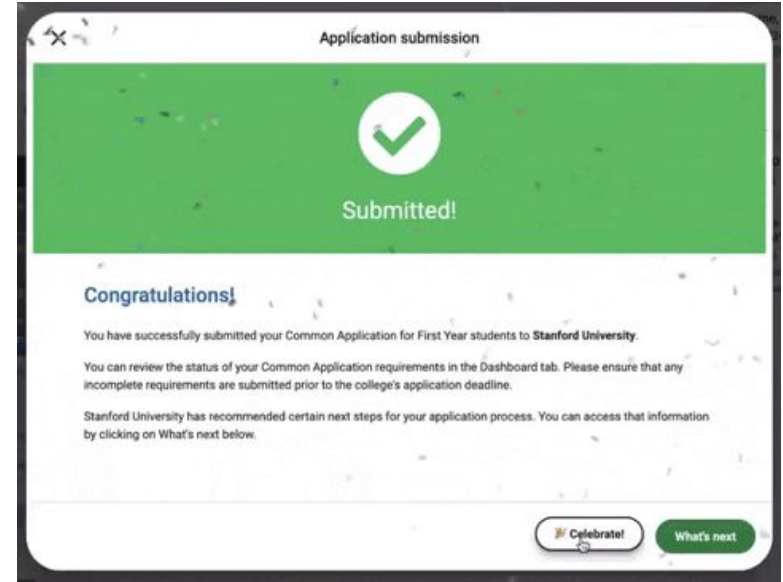# Grade 12 Parent College Workshop!
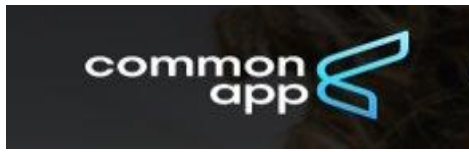

Tappan Zee High School
September 14th 2023

We are lucky enough to have this fantastic video produced by one of our own, Hela Gaiever (current senior)! This video showcases seniors and their college application process. Enjoy!

Pearls of Wisdom on the College Application Process

Application Types and General Timeline

- Early Decision/Early Decision II

- Early Action

- Early Action Restrictive

- Rolling

- Regular Decision

- Priority / Scholarship Deadline

More than 1,000 colleges accept the <u>Common App</u>, including the SUNYs!

<u>Sections that the Common Application include:</u>

⟹ Profile   ⟹ Testing

⟹ Family   ⟹ Activity

⟹ Education ⟹ Writing

⟹ Courses & Grades

Many schools will require a supplement in the form of short answers and / or additional essays (see example on next slide). The supplements are on Common Application.

If a school does not use the Common App, their online application can be accessed through their individual website. CUNY schools are not on the Common Application. SUNY schools are.
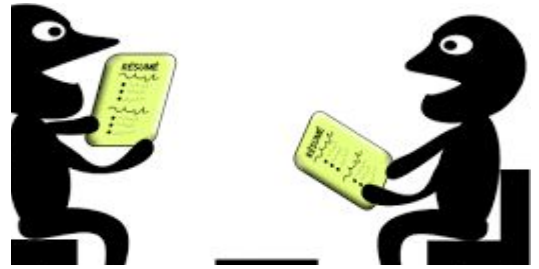
Sample Supplemental Essay

University of Vermont Pick 1:

1. Why UVM?

2. Established in Burlington, VT, Ben & Jerry's is synonymous with both ice cream and social change. The "Save Our Swirled" flavor raises awareness of climate change, and "I Dough, I Dough" celebrates marriage equality. If you worked alongside Ben & Jerry, what charitable flavor would you develop and why?

3. UVM is a community that celebrates the unique identity of every student, faculty and staff member. Tell us how your identities have shaped the ways you interact with the world.

4. From the Green Mountains to Lake Champlain to our campus, UVM students are inspired by our location to think about their relationship to the environment. What does your relationship with your environment look like?

5. If you could pick one song to be the soundtrack of your life, what would it be? What is your connection to the song? (500 words)

Student Resume

- Naviance has a resume builder feature that all students have access to.
- Indicate an intended major or area of interest, including undecided (this is not binding!)
- Many colleges are allowing students to upload a resume directly to their application.
- Counselors will refer to the resume to write a more informative letter of recommendation
- Allows for easy data entry when students complete the activities section on their application

College Interviews

- Only a small number of colleges require or recommend an interview.
- College interviews can be informative or evaluative and may be conducted by admissions staff, alumni, or current students. Interviews may be conducted on or off campus.
- Check the college's website for information on their interview policies.

Self Reported Academic Record (SRAR) and online portals

- More often, schools are requiring applicants to complete the Self-Reported Student Academic Record (SRAR) which requires students to submit a complete list of courses and grades from high school, in addition to to the transcript sent by the high school. You can find that list <u>here.</u>

- Students will be prompted to complete the SRAR in a variety of ways: directly on Common App, by reading application instructions on the school's website, via email, or after registering for the college's online portal.

