



Class of 2020: Junior College Night

NICOLE MIRAMONTES, HTLA DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Welcome and Introductions!

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Volunteer College Counselors



The parent role in the process:

What can YOU do to help support your student?

- ▶ Talk about college at home
 - ▶ Decisions
 - ▶ Obstacles
 - ▶ Fears
 - ▶ Struggles
 - ▶ Excitement
 - ▶ Transition
- ▶ Frequently check on academic progress (PowerSchool/Moodle)
- ▶ Encourage exploration of colleges and majors (Naviance) (college tours)
- ▶ Give them responsibility in the process
 - ▶ Assist with issues/conflict, but allow students to solve on their own.
 - ▶ Pay attention, stay involved
 - ▶ After all, THEY are the ones going to college 😊



HTLA prepares students to apply to a four-year college/university:

- ▶ A-G (California) Eligibility
 - ▶ All of HTLA's core academic classes are A-G approved
- ▶ HTLA graduation requirements EXCEED A-G requirements
 - ▶ 4 years of Math
 - ▶ 4 years of Science
 - ▶ 4 years of History
 - ▶ 4 Years of English
- ▶ No grades below a "C." Colleges do not accept D's and F'S . . . So HTLA does not either!
- ▶ We want every student to be eligible to apply to college

What are colleges looking for?

- ▶ GPA/Grades: academic and electives
- ▶ Test Scores – SAT/ACT
- ▶ Personal essay
- ▶ Extracurricular activities (in school and within community) clubs, sports, community service/volunteer work, college courses, etc.
- ▶ Counselor/Teacher Letter of Recommendation
 - ▶ Private colleges
- ▶ The school you came from
 - ▶ Students are evaluated on the “context” of their high school (School profile)
- ▶ Demonstrated Interest / State of Residence


California Master Plan

- Three Tiers – CA Systems of Higher Education:
 - **The University of California (UC)**
 - 3.0 or higher GPA (much higher often)
 - SAT or ACT
 - Personal Insight Questions
 - **The California State University (CSU)**
 - 2.0 or higher GPA (much higher often)
 - SAT or ACT
 - **Community Colleges**
 - All students with a high school diploma are eligible to attend a community college.



Private and Out of State Colleges and Universities

- ▶ GREAT options for our students
- ▶ Private DOES NOT = more expensive
- ▶ Typically requires a 3.0 GPA or higher (varies)
- ▶ SAT/ACT
- ▶ Personal Statement/Essay
- ▶ Letters of Recommendation
- ▶ Allow students to EXPLORE all of their options



How does HTLA prepare juniors to begin the college planning and application process?

Classroom Check-ins and College Tours

- ▶ Visit to 11th grade English classes to hand out transcripts and do college planning activity
- ▶ PSAT: Wednesday, October 10th
- ▶ Practice ACT: Saturday, November 3rd
- ▶ 3 colleges tour during juniors year
 - ▶ Northern California College Tour: October 2018 (\$)
 - ▶ Spaces still available!
 - ▶ Boston – New York College Tour: Spring Break 2019 (\$\$)
 - ▶ Spaces still available!
 - ▶ 11th grade college tour to 2 local colleges/universities (FREE)
 - ▶ More information to come!

Small Group Meetings: December and January

- ▶ Small groups broken up by last name meet during X-Block
- ▶ Information includes:
 - ▶ Transcript review
 - ▶ CA systems of higher education
 - ▶ Eligibility and requirements
 - ▶ College application process
 - ▶ SAT/ACT – differences/how to sign up/prep
 - ▶ Summer plans
 - ▶ How to effectively research colleges
 - ▶ Junior Survey Assignment!!! (Due before January small group meeting)

Individual College Planning Meetings

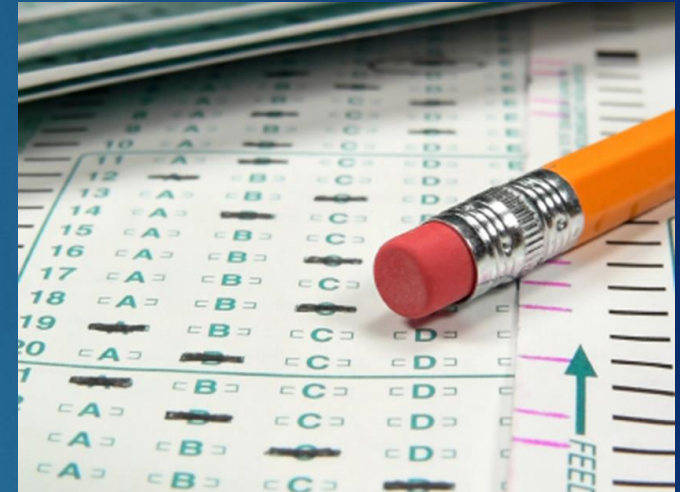
- ▶ Begin in late February
- ▶ Scheduled throughout the semester
- ▶ Parents, guardians, older siblings, grandparents – who ever is helping with the college planning process is **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to attend.
- ▶ Discuss:
 - ▶ Testing Plan
 - ▶ GPA/Eligibility
 - ▶ College Major
 - ▶ College List
 - ▶ Fee waivers
- ▶ This information is **VERY PERSONAL** to each student

Apply to work with a Volunteer College Counselor

- ▶ Application available January 2019
- ▶ Student must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- ▶ Students will participate in an interview to be selected for a college group.
- ▶ Groups meet EVERY MONDAY during X-Block at HTLA
- ▶ Benefits:
 - ▶ Additional support during college planning process
 - ▶ Dedicated time every week
 - ▶ One-on-One college essay and application help

SAT/ACT

- ▶ PSAT in October and Practice ACT in November
- ▶ Method Test Prep (FREE)
 - ▶ SAT/ACT Prep
- ▶ Khan Academy (FREE)
 - ▶ CollegeBoard
 - ▶ SAT Prep
- ▶ All juniors are recommended to:
 - ▶ Take the SAT/ACT in May/June of spring semester of junior year
 - ▶ Choose either SAT or ACT and study for it really well
 - ▶ Take it twice!
 - ▶ Spring semester of junior year
 - ▶ Summer/Fall semester of senior year



Summer Plans

- ▶ Summer plans are made in the winter!
 - ▶ Summer program workshops in February
- ▶ DO SOMETHING!
 - ▶ Participate, learn, volunteer, get a job, internship, babysit, etc.
- ▶ Search and apply for scholarships
 - ▶ Naviance
 - ▶ www.fastweb.com
 - ▶ “do nothing” scholarships
- ▶ Take community college courses
 - ▶ Take courses on college campuses
- ▶ Visit colleges
- ▶ Continue to research colleges
- ▶ Update your resume



Looking ahead to senior year. . .

- ▶ Students do not actually APPLY to college until the fall semester of their senior year.
 - ▶ UC/CSU application due November 30th
- ▶ FAFSA: FREE Application for Federal Student Aid
 - ▶ October 1st – March 2nd
 - ▶ Fall semester senior year
- ▶ Class and individual check- ins with seniors
- ▶ Workshops
 - ▶ Financial Aid
 - ▶ College Applications
 - ▶ Essays
- ▶ 12th Grade College Night and 12th Grade Financial Aid Night



Help is here... Just ask!

- ▶ We are all here to help you along in this process over the coming months.
- ▶ Contact us:
 - ▶ Nicole Miramontes – Director of College Counseling
 - ▶ Ms.miramontes@ht-la.org 818-609-2686
 - ▶ Nikki Bender – School Counselor
 - ▶ Ms.bender@ht-la.org 818-609-2682
 - ▶ College Counseling Assistants





Questions?