

Burlington High School

Senior Information Night



September 3, 2025



Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Senior year
- Dual Enrollment reminder
- Postsecondary pathways
- College search considerations
- College visits
- Quick overview: college applications
- *Who* does *what*?!
- Admissions tests: ACT & SAT
- Managing costs
- Upcoming events
- Questions



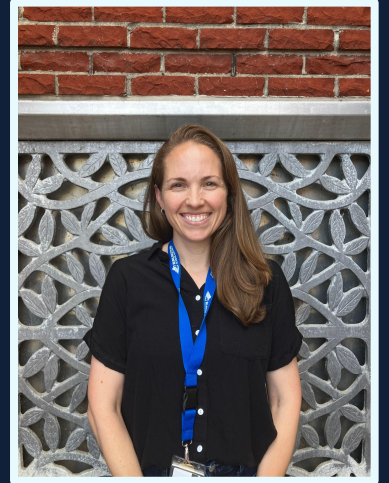
Ms.
Bruder



Ms.
Prouty



Ms.
Aguda-Brown

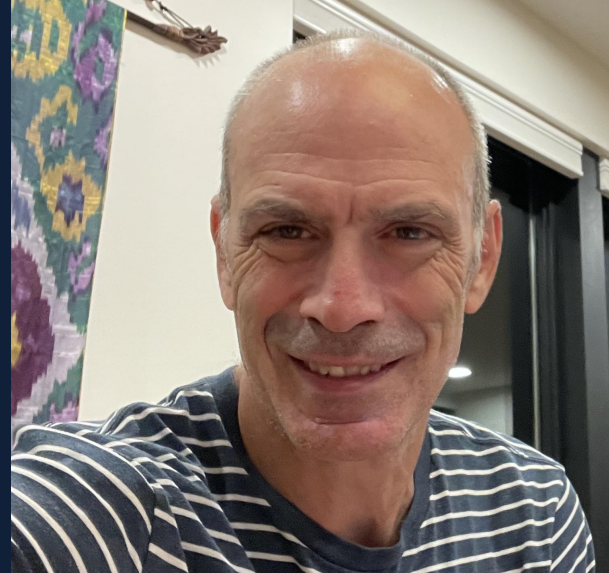


Ms.

O'Toole



Mr. Settel



Meet Your Counseling Department

Mx. Ducky Jones



Administrative Assistant

Ms. Kate Stein



**Flexible Pathways
Coordinator**

Senior Year

- Minimum of 6 classes each semester
- Maintain or increase rigor of studies
 - look for new or continued challenges and areas to expand or explore interests
- Consider Dual Enrollment
 - earn high school and college credit for classes taken at local colleges
- Community service graduation requirement
40 cumulative hours **due by May 29, 2026.**
- Continued work on PLP for April deadline and May Presentation of Learning



Dual Enrollment

Seniors are eligible for **2 vouchers** for college courses!

- **Participating local colleges:** UVM, CCV, Vermont State University, Landmark, Champlain College, & Saint Michael's College.
- Vouchers cover tuition, but do not cover the costs of textbooks, fees, and other materials associated with a course. VSAC sends eligible students a stipend of up to \$150.
- Students receive high school credit and college credit for successful completion of course
- See what college campus feels like, learn professor's expectations, and get a head start on a college degree!
- Spring registration opens **November 7, 2025**.

Contact our Flexible Pathways Coordinator, Kate Stein

kstein@bsdvt.org





Postsecondary Pathways

- 2- and 4-year college or university
- Gap Year
- Military
 - Active duty and Reserves options across five branches of service
- Workforce entry
 - VT Dept. of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Program



College Search Considerations

- Degree programs
- Admission requirements
- Campus size and student enrollment
- Geographic location and setting
 - urban, suburban, small town, rural
 - accessibility and transportation
- Type of school
 - affiliation
 - private vs. public
 - gender specific vs. co-ed
- Affordability
- Extracurriculars
 - Athletics
 - Greek life



Search Resources

- [Naviance](#)
- [BigFuture](#)
- [Vermont Student Assistance Corporation](#)
- [NCES College Navigator](#)
- [collegeconfidential.com](#)

... and many more! Students and parents have their own favorites!



College Visits

- Plan on virtual tours
- Utilize local higher education partners
- Book official tours or Open House visits in advance or freestyle your own
- Don't forget: we're so close to Canadian schools!
- Interview with admission counselor
- If traveling, check out a school in the area
- October, December, February, and April breaks are a great time to see college students on the campus



Quick Overview: College Applications

- **Types of deadlines:** Early Action, Early Decision, Regular Decision, Rolling
- **Components of the application:**
 - Personal information
 - Activities such as: work, service, internships, job shadows, honors, awards, etc.
 - Common Application and school-specific supplemental essay(s)
 - **Naviance:** materials sent electronically through this program
 - Students complete teacher “brag sheets” and counselor survey to support the writing of letters of recommendation
 - Test Scores
(sent directly from the ACT or SAT companies)
 - Application fee waiver
 - FAFSA & financial aid application
 - Decisions and deposits made by May 1, 2026



Who does what?!

School Counselor submits:

- Common Application Counselor Report
- Counselor Letter of Recommendation
- Official High School Transcript
- BHS School Profile
- Teacher(s) Letter of Recommendation
- Mid-Year Report and Grades Report
- Final Senior Transcript in Late June after Graduation

****Published deadlines are for students.** Our education partners allow us a grace period to submit any supplemental files, which will not delay review of your application. Colleges will contact individual counselor(s) if they are missing components of your application file.**

Student and Family submits:

- Complete all sections of the *Common Application*
- Complete essay
- Application fee or fee waiver
- Send SAT or ACT scores via each tests' website
- FAFSA, CSS Profile, and individual college financial aid forms
- NCAA Clearinghouse
 - student must request school counselor to upload transcript to NCAA portal



ACT & SAT

- **ACT is offered @BHS:** Spring 2026
- **SAT is offered @BHS:** Spring 2026
- Many colleges have moved to test optional
 - [Fairtest.org](https://fairtest.org) lists schools
- Free test prep resources for each:
 - [SAT](#)
 - [ACT](#)
- Tests cost approximately \$60.00
- Fee waivers are available for students who qualify for federal free/reduced lunch (FRPL)



ACT & SAT (*continued*)

- ACT - Content-based test meant to test skills learned in school
 - Serious time pressure! Rewards fast reader, doing math in your head; enjoy science and using tables, graphs
- SAT - Reasoning test; combines info. and analyze real-world problems; like doing math by hand; don't like science
 - Good at analyzing texts in English class and informational graphics. Answer questions using data from charts and graphics.





Managing College Costs



- [Federal Student Aid and the FAFSA](#)
- [CSS Profile](#)
- [Student Aid Report \(SAR\)](#)
- **TBD: FAFSA Night**-Seniors and families will have the opportunity to meet with Soren Dews of VSAC to review their FAFSA application and receive help with financial aid forms.
- **FAFSA help** - Virtual and in-person FSA ID help from VSAC through January and FAFSA Form help starting in December
- **VSAC FAFSA Resources:**
 - [VSAC Events Calendar](#)
 - [FAFSA Completion Guide](#)
 - [VSAC Scholarship Information](#)

Upcoming Events

- Check your weekly *Bubble Blast*!
- **College Fair at St. Michael's College:** 10/08
(two sessions): 9am-12pm and 6pm-8pm
- NEACAC: [Fall College Fairs](#)
- [NACAC National College Fairs](#)
- [College and Career Pathways: March 19th](#)



Questions?

bhscounseling@bsdvt.org

**Thank you
for joining us
for this
presentation!**

