

**Welcome to  
Lake Central High School's  
College Bound  
Meeting**

**March 14, 2023**



# Lake Central High School

## Guidance Staff

### School Counselors

- Robin May (A-Brown)
- Megan Graman (Brt-Dem)
- Ginger Marinkovich (Den-Gond)
- Nicole Raber (Gonz-Jim)
- Jessica Sanchez (Johnsen-L)
- Karen Fatouros (M-Ne)
- Steven Aguilera (Ng-Rh)
- Ashley Kline (Ri-Rz)
- Jackie Barthelemy (S-Tex)
- Tom Golumbeck (Th-Z)

### Administrators/Staff

- Erin Novak, Principal
- Richard Moore, Associate Principal
- Ashley Kline, Guidance Department Head
- Laura Selin, Registrar
- Sherrie Bereda, Naviance Secretary
- Courtney Severin, Secretary
- Beth Toth, Data Secretary

# College Application Timeline

## □ **Freshmen:**

- Do your best in class
- Your GPA begins on the first day of school
- Get Involved
- Explore Naviance

## □ **Sophomores:**

- Build Resume - Naviance
- Research Colleges
- Start college visits/meet with representatives at LC

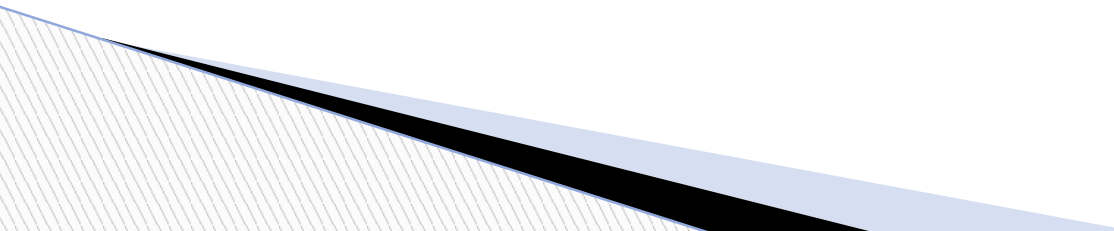
## □ **Juniors:**

- College Visits
- Take SAT at Lake Central
- Narrow down college choices
- Think about recommenders

## □ **Seniors:**

- Apply/Watch Deadlines
- Request Transcripts/Letters of Recommendation
- FAFSA
- Apply for scholarships

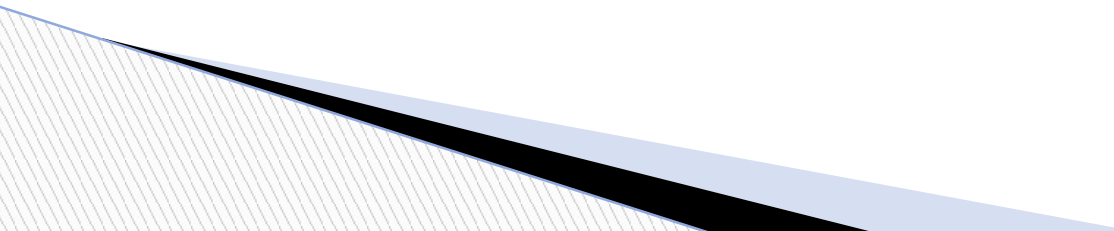
# Explore Colleges/Universities

- \*Location
  - \*Majors
  - \*Public/Private
  - \*Small/Large
  - \*Tuition
  - \*Extra Curricular Opportunities
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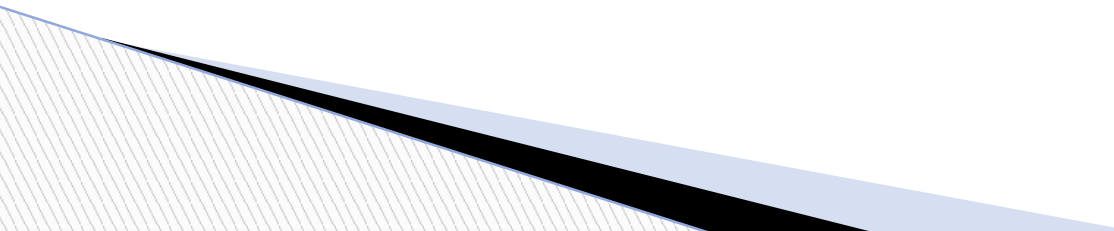
# College Fairs

