

# College Information Session

## Starting the College Search and Application Process

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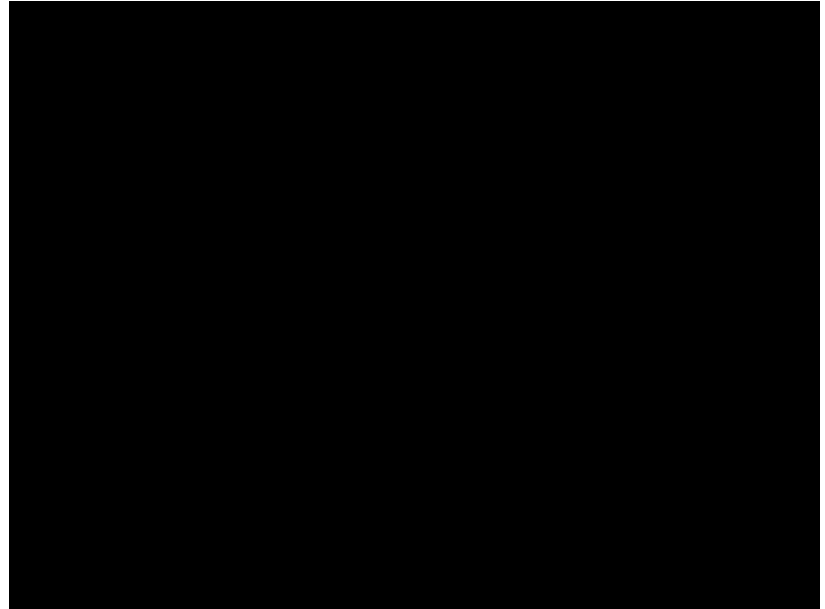
# Agenda:

- Preparing for College Admissions Tests
- Resources for College Search Process
- College Applications and Deadlines
- Dual Enrollment/Early College
- Community Service, Internships, and Job Shadows
- Questions



Keep  
Your  
Cool!

Applying to college was nerve-racking, but  
it's a process and it just takes time  
and perseverance....



# PSAT, ACT, SAT and SAT Subject Tests

- ALL BHS Juniors will take the PSAT at BHS on October 11 in the Gymnasium
- Students Can Take ACT and/or SAT
- Tests are given on Saturday mornings
  - (8:00 - 12:30) about 6 times per year- see dates on handout
  - Sign up for the test on-line at the ACT or SAT websites
  - Sign up early to insure a spot
- Tests cost approximately \$50.00
- Fee waivers are available for students receiving free lunch



# ACT and SAT (continued)

- Local high schools host the tests
- In 2017-18, BHS offers SAT on March 10 and May 5 and ACT on Oct 28 and June 9
- Free test prep through Kahn Academy, linked to PSAT
- Not all colleges require these tests
- SAT Subject tests are required at some more selective colleges
- 1 hour subject specific tests, take up to 3 on one test day



# College Search Characteristics

- Geographic location, setting (urban, suburban, small town, rural)
- Size of campus and student enrollment
- Admission requirements- average GPA, test scores, selectivity
- Majors and programs
- Costs, tuition, room & board, fees, expenses, financial aid
- Type of school (2 or 4 year), religious affiliation, male/female/co-ed
- Housing opportunities
- Athletics (intramural, club, NCAA Division), clubs, activities, Greek life



# Search Resources

- Naviance - Student and Parent accounts
- Bigfuture.org (College Board search program)
- Vermont Student Assistance Corporation - VSAC
- Collegenet.com
- Collegeproowler.com
- Collegeconfidential.com
- Many more...students and parents have favorites!



# Talk it Over:

- Individual conversations with school counselors
- Ask family and friends how they chose their colleges
- Talk to teachers, coaches, neighbors or mentors about their college decisions
- Interview a person in a field or career in which you have an interest; how did they get there?
- Local College Fairs





# College Visits

- Start off with some local schools-UVM, St. Michael's, Champlain,...
- Official tours, book in advance
- Admission info sessions, open houses
- Interview with admission counselor
- If traveling, check out a school in the area
- October, December, February, April, summer breaks
- Seeing campus with students



# College Applications: Quick Overview and Vocabulary Lesson

- Deadlines: Early Action, Early Decision, Regular Decision, Rolling
- What is the Common Application?
- Are There Other Kinds of Applications?
- Components of the Application:
  - Personal information
  - Activities, work, service, internships, job shadows, honors, awards
  - Essay(s)
  - Teacher and other recommendations
  - Naviance: Official Transcripts and Teacher Recommendations are requested and sent electronically through this program
  - Test Scores  
(sent directly from the ACT or SAT companies)
  - Application fee or waiver



# Dual Enrollment & Early College

- Take TWO free college classes while still in high school. See what college is like, learn what professors expect of students and get a head start on your college degree!
  - Participating colleges; UVM, CCV, VTC, NECI, Champlain College, & Saint Michael's College
- *Early College*- allows high school seniors to take a full year of college-level classes while completing their high school diploma
- Contact Dhyana Bradley- [dbradley@bsdvt.org](mailto:dbradley@bsdvt.org), (802) 238-9453. Available every Monday and Friday



# Community Service, Internship & Job Shadow

## Community Service:

40 Hour - Graduation Requirement  
(10 hrs per year)

Students encouraged to seek out opportunities and non-profits that could help them pursue or explore new interests

## Internships & Job Shadows:

Opportunity to learn about yourself, explore possible career interests, majors,

Great opportunities over breaks, summer, etc



# Additional Resources and Events

- January 16, 2018 - Gap Year Fair  
Keynote Speaker 6:00-7:00pm  
Fair 7:00-9:00pm @SBHS
- March 2018 - College Pathways Workshops @ VSAC  
TBD - dates
- March 2018 - VSAC Paying for College Night  
TBD, @ BHS  
6:30-8:30pm
- April 2018 - CVU College Fair  
TBD - date, @ CVU High School  
11:00 to 1:00pm
- April 3, 2018 - Consider Canada College Fair  
Panel Presentation 6:30 -7:00pm  
Individual College Reps 7:00-8:30  
@SBHS
- April 11, 2018 - Junior College Information  
Night for Families  
6:00 pm to 8:00pm @ BHS



# Final Thoughts:

- The grades you earn in high school and the rigor of your courses are the most important factors considered in the application. Do your best during your junior and senior years!
- Have fun with the search process. It is the start of an exciting transition. Try to not compare yourself with others and don't catch their anxiety. It is your personal journey!



Questions?

**Thank You  
for Attending  
this  
Presentation!**

