

# THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Westhampton Beach High School  
Counseling Department





# IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

- Finalize list of schools
- Determine what work needs to be done
- Be very aware of deadlines and plan accordingly
- Don't neglect senior year courses



# Finalize list of schools

- Access Naviance from the WHB Schools website.

**Westhampton Beach School District**  
*Home of the Hurricanes* 340 Mill Rd, Westhampton Beach, NY 11978 631-535-1234

Select A Site | District Office | Board of Education | The Arts | Athletics | Commu

Search Westhampton Beach  Sign-In Register Staff Email

- ▶ Students
- ▶ Parents
- ▶ Faculty & Staff
- ▼ Guidance
  - [Guidance Home Page](#)
  - [Armed Forces Careers](#)
  - [Career Resources](#)
  - [College Preparation](#)
  - [Crisis Management](#)
  - [Highlights Newsletter](#)
  - [Naviance Family Connection](#)
  - [Naviance Tutorial](#)
  - [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)
  - [Summer Opportunities](#)
  - [WHB Scholarships](#)

Elementary

**Announcements**



# Naviance: College Research

family connection

courses colleges careers about me

search for colleges:  
Massac   
MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>

resources  
transcripts  
test scores

### my colleges

- colleges I'm thinking about
- colleges I'm applying to

Upcoming college visits

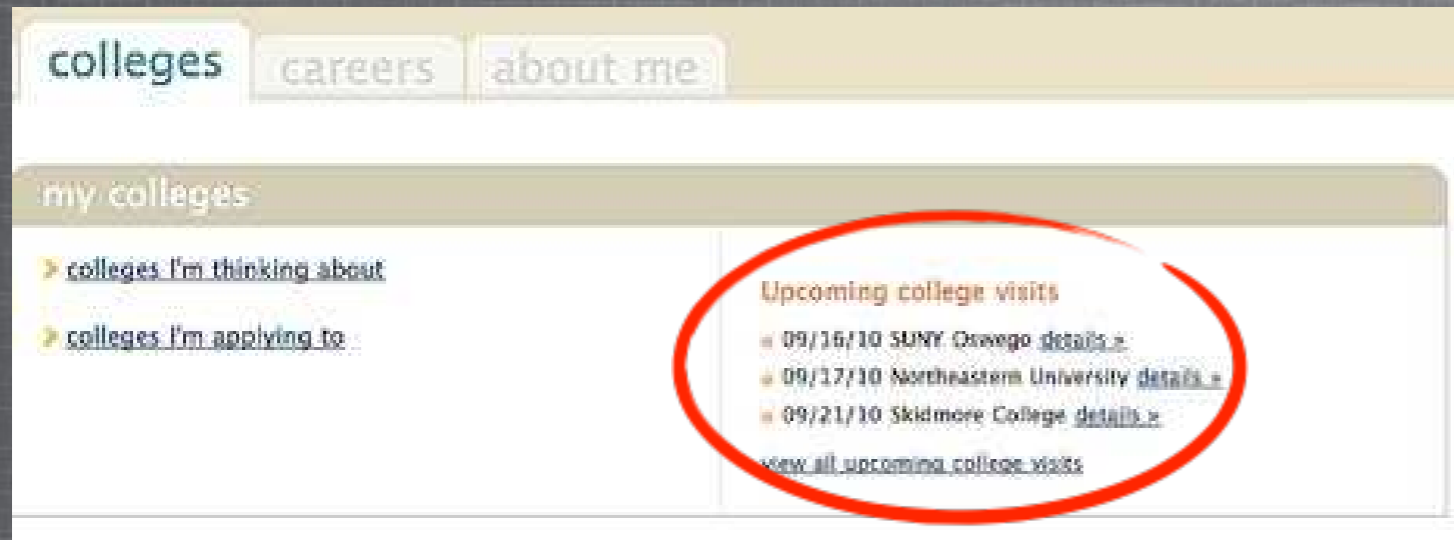
- 09/21/10 Skidmore College details >
- 11/08/10 University of Rhode Island details >

[view all upcoming college visits](#)

### college research

- college match
- college compare
- college lookup
- college search
- college resources
- college maps
- scattergrams
- acceptance history
- enrichment programs

# College Rep Visits @ WHB



Click “View All Upcoming College Visits” to view a complete list.