- NACAC
  - National fairs in Spring and Fall
  
- Local
  - Purdue Northwest, Merrillville High School, Crown Point High School, Valparaiso University
  
- Lake Central High School
  - College, Career and Military Fair
  - April 12 during PtE
  
- <https://www.nacacfairs.org/virtual>
  
- Coalition for College
  - <https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org>

# College Visits

- Best time to visit is when school is in session
  - Tour campus, visit academic department, sit in on class, explore dorms
  - Colleges videos, lots of information online, visit once accepted
  - Bring back documentation for the Attendance Office
  - Students are permitted two absences for college visits
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# Admission Representative Visits at Lake Central High School

- By listing schools you are interested in, you will be notified through Naviance when that university representative will be visiting LCHS
  - Visits are also announced on the announcements
  - Posted on @LCHS\_Guidance Twitter account
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# Upcoming College Visits

- **Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**
    - University of Tampa - Main Street at Lunch
    - Bradley University - After School in Library
    - St. Mary's College - After School in Library
  - **Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**
    - Iowa State University - Main Street at Lunch
  - **Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**
    - Columbia College Chicago - Main Street at Lunch
  - **Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**
    - Prairie State College - After School in Library
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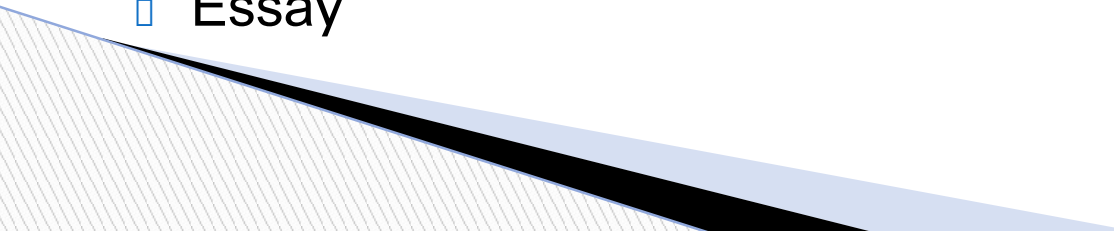


# High School Course Selection/College Evaluation

## □ **What student should do...**

- Challenge yourself with course selection
- AP/Honors Courses for high achieving students
- Courses that align with interests

