Welcome to East High School’s Presentation for Juniors
February 2015

Preparing for the Future:
An Introduction to the Post High School Planning Process
Evening Agenda

1. A Brief Introduction to some Post-High School Options.
4. Timeline for Junior Year.
5. Tips for Success.
There are Many Paths to Success

There is a variety of post-high school options - all can be pathways to success:

*Examples include:*

- 4-year College or University
- 2-year College
- Technical School
- Apprenticeship
- Specialty School (e.g., Cosmetology, Auto Repair)
- Military Service
- Volunteer Service (e.g., Americorps, etc.)
- Work Opportunities
Four Year Colleges:

- 5000+ colleges & universities in U.S.
- Wide range of programs & majors.
- Many universities also offer graduate programs.
- Wide range of campus environments (e.g. location, size, etc.) & student body demographics.
- Wide range of extracurricular offerings (e.g. athletics, music, arts, etc.)
Two Year Colleges &
Technical Programs:

- UW Colleges
  - 13 campuses, many offer housing
  - Small classes, lower tuition
  - “Guaranteed Transfer Program”

- Madison College (MATC)
  - Lower tuition rates
  - Excellent placement rates/earning power
  - 1 & 2 year degree programs
  - Liberal Studies Transfer Program – Transfer Contract
Specialty Schools:

One/Two Year Programs in:

- Art/Design
- Cosmetology
- Media/Broadcasting
- Check specific entrance criteria.
Military Options:

- Training & Education benefits in return for paid service.
- Wide variety of programs.
- Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, National Guard, Coast Guard
- Read the fine print before signing contract
Volunteer Service

- Provide valuable service to your community.
- Gain practical work experience & explore careers of interest.
- Develop new skills.
- Travel opportunities.
- Some programs – (Americorps) pay a stipend + an educational award
Work Opportunities

- Education and Training Requirements vary.
- Availability varies by field.
- Preparation includes:
  - Preparing a resume.
  - Practicing interviewing techniques.
  - Job shadowing experiences.
  - “Networking” to find unposted job openings.
Ways to Explore Options

- Do a campus visit or attend a summer program on a college campus.
- careercruising.com (online database for careers, colleges, and majors)
- Do a job shadow or an informational interview to learn more about a career of interest.
- Talk with seniors about their plans.
- Meet with the counselor to talk about interests.
- Attend a college representative visit in the East High Career Center (most are in the fall)
- College Fairs (WEF: early October, Sun Prairie H.S.)
- Complete an application for GEAR UP/EIP precollege program
The College Process: A Closer Look
Visit the campus/program if you can...

- Many schools have special “preview days” during the year (see college’s website)
- Wisconsin Private College Week July 13 -18
  - Fee waivers offered at each campus
- Some schools also offer overnight visits.
- Make the most of your visit.
  - Attend a class
  - Have lunch with a student
  - Consider an admissions interview
  - Inquire about accommodations and services available for students with disabilities
- Virtual Tours – sometimes an option.
Research Entrance Requirements

- Many schools moving to a “holistic review”

- Admissions Requirements vary:
  - GPA & Class Rank (MMSD does not report rank)
  - Test Scores (ACT, SAT/Subject SAT scores)
  - Classes Taken – number of years/rigor/grades.
  - Some “schools” w/in a college have requirements.
  - Foreign Language – number of years.

- Additional Materials may be needed:
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Personal essays
  - Auditions & Portfolios
UW System: Admission Requirements

- **Minimum 17 credits:**
  - English: 4
  - Social Studies: 3
  - Math: 3
  - Science: 3
  - Academics/Fine Arts/Language: 4
- Foreign Language recommended
- GPA and ACT
UW Madison: Highly Competitive!
Most students accepted have:

- **Credits:**
  - English 4
  - Social Studies 3-4
  - Math 4
  - Science 4
  - For. Lang. 2+
  - Academics:
    - Fine Arts 4

- **GPA 3.5 – 3.9**
- **ACT composite: 27 – 30**
Testing during the junior year

ACT: Administered Tues, March 3 to all juniors at EHS

- Use ACT Method Test Prep to prepare
  careercruising.com or access via the LMC website
  http://madison.campusguides.comeastlmc