- **Students must remember to check their email regularly for notifications.**

Some colleges that require the SSAR:

Clemson, Florida A&M, Florida State, Northeastern, NYU, Penn State, Rutgers, University of Delaware, University of Rhode Island, University of Tennessee, University of Florida, Virginia Tech

Individual College Applicant Portals

After a student applies to college, they are likely to receive a confirmation **email** and instructions for accessing the school's portal.

The portal allows students to monitor their application (and sometimes financial aid) status, track the receipt of documents, and view the admissions decision.

Opening these portals demonstrates a student's active engagement in the application process.

1) College Research Tool

Scattergrams (next slide)

Virtual Tours

Application Requirements

Fast Facts (majors, degrees, etc)

College Representative Visits

2) Application Management System

School Profile

Transcript

Letters of Recommendation (counselor and teacher)

Mid-Year Reports are automatically sent to schools where students apply

Final Reports

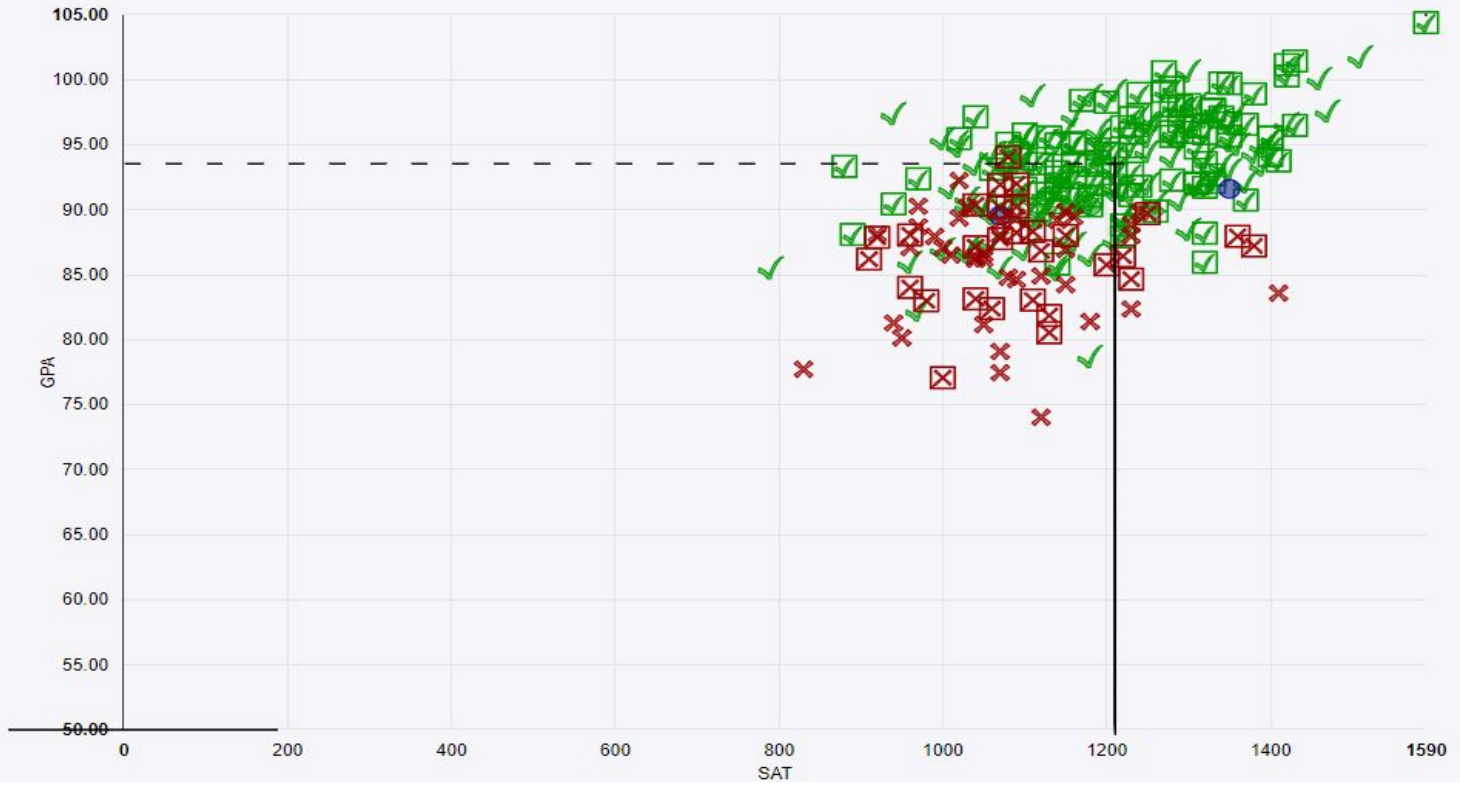**3) Account Matching with Common App**

FERPA

Waive Rights

Scattergrams | Applications for Tappan Zee High School ⓘ

Comparing Weighted GPA **with** [SAT (1600) ▾] **and** ☐ applied test optional

Transcript Request Form

- A [transcript request form](#) must be completed for **each school** a student is applying to. **Students do not request transcripts via Naviance**. The transcript request form link was sent to each student via email and can be accessed on the counseling website and google classroom.