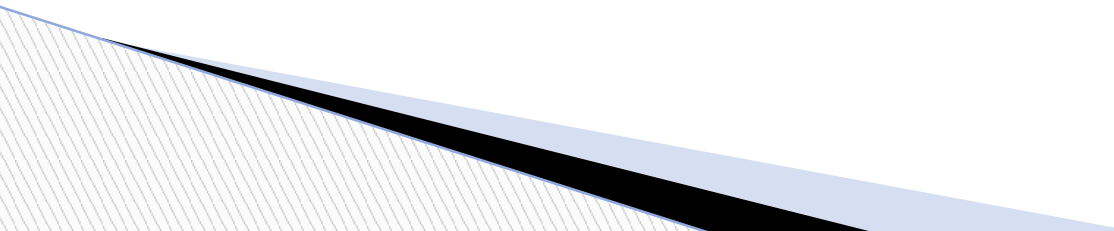
## □ **What Colleges look for..**

- AP/Honors vs Easy A's
  - Grade Trending
  - GPA and GPA recalculation
  - Test Scores (SAT/ACT)
  - Letters of Rec (if required)
  - Activities and involvement
  - Essay
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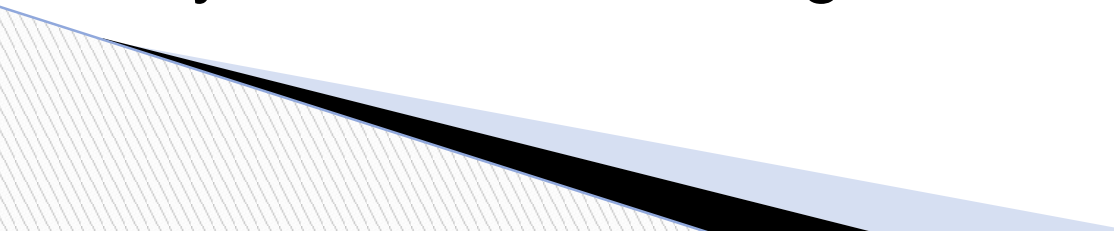
# College Application Process

- Complete the application through the college/university's admission webpage or the Common Application
  - Commonapp.org
- Many colleges/universities will create an account/ portal for the applicant and important information will be sent through that account. **Check this often!**
  - Missing documents and acceptance documents

# College Application Process

- Average application fees range from \$30-\$100
    - Students on free/reduced lunch may qualify for a waiver and should see their counselor
  - Complete and submit application
  - Request teacher recommendations if needed
  - Request transcripts through Naviance not Parchment
  - Counselors complete additional required reports
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# College Application Process

- Students send ACT or SAT scores directly from the testing agency (ACT.org or collegeboard.org)
  - If you want/need to send transcripts for any dual credits, they must be sent by the college/university from which the credits were earned. (Ivy Tech, Vincennes, IUN, Purdue Northwest)
  - DO NOT send dual credits until you decide where you will be attending
- 

# ACT/SAT Prep and Exams

- SAT – Collegeboard.org
- ACT – ACT.org
- Test Optional/Test Flexible
- Timelines to take exam
- Superscore
- Which one should I take?
- Prep work: Khan Academy/PSAT
  - 6hrs – 90 points
  - 20hrs – 115 points
  - (16,000 students)

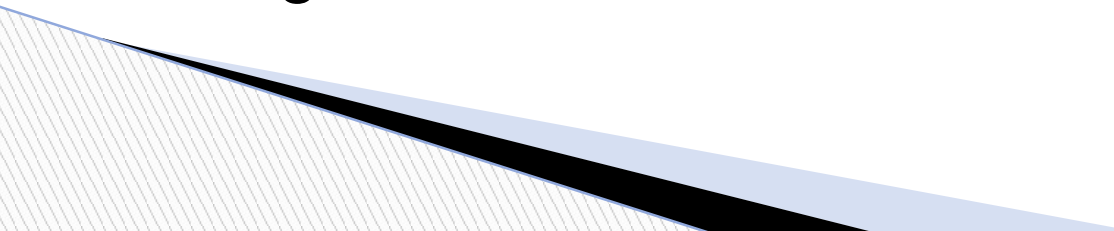
# ACT vs SAT

- <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-act>
- <https://blog.prepscholar.com/is-the-act-easier-than-the-sat>

# When to Apply

- Most applications open on August 1
  - Deadlines are posted on admissions websites for each college/university
- **Purdue University:** In order to be considered for merit-based scholarships and/or Early Action, student applications and all materials must be submitted by November 1.
  - SAT/ACT required for Fall 2024
- **Indiana University Bloomington:** Priority deadline for maximum scholarship consideration is November 1.
  - Will Remain Test Optional

# Direct Application vs Common Application

- Direct: Apply directly through website
  - Common App: One application used by over 900 colleges and universities – for example: Purdue West Lafayette, Notre Dame, Indiana State University, University of Chicago, University of Michigan, Indiana University, Ball State.
  - Butler and Valparaiso University use both the Common App and/or their own online application
  - Common App and most applications will open August 1, 2023
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# The Common Application

- Includes:
  - 5 lengthy student information sections
  - Common App essay – essay prompts are the same as 23-24
  - Additional essays specific to schools to which the student is applying
  - Counselor reports/evaluations