Click “sign up” to receive a pass

		College	Date	Time
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">SUNY Oswego</a>	September 16, 2010	11:15 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Northeastern University</a>	September 17, 2010	7:30 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Skidmore College</a>	September 21, 2010	11:45 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus</a>	September 23, 2010	9:05 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">SUNY Alfred State College</a>	September 27, 2010	10:30 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Saint Michaels College</a>	September 27, 2010	1:00 PM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Saint Joseph's University</a>	September 27, 2010	11:45 PM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology</a>	September 28, 2010	9:00 AM
<a href="#">information</a>	<a href="#">sign up</a>	<a href="#">Sacred Heart University</a>	September 30, 2010	9:00 AM



# Evaluating a College

- Graduation rate
- Sophomore retention rate
- Demographics
  - Mean SAT/ACT scores
  - Location
  - Size
  - Public vs. Private
  - Campus life / School spirit
- Diversity





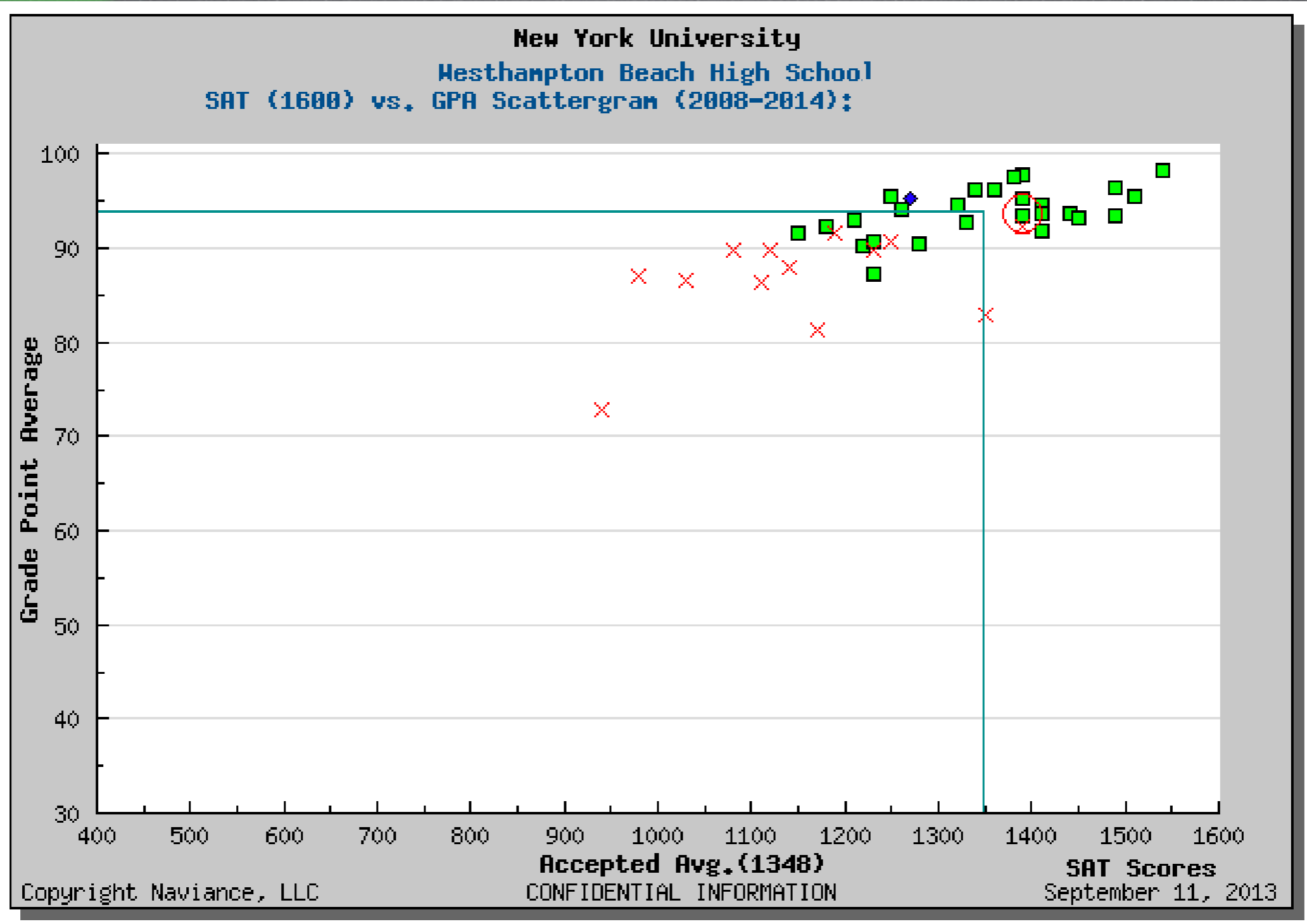
# Reach, Target, or Safety?