- Completing the form guarantees that supporting documents, transcripts, profile, and letters of recommendation will be sent to colleges on a timely basis

- The transcript request form must be submitted along with an appointment at least **3 weeks prior** to the first deadline.

Teacher Letters of Recommendation

- Colleges typically require one or two letters. Some do not require any letters. Please check these requirements.

- Students must get a verbal/written agreement from a teacher before formally requesting a letter on Naviance. We visited English classes to walk students through this process.

- Teachers write only one letter per student. The same letter is sent to all colleges.

- Teacher letters are uploaded and sent to colleges via Naviance.

- Students **do not** need to wait for letters of recommendation to submit their applications.

Counselor Letter of Recommendation

Materials Needed:
Counselor Rec. Info Sheet

- Found in Naviance under circular icon with initials –> Surveys from your School

Parent Perspective Form

- Found on the TZHS Counseling page under Forms

- This is an opportunity to provide helpful information for your child's Counselor.

- Please fill out and submit the form within three weeks of your senior's first application deadline to ensure the information provided is used.

Resume

Standardized Test Scores

- Test scores will not appear on the transcript.
- Scores can be **unofficially** self reported directly on the applications (must be careful with this if you plan to apply test optional to some schools).
- Students may be required to **officially** send their scores to the college directly from the testing agency.
- Many colleges and universities are now test optional / test blind (they do not accept any scores). Check individual schools as well as Fair Test for the most up to date information.
- Public schools in the South such as Univ. of Tennessee and FSU, along with Florida's 11 other public universities require testing.

COLLEGE WISE

To Send or Not To Send — *A Handy Flowchart!*

Is my score near or above the 50th percentile estimate of published SAT/ACT scores for this school?

✓ →

Great! Are you applying to a school/program that focuses on quantitative skills (business, engineering)?

✓ →

Is your math subset of either ACT/SAT near or above the 75% range of scores?

✓ →

GREAT, YOU SHOULD SEND YOUR SCORES.

✗

If your score is below the middle 50%, the only time we'd recommend sending is if your grades were low in 11th grade, and you're close to the median. range. *Otherwise, you should not send.*

✗

If you're not applying to a STEM-based major and your score is near or above the 50th percentile estimate, then we recommend you send your scores.

✗

This is a judgment call, best done with your counselor, but we'd lean toward not sending your score in this scenario.

If you had a low grade in your 11th grade STEM coursework, this would be one example of a time to lean toward sending.

Counselor Responsibility:

- School Profile

- Transcript

- Teacher and Counselor Recommendation Letters

- Mid-Year Grades/Final Transcript

Student Responsibility:

- The Completed Application

- SRAR (if applicable)

- Standardized Test Scores (if they are required to be officially sent)

- Items such as music demos or art portfolios when appropriate

- Application Fee

State University of
New York (SUNY)

SUNY

- Among the top ranked state college systems in the nation
- 415,500 degree-seeking students currently attending a SUNY institution
- 4 Universities, 13 State Colleges, Technical and Community Colleges
- All majors offered somewhere throughout the SUNY system
- SUNY 2023-24 Tuition: $7,070 (4-Year) $5,212 (2-Year)

*These are actual SUNY campuses!Aren't they pretty?

City University (CUNY) of New York

*   *

CUNY

- 275,000 degree-seeking students currently attending a CUNY institution
- 11 Senior Colleges and 7 Community Colleges are located across the five boroughs
- CUNY 2023-24 Tuition only: $6,930 (4-Year) $4,800 (2-Year)
- Macaulay Honors College at CUNY: A competitive Tuition and Merit Scholarship Package that includes full tuition at a senior college
- Deadline for Macaulay Honors is November 16th @ 6pm (hard deadline / no exceptions!)

*These are CUNY's!
Aren't they stunning?

Where have our graduates gone?

The class of 2023: 247 Students attended 108 different colleges

The class of 2023: 50% attended Public Institutions; 41% attended Private Institutions

The class of 2023: 76% (191 students) applied EA or Rolling; 13% (33 students) applied ED

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Financial Aid Night
- September 20th Presentation at 7PM TZHS Cafeteria
- Dedicated to explaining the process of applying for aid to help meet the cost of your child's college education

Scholarships
- **The Excelsior Scholarship**
  - Students of middle-class families who make less than $125,000 this year are eligible for free tuition at CUNY and SUNY schools. Students are still responsible for the cost of room and board.

    More information available at www.hesc.ny.gov
- **Merit/College Specific**
  - Individual college websites
  - www.cappex.com
  - Edmit.me
- **National Scholarship**
  - www.fastweb.com
  - www.chegg.com
- **Local Scholarship**
  - Will begin updating in January 2024
  - http://blogs.socsd.org/tzhs/scholarships-2/

COMPLETE YOUR

☐ **FAFSA**

Helpful Links / Links we love:

Naviance	Fairtest	Cappex
College Board	Fastweb	Niche
ACT	Unigo	16 Personalities
TZHS Counseling	TheCollegeTour	Khan Academy
The College Essay Guy	Compass Education	CommonApp
TZHS YouTube	College Confidential	CollegeWise
TZHS Instagram	Grown and Flown	