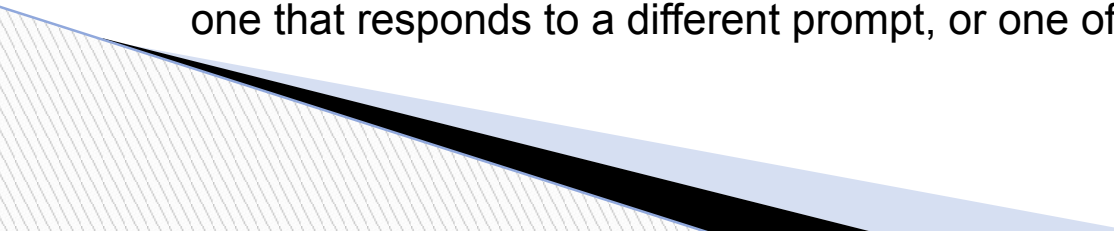
THE COMMON  
APPLICATION



# Common Application

- ❑ Do not use your school email on any applications. Be smart with your email name choice!
- ❑ Do not request letters of recommendation for LC teachers/administrators through Common App - only request through Naviance
- ❑ The exact email/name listed on the Common Application is used to match with Naviance.
  - Matching allows all the documents: transcripts, application, counselor secondary school report, recommendations, etc, to be “bundled” before sending
- ❑ Great video explaining how to match
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjeDWpfBb3Y&authuser=0>

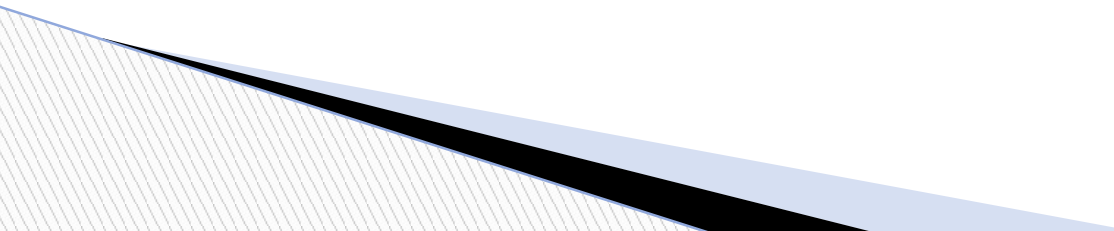
# Common App Essay Prompts 23-24

- 1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
  - 2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
  - 3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
  - 4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
  - 5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
  - 6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
  - 7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.
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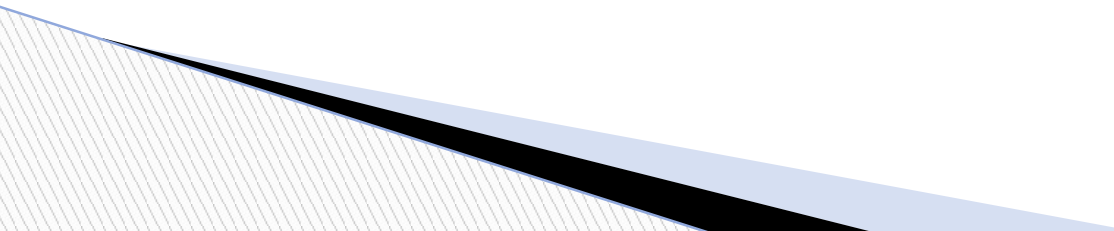
# College Essays

- Watch Word Limits – Common App 250-650
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- Personal Statements
  
- Supplemental Essays
  - Numbers vary from school to school
  - Why do you want to attend x university?
  - How will you contribute to campus life?
  - Why did you select your major?