- Look at profile of freshman class
  - Where do you fall in SAT/ACT range?
  - How many accepts are in top 10% of their class?
- Utilize Naviance:
  - Scattergrams
  - Overlaps

**Reach: 100+ higher**  
**Target: within 100**  
**Safety: 100+ lower**



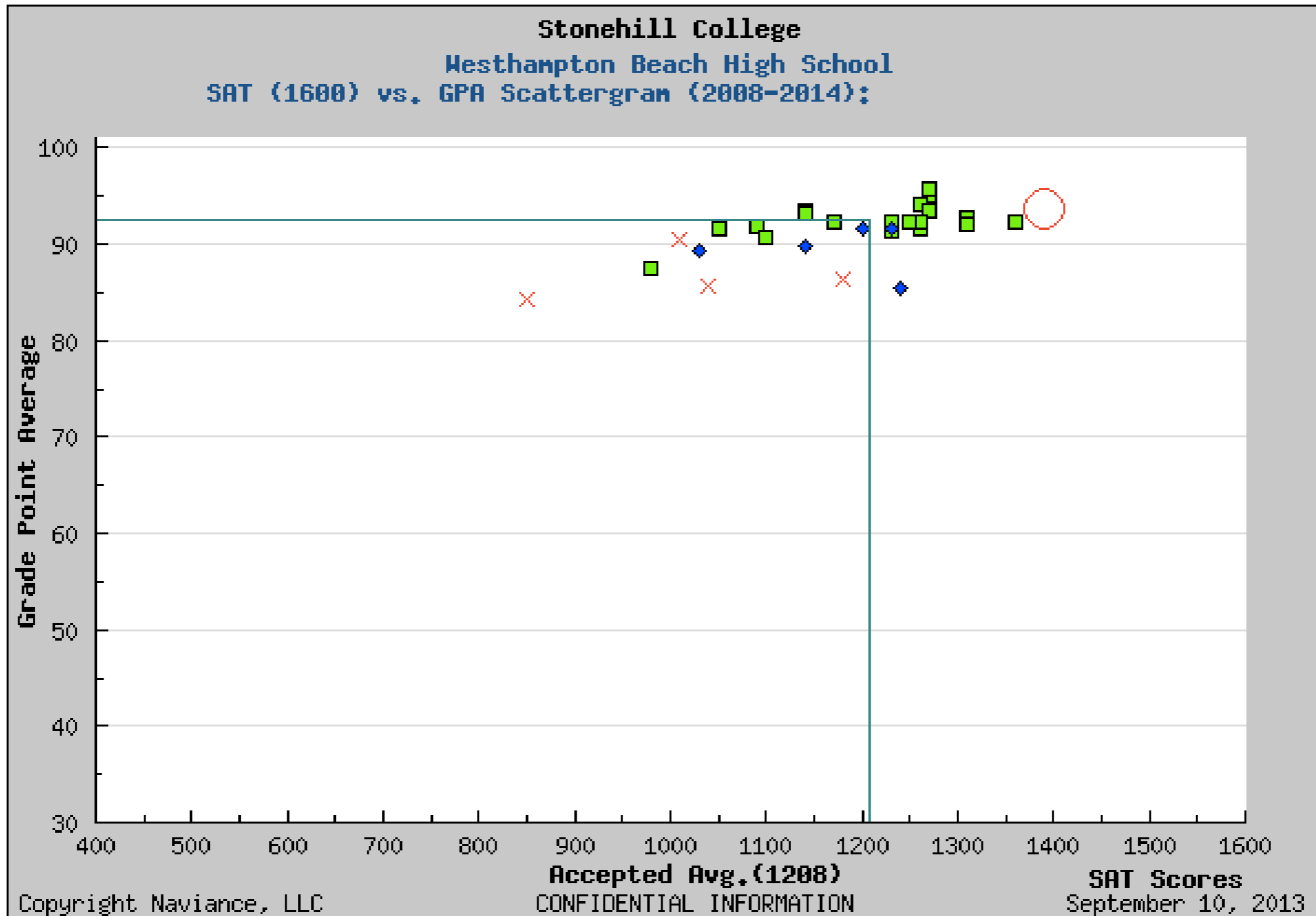
# Naviance: Scattergram







# Naviance: Scattergram





# Honors Programs

- Smaller school within the larger university
- More selective (GPA, test scores)
- Admitted students take special courses, complete additional course work, projects
- Often award scholarship money, special housing, priority registration, internships



# Visual & Performing Arts

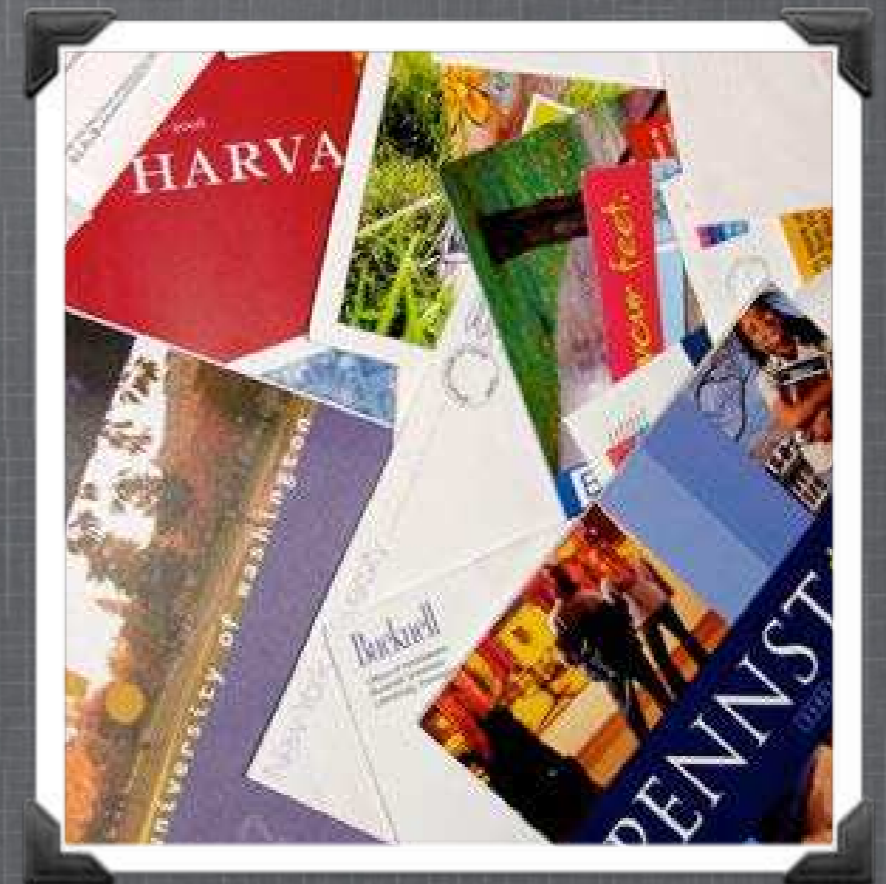
- Performing Arts (theater, drama, music, dance)
  - Audition is often required
- Visual Arts (fine arts, photography)
  - Portfolio is often required
- Be aware of application requirements are special deadlines
  - Time needed to develop a full portfolio or prepare an audition is substantial



# Students with Disabilities

- Support services are not guaranteed in college
  - Contact/visit the disability services office to understand what is available

# THE COLLEGE APPLICATION





# Components of an Application

- Transcript
  - GPA, Class Rank, Courses, Grades, Regents exam scores
- Senior Year Courses (+ mid year grades)
- College Entrance Exam Scores
- Essay(s) and supplemental questions
- Resume
- Letters of Recommendation





# Essay

- English classes
- Be *creative*, but be yourself
- Tell something about yourself not seen in other parts of the application
- **PROOFREAD**



# What have you done outside the classroom?



- Extracurricular Activities: sports, clubs, leadership
- Work experience
- Community service
- Honors, awards, unique achievements



# USING NAVIANCE TO SEND COLLEGE APPLICATIONS



NAVIANCE



[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

THE COMMON  
APPLICATION

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## MISSION

The Common Application is a not-for-profit membership organization that, since its founding over 35 years ago, has been committed to providing reliable services that promote equity, access, and integrity in the college application process. We serve students, member institutions, and secondary schools by providing applications that students and school officials may submit to any of our over 500 members. Membership is open to colleges and universities that promote access by evaluating students using a holistic selection process.

SEARCH FOR COLLEGES

Applicants

Members

Recommenders

Email Address

Password

[Forgot your Password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

HELP CENTER

[Go](#)

CREATE  
AN ACCOUNT

[Go](#)



# Common App: Add Away!

- Add any schools of interest to “My Colleges” in your Common App account
  - This allows you to:
    - See each college’s supplemental essay questions for planning purposes
    - Let colleges know you are interested well before you submit your application
- You are not required to apply to a college you enter on your Common App!



# FERPA Waiver

Dashboard   My Colleges   Common App   College Search

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Franklin and Marshall College

Questions

Assign Recommenders

[Manage Recommenders](#)

- **FERPA Release Authorization**  
You must complete the release authorization process, which will allow transcripts and recommendations to be submitted on your behalf through Naviance eDocs. [release authorization](#)

# FERPA Waiver

## e Authorization

1 Instructions > 2 Form

The questions you will see on the next screen relate to your educational records. The first pertains to the transmission of your educational records from your secondary school(s) to the colleges to which you are applying. The second concerns your right of access to confidential letters of recommendation. Under the terms of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), you can review recommendations and accompanying forms if you are age 18 or older or upon enrollment at a postsecondary institution provided that institution saves the documents. You may, however, waive this right of access altogether. In a moment, you'll be asked if you wish to waive this right.

Why should you consider waiving your right of access? Waiving your right lets colleges know that you will never try to read your recommendations. That in turn reassures colleges that your recommenders have provided support that is candid and truthful. While you are free to respond as you wish, if you choose not to waive your right, some recommenders may decline your request, and some colleges may disregard recommendations submitted on your behalf.

After you make your selection about whether you want to waive your right of access, you will not be able to change your waiver selection. To ensure that you fully understand the implications of your decision, we urge you not to answer the waiver question until you have consulted with your counselor, another school official, or your parent/legal guardian.

I have fully read and understood the FERPA Release Authorization explanation above.

[Cancel](#)

[Continue](#)

# FERPA Waiver

## Authorization

1  Instructions



2 Form

- I authorize every school that I have attended to release all requested records and recommendations to colleges to which I am applying for admission. I also authorize employees at these colleges to confidentially contact my current and former schools should they have questions about the information submitted on my behalf

Please select one:

- I waive my right to review all recommendations and supporting documents submitted by me or on my behalf.
- I DO NOT waive my right to review all recommendations and supporting documents submitted by me or on my behalf.
- I understand that my waiver or no waiver selection above pertains to all colleges to which I apply and that my **selections on this page cannot be changed once I sign and click Save below.**

Signature

Date



Connecticut College +

Cornell University +

Fairfield University +

Franklin and Marshall College -

[Manage Recommenders](#)

*Note: All dates are Eastern Time*



### ✓ FERPA Release Authorization

I have authorized release of all requested records covered under the FERPA act and have waived my right to access. [show details](#)

# Then:

## Common App Account Matching – Incomplete

In order to match your Family Connection and Common App accounts, you need to do the following:

- Step 1 – Create a Common App account on [Common App Online](#) 
- Step 2 – Sign the CA FERPA Waiver & Authorization on [Common App Online](#) 

### Common App Email Address:

Match

 Once you match accounts, your FERPA status can no longer be changed and you cannot unmatch your account.



