of Attendance



- Tuition and Fee
- Room and Board
- Books and Supplies
- Transportation
- Personal Expenses

## Federal Expected Family Contribution

- Total taxed and untaxed income of parent and student
- Number of family members
- Assets, savings, investments, business or farm investment, but not home equity
- Number of children or other dependents enrolled in college on at least a half-time basis. (Excludes parent)
- For EFC calculator go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

## Types of Aid

### Federal

- Pell Grant
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- Teach Grant
- Work Study
- Perkins, Federal Direct Stafford & Direct PLUS Loans

### State

- PA Grants and other state grants, if applicable

### Institutional

- Scholarship, grant, loan or work given by the school

### Outside

- Scholarships: academic, merit, affiliation

## Now What?

- January – Compile all tax information
- February
  - Meet with your accountant to complete your taxes.
  - File FAFSA.
- March on-going
  - Watch mail for SAR (email if online).
  - Watch mail for Financial Aid package from college.

Note: You must reapply for aid every year.



QUESTIONS

&

ANSWERS