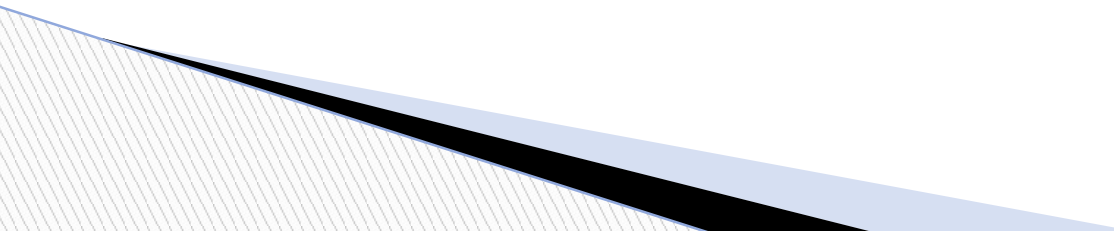
# Request Teacher Recommendations

- Good etiquette to personally ask the teacher for recommendation prior to requesting the it through Naviance.
  - Give your recommender a minimum of two weeks to write/upload the letter.
  - With Naviance, if a school only required one letter of recommendation, the first one submitted is the one that is sent to that university.
  - Teachers cannot upload letters until approximately August 15.
  - No requesting letters on Naviance until August 1
- 

# Request Teacher Recommendations

- Prioritize teachers within intended major (math/science – engineering)
  - Letters for competitive majors/schools should show “growth” over high school
  - If the recommendation is for a scholarship that requires them to mail in their recommendation, provide the recommender with an envelope/stamp and address of where to send the letter.
  - If you don't need a letter, no need to ask for one
- 

# Counselor Recommendations

- Have resume complete in Naviance
  - Highlight academic accomplishments and any extra- curricular activities
  - Work/Volunteer experience counts
  - Letter is required, ask the counselor directly and give them a due date
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# Transcripts

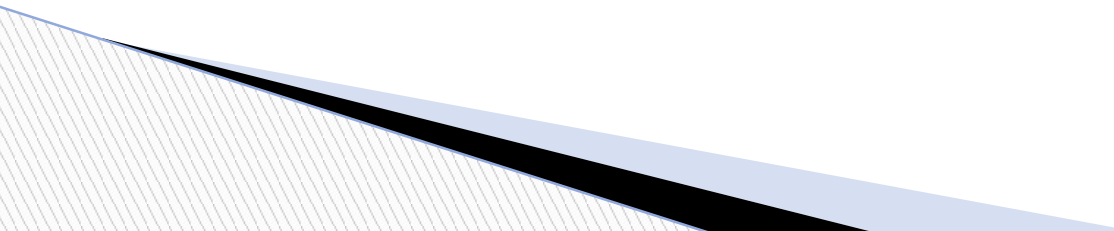
- Request through Naviance only
- Parchment – **Alumni Only**
- Allow 4-6 weeks for colleges to post to student portal



# Naviance: What it has to offer

- Students only!
- Student email and ID
- Login issues: email sbereda@lcscmail.com

## Naviance resources

- ABOUT ME: Career Interest Profiler/Learning Style Inventory, Resume
  - COLLEGES: Supermatch, Scattergrams, Scholarships, College Acceptance, Letters of Recommendation
  - CAREERS: Roadtrip Nation, Explore Careers
  - PLANNER: Calendar, track deadlines
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# Important Information!

- Document requests (letters of rec, counselor recommendations, transcripts etc) need to be submitted no later than Wednesday, Oct. 11 to ensure they will be submitted by Nov 1 deadline.

**10/11/23**



# Scholarships

- Naviance under Colleges Home Page
- Google search
- Parents employer
- College website

Twitter- @LCHS\_Guidance

- Scholarships
- Deadlines
- Scheduling
- Events
- News

# Additional Resources

NCAA Eligibility Center

NAIA.org

Financial Aid Nights/Invest Ed

Trio Programs



# And remember.....

- Grades do matter!
- Purdue West Lafayette 3.7-3.8 unweighted/recalculated
- Indiana University Bloomington 3.7 weighted
- Ball State 3.5 weighted
- Purdue Northwest 3.2 recalculated
- Indiana University Northwest 3.1 weighted
  
- Applications and essays are supposed to be done by the **student!**

# Questions