Work Keys administered to all juniors Wed, March 4

- Assesses “real world” skills needed to be successful in the workplace
- Students may earn a National Career Readiness Certificate
- For sample questions:
  http://www.act.org/workkeys/assess/sample.html
Admissions Tests: ACT/SAT

- ACT: April 18 (Register by Mar 13), June 13 (Register by May 8) [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

- SAT: March 14 (Register Feb 13), May 2 (Register April 6), June 6 (Register May 8) [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

- Most colleges accept either ACT or SAT (check to be sure).
- Take ACT writing sample – many colleges now require.
- Students w/ disabilities: consult with case manager about test accommodations; documentation is required prior to testing.
- September, October, & December: recommended dates for senior year.
- Some colleges also require the SAT II Subject Tests (Check in advance!).
Take the SAT II Test

*if needed:*

- SAT II Tests are subject tests. You can take up to 3 in one session. Note test dates for Subject tests!
  www.collegeboard.com
- Check with your college/university or specific program to see if they require the SAT II and what specific tests (e.g. math, etc.) they would like to see you take.
- Take the SAT II when the material is most fresh in your mind:
  - Tests are offered in October, November, December, January, May, and June
  - Please note: Not all of the subject tests are offered on each of the test dates.
How To Send ACT / SAT Results to the Right Place:

- When you register for the test you can list the colleges to which you want the results sent (list up to 4 colleges for no additional cost)
- For additional reports-- go to ACT or SAT online.
- Remember, we can’t send your scores. You request them from ACT or SAT. (Costs $$)
- Free online test preparation:
  careercruising.com &
  KnowHow2GoWisconsin.org
Application Strategy:

To maximize your options we recommend that you apply to at least 3 categories of schools:

- A “Reach” – most of their requirements appear to match your level of preparation.

- A “Probable Admit” – their requirements appear to match your level of preparation.

- A “Sure Thing” – your level of preparation exceeds their requirements.
Research Application Requirements & Deadlines

- Application Requirements
  - Do you need a teacher evaluation or letters of recommendation?
  - Is an essay or personal statement needed?
  - Will you be using a Common Application?
  - Are portfolios/auditions required?

- Application Deadlines
  - What is the deadline for applications?
Admissions Applications
September 1st - December 1st

- If needed, request letters from teacher(s) & counselor
- Apply online.
- Pay online or obtain a fee waiver.
- Make sure your transcript and ACT/SAT scores are sent to the colleges
- Check Early Action/Decision dates.
“Early Decision & Early Action”

**Early Decision:** You apply early & hear early, but if they accept you, you are obligated to go.

**Early Action:** You apply early & hear early, but you are not automatically bound to enroll.
Madison College (MATC)
Application is available September 1st

MATC begins processing applications October 15th

- Review program admission requirements online.

- Check if your program of interest is a high demand program (Apply before October 15)
  
  - Healthcare programs (Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Dental Asst, Physical Therapy Asst, Occupational Therapy, Radiography, Surgical Tech, Medical Coding, etc.). Photography, Animation.

  - Also apply early for programs that may develop a wait list: Automotive, Culinary, Barber/Cosmetology, Art/Design, Visual Communications, Early Childhood, Fire Protection, Vet Tech, Therapeutic Massage, Mechanic, several IT programs, Machine Tooling, etc.

- Admission requirements include:
  
  * Completed application
  * High School Transcript
  * COMPASS test/ACT
  * Application fee
Requesting Transcripts

- Register and order transcripts through Parchment.com; pay fee or obtain waiver (free/reduced)
- Parent signature is required if the student is under 18 years old
- If the Common Application is used, order ONE transcript to be sent to ALL Common App colleges
Recommendation Letters (if needed):

- Please request well in advance!

- Counselor Recommendation: Complete the parent and student “Brag Sheets”, save copy for yourself, and give the other to counselor.

- Teacher Recommendation: Ask politely! Provide a stamped, addressed envelