



Student Questionnaire for Recommendation Writers

Dear Students in Grades 8 and 9 Applying to Secondary Schools (and Parents);

After Thanksgiving, your English and math teachers will begin working on recommendation letters for your applications to secondary schools. In order to help them do their job well in this regard—and to help us do our job in writing the principal/school counselor recommendation, we need some detailed information about your talents, interests, extracurricular activities, etc. This questionnaire is designed to obtain that information.

DUE DATE: Your completed questionnaire is **due to Ms. Esmond by Grandparents' Day, November 24** (before you leave for Thanksgiving Break).

DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

- Answers should be TYPED. You can either create your own document or email Ms. Esmond (at LEsmond@tuxedoparkschool.org) asking her to send you a “Word” version of this form that you can download and fill out electronically.
- You must hand in a **PRINTED, PAPER COPY** that is **SIGNED** by your **PARENT**.
- Fill this form out **carefully** and in **detail**; the more information you give us, the better job we can do in describing you to an admission committee. Our goal is to give accurate, interesting information to those who will be considering your application. Please tell us everything you want us to know about you for your application.
- We will use some Advisory time and X-Block periods to get started on this, but I expect you to take about another hour or two to finish this at home. Please keep in mind that you can use a lot of this questionnaire when writing your applications. **So save it somewhere safe!**

FOR PARENTS:

Your signature will indicate that you have completed your section and that you have looked over your child's portion of the questionnaire. Again, **I highly recommend that you make a copy of this document or save it somewhere safe. It can be tremendously helpful when filling out applications and writing the essays/short answers.**

Thank you for all your hard work in completing this questionnaire!

Lori Esmond
Director of Secondary School Placement
LEsmond@tuxedoparkschool.org



Student Questionnaire for Recommendation Writers

This questionnaire must be completed, PRINTED, SIGNED by your parent, and handed in to Ms. Esmond or your advisor by GRANDPARENTS' DAY, November 24. Be sure to include your NAME on the document you turn in!

1. List your name in **CLEAR BIG LETTERS** at the top of the document you hand in!
2. In what grade did you start attending TPS? _____
3. Please list all TPS-related activities, including sports (i.e., Glee, Math Olympiads, Model UN, yearbook, chorus/band/drums):

Team/Club/Activity	In which grades?	Position held	What you enjoyed about it

4. Please list ALL of your organized extra-curricular activities that are OUTSIDE of SCHOOL. The list might include music, art, drama, sports, or dance lessons; scouting, church, temple, or community service activities; teams or anything that involves membership in a group. Please note if any activity requires audition, try-out, or invitation to participate.

Team/Club/Activity	In which grades?	Position held	What you enjoyed about it

5. Choose 2-3 of these activities listed in #3 and/or #4 and write a few sentences about each—especially those that give you the most pleasure.

6. Individual interests: What hasn't been covered by the previous questions? Name your hobbies, talents, activities, favorite pastimes, collections, what you do in your spare time, etc. Tell us anything that you do repeatedly and is a true interest. We're looking for details here. Don't be shy!
7. What activities do you engage in as a FAMILY (travel, sports, outings, board games, etc.)? If you have older siblings, please list their names, ages, and the secondary school(s) they attend(ed).
8. Describe what you enjoyed doing or anything special you might have done during your last two summer vacations. Include camps, jobs, special trips, summer school, lessons, community service, etc.
9. If applicable, list any ACHIEVEMENTS or AWARDS you may have received both in and outside of school in academics, athletics, arts, music, etc. (Please be specific and give accurate names of the awards).

Name of Award or Achievement	In which grade(s)?	For what?	What you thought when you won/earned it

10. Please describe a MOMENT OF SUCCESS or EXTREME SATISFACTION during the last two years (in school or outside of school).
11. Please share a DIFFICULT MOMENT or a CHALLENGE you have had in life or in school and how you recovered from it.
12. What makes you a UNIQUE/SPECIAL PERSON? Brag here, please!
13. Describe what you're looking for in a school. This may include logistics (like size and location), but could also be more specific like which languages they offer or what type of philosophy or "feeling" the school has.

YOUR LAST TASK: Have a parent/primary guardian sign the document you hand in before Thanksgiving Break. They can sign it anywhere, indicating that they have read what you have written.

(parent signature & date)

(student signature & date)