

Junior Parent Night

Class of 2011

Melrose High School



2011 Graduation Requirements

- 24 credits minimum
- Required courses
 - 4 English, 3 Math, 3 Social Studies, 3 Science, 1 Foreign Language, 2 Fine/Applied Arts, 2 Wellness, and 6 Electives
- MCAS
- 48 Hours of Community Service (or 12 hours for each year enrolled at MHS)



Senior Year Courses

- Course selection – begins this month
- Should be *rigorous* for college bound students
- 5 Academic Subjects
- 7 credits total



M.H.S. Developmental Guidance Program

- Junior Year
 - Post high school planning: Review options, testing, college selection, college essay, Naviance
- Senior Year
 - Post high school planning



Individual Session with Counselor

- Counselors will meet individually with every junior
- Students will receive a packet of information
- Discussion centers around interests and post-high school plans
- Students learn to research colleges by majors
- Together, we generate a list of colleges for further exploration



Options

- Work
- Technical School
- Military
- Military Academy
- 2 year school
- 2 + 2 school
- 4 year college

4 Year College Requirements

- 4 years English
- Math through Algebra II
- 3 years history
- 2 years lab science
- 2 years same foreign language



More Competitive Colleges

- Math through pre-calculus
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 3-4 years of same foreign language
- Rigorous senior year schedule



Testing

- SAT I Test Dates
 - May 2nd (register by March 31)
 - June 6th (register by May 5)
- SAT II (Subject Tests) same test date
 - American History, Biology, Chemistry, French, Literature, Math Level 1 & 2, Physics, Spanish, World History, Latin
- Register
 - Mail
 - www.collegeboard.com



SAT PREP

- Use with discretion
- Kaplan Test Prep
- Private tutors (A+ Tutoring etc.)



Testing

- ACT
 - April 10
 - register by March 5th (with late fee)
 - June 13
 - register by May 8

Register

- www.actstudent.org



Advanced Placement Program

- AP Exams – Junior or Senior year
 - Administered May @ MHS
 - U.S. History, Environmental Science, Calculus AB and BC, Physics, English Language & English Literature, Spanish, French, Latin, German, Psychology
 - Register in Guidance Department



College Search Resources in Guidance

- Printed resources and guidebooks
- Naviance
- Online resources and web sites
- Colleges own web sites



Naviance

- Linked with Guidance Office
- Web-based service to help with decisions about colleges and careers
- Student accounts have been activated
- Call the guidance office if you have questions



College Search Web Sites

- <https://connection.naviance.com/readingmemorial>
- www.princetonreview.com
- www.petersons.com
- www.collegeboard.com



Web Sites

- www.collegeboard.com
- Access My Road/My College Quick Start for career tests, personality assessments, college majors, college search



College Selection Process

- Size
- Location
- Learning style
- Majors
- Co-curricular activities
- Entrance criteria



College Selection Process

- Double Reach
- Reach
- Realistic
- Likely



Everyone's Reach

- Harvard, Dartmouth, Princeton, Yale, Brown, Columbia, Georgetown, Bowdoin, MIT, Swarthmore, Cornell, U/Penn, Stanford
- UVA, University of Michigan, Cal Berkeley



Just About Everyone's Reach

- Boston College (even with a 3.8)
- Connecticut College, Williams, NYU Middlebury, Amherst, Brandeis, Colby, Hamilton, Tufts, Vassar, others



University of Massachusetts System

- 3.0 GPA required or 960 old SAT
- U.Mass/Amherst looking for 3.3
 - Commonwealth College – 3.8
 - School of Nursing – most competitive
- U.Mass/Lowell
- U.Mass/Dartmouth
- U.Mass/Boston



Massachusetts State College System

- Bridgewater State
- Fitchburg State
- Framingham State
- Salem State
- Westfield State
- Worcester State
- Massachusetts College of Art
- Mass College of Liberal Arts (MCLA)
- Massachusetts Maritime Academy



Application Process

- Research 10-20 schools
- Apply to approximately 5-10
- Keep an open mind
- Look for the best fit, not necessarily the best brand name



Application Deadlines

- Early Decision / Early Action
 - Usually Nov 1 or Nov 15
- Regular Admission
 - often Jan 1st
- Rolling Admission
 - Anytime - The earlier, the better
- Application materials must be received by guidance department 2 weeks prior to application deadline



Visiting Schools

- Make appointment for tour
- *START NOW*
- Sleep over if possible
- Try to visit when school is in session



Recommendations

- 1 – 2, as directed by college
 - Student asks teacher at least one month prior to deadline and supplies teacher with appropriate forms
 - Supplemental recommendations okay, but no more than 4 total counting guidance counselor recommendation



College Essay

- Good idea to start now
- Send for applications to get idea of essay each college requires
- Answer question asked by college
- Often requires some soul searching
- Have counselor or English teacher review



Financial Aid

- Financial Aid Night
 - Usually 1st week in December
- FAFSA
- CSS Profile
- Funding Your Education
 - publication by Federal government
 - Download at www.studentaid.ed.gov
 - Click on “funding” icon



Stanley Koplik Certificate of Mastery

- Tuition assistance at Mass public colleges or universities.
- MCAS Scores
 - Advanced on one
 - Advanced or Proficient on the other
- Second qualifying score
 - SAT II
 - AP



Adams Scholarship Program

- Created by Mitt Romney's administration
- Tuition credit for students whose MCAS scores are in the top 25%
- Wait for state to notify us



Scholarships

- Information about local scholarships in guidance office
- Melrose Permanent Scholarship Fund
- www.fastweb.com



Athletics

- Register with NCAA for Division I and II
- www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
- 800-638-3731
- Copy 1 and Copy 2 to guidance office
- Specific requirements for Division I and II are outlined in student packet



Coming Attractions

- Senior Parent Breakfast
 - October
- Reading College Fair
 - October
- Financial Aid Night
 - November or December



Calendar

- All important dates and deadlines for senior year
 - Included in the Guidance Newsletter
 - Mailed home in early September



Contact Information

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