Please allow two weeks for processing

# Not Using the Common App?

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Name & Campus: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Checklist

Early Decision or EDII      Early Action      Regular Decision      Rolling Admissions

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_      Due Date \_\_\_\_\_      Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Did you apply online:      Yes      No

2. Application Type:    **Common Application**      **College Specific Application**  
ED/EA Agreement Online      Self reported transcript  
Change Naviance status from Unknown to Yes ("Colleges I'm applying to" screen)

3. Common Application **FERPA waiver completed** on Naviance:      Yes      No  
**If you have applied online using the Common Application, you MUST complete the FERPA waiver.**

**FERPA waiver** for a **College Specific Application** or **SUNY Application**:      Yes      No  
(You waive your right to read letters of recommendation)

4. Send SAT / ACT scores via testing agency:  
**\* IT TAKES 4-6 WEEKS FOR TESTING AGENCIES TO PROCESS, DON'T WAIT!**  
SAT/SAT Subject Tests – [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)      ACT – [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

5. Have you asked 2 teachers to write you Letters of Recommendation and entered their names into Naviance?      Yes      No

Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_      Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you moved schools in Naviance from "Colleges that I am thinking about" to "Colleges that I am applying to"      Yes      No

*By signing below, I authorize Westhampton Beach High School to release my academic records. Should my course of study for 12<sup>th</sup> grade change, for any reason, I understand it is my responsibility to notify each college admission office.*



**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(STUDENT'S SIGNATURE)

(PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE)



# Letters of Recommendation

- Who?
- When?
- How?
- How Many?

## Process:

- Ask teacher verbally
- Log in to Naviance
- Send teacher request
- Add thank you note



# Letters of Recommendation

## colleges I'm applying to

[+ add to this list](#) | [request transcripts](#) | [view detailed status](#) | [compare me](#)

College	Type	Common App	Deadline†	Transcript	Office Status	My Application
<a href="#">Bates Coll</a>	RD	Yes	1/1/11	requested	Pending	app submitted

## College that I am attending

N/A

## Teacher Recommendations

[add/cancel requests](#)



No teachers currently listed.



# Letters of Recommendation



search for colleges:

[MORE SEARCH OPTIONS >>](#)

my colleges

- > [colleges I'm thinking about](#)
- > [colleges I'm applying to](#)
- > [college visits](#)

college research

- > [college match](#)
- > [college compare](#)

## request teachers to prepare recommendations

### Add New Requests

Teacher	Personal note to teacher (optional)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (select teacher) Paul Bass Carrie Bender Kristen Berdinka Deborah Block Bryan Bookamer John Broich Alison M. Bufalo Patricia Capon Patricia Cardo Ed Colvin	<input type="text"/>  <input type="text"/>



## Please note:

- Trigger to process application is Naviance
- If you mail a paper application, you still need to do Naviance
- Monitor the status of your applications
- Check your Naviance profile for accuracy (spelling of name, address, GPA, etc.)
- Use Common App online whenever possible





Please also note:

- Naviance request for processing
  - (purple cover sheets)
- Allow 2 weeks for processing





[www.suny.edu/student](http://www.suny.edu/student)

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of New York

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SOMETHING  
BIGGER



APPLY NOW

Or Check  
Your Status

Meet with your study group at The College at Brockport

SUNY S.O.A.R





# Admissions Policies

- Rolling Admission
- Regular Admission
- Early Policies
  - Early Action
  - Restricted Early Action
  - Early Decision
  - Early Decision II



# Acceptance Rates: Early vs. Regular

	<b>Regular Acceptance Rate</b>	<b>Early Acceptance Rate</b>
Bentley University	29%	62%
Boston College	25%	52%
Dartmouth College	15%	30%
Elon University	47%	80%
Lehigh University	30%	65%
Northwestern University	28%	49%
Vanderbilt University	34%	48%



# Percentage of Freshman Class Admitted Early Decision

Hamilton College	50%
Franklin & Marshall	49%
Princeton University	48%
Dickinson College	48%
Middlebury College	47%
Univ. of Pennsylvania	46%
Davidson College	45%
Bates College	43%
Columbia University	43%



# Early Admissions Policies

- **Pros:**

- Increased chance of admission
- Process out of the way early
- Housing

- **Cons:**

- Binding (Early Decision)



# Student Responsibilities

- **Social networking sites**
  - NACAC (2009), 25% of colleges report using Facebook, Twitter, etc.
  - Students should cancel accounts or change privacy settings
- **Importance of grade 12**
  - “What are you doing when you don’t think you have to be doing anything?”

**QUESTIONS?**