



## Guidance Department Staff

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## Senior Timeline & General Guidance Information

Senior year is both an exciting and overwhelming time for students! Everything must be a team effort among parents, students, and counselors with each member taking an important role. It is the student's responsibility to check school email daily as this will be the means of delivering the most up-to-date information including deadlines, guidance-sponsored events, general guidance announcements, and scholarship opportunities, as well as, periodically meeting with your counselor about current happenings. Below is a timeline of important information that will be useful throughout the year for seniors.

### Student Meetings with Counselors

- Counselors will refresh students on how to navigate Naviance, a college and career readiness program, to all seniors in their English classes starting September 18th and continuing the following week.
- Individual student meetings will begin the week of September 25th.

### Financial Aid Presentation

- On Monday, October 23rd, the Guidance Department will host a virtual **Financial Aid Night**. The guest speaker will inform students and parents about how to correctly fill out the FAFSA and the timeline of when to complete and submit financial documents. A Zoom link will be provided prior to the date.

### College Rep Visits

- Throughout the year, college admission representatives will be available in the commons during lunch periods. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the admissions process and offerings at that particular school.

### Instant Decision Day

- Thursday, December 7th
- Students will have the opportunity to meet with an admissions counselor and receive an immediate college decision. It is not a binding decision and often, the application fee is waived!
- Once colleges are confirmed, students will be informed of the process.

### College Visitation

- Seniors are granted 3 excused days from school to visit colleges. The College Visitation form (which can be found on the guidance page at [www.rpps.net](http://www.rpps.net)) must be submitted 48 hours **prior** to the visit in order for the absence to be excused. Additionally, students must submit documentation from the college's admission office as proof of their attendance. Please follow the steps outlined in the form.

### **Letters of Recommendation**

- Students should have already started asking teachers for Letters of Recommendation for college (2 letters are recommended). The letter should be written by a recent teacher who knows them well enough to comment on their work ethic and abilities as well as character.

### **College Applications**

- All college applications should be completed and reviewed with the student's counselor prior to the beginning of December. Once counselors view the application, there is a **2-week turnaround** for submission of all materials; this includes Early Decision and Early Action. In order for applications to be processed before the winter break, counselors must have completed applications by December 1st.
- It is imperative that the students communicate with the counselors about which colleges they are applying to in order for the counselors to send the appropriate documents in a timely manner.
- The students must send SAT and/or ACT scores through the testing website. Scores are not sent from the guidance office.

### **SATs/ACTs**

- SAT – October 7, 2023 @ RP
- SAT – November 4, 2023
- SAT – December 2, 2023 is the last chance to take the SAT. Registration [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- ACT – October 28, 2023
- ACT – December 9, 2023 is the last chance to take the ACT. Registration is online [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### **Senior Awards Ceremony**

- In order to be eligible to receive a scholarship and attend the Academic & Community Awards Ceremony at the end of May, students must fill out the appropriate applications which will be available in Naviance in January. More detailed information about available scholarships and deadlines will be provided at a later date. Students will be notified in early Spring if they are receiving an award.

### **AP Exams**

- Exams will take place between May 6 - 17, 2024.

### **Community Service**

- 30 hours of community service is a requirement for the Class of 2024. All forms must be completed and submitted to Mrs. Emmets, the Guidance Secretary.

### **Communication with Students**

- A lot of the communication between the counselors and their seniors is done through email. It is imperative that students check their school email periodically in order to receive the most up-to-date information.
- The school's website is another source of information. Most forms and applications can be found on the guidance page at [www.rpps.net](http://www.rpps.net)
- Students and parents can follow the guidance department on Instagram @ *rp\_guidance* for up-to-date information.
- Please do not hesitate to contact your child's counselor with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the year.

## College Credit

- Students can earn college credit through our dual enrollment program and articulation agreements with Bergen Community College and Fairleigh Dickinson University.
- FDU - If students are currently enrolled in Sociology, History of Intolerance & Prejudice, Human Anatomy, and College Prep Accounting, they can register for college credit at [www.fdu.edu/middle](http://www.fdu.edu/middle) and click “register now.” Each course is \$267, and the deadline to register is September 29th.
- BCC - If students are currently enrolled in Honors US II, Cooking I, II, III, Intro to Business, Business Marketing, Honors Business Management, Psychology, Child Development, Spanish III, Hispanic Art & Culture, Italian III, Italian IV, they can receive 3 college credits for each class. When registration information becomes available in November, it will be shared with both students and parents.
- After graduation, students can request the college transcript be sent to the college they are attending by going to [www.getmytranscript.org](http://www.getmytranscript.org)
- Credit from any AP course must be requested by the student through the student’s College Board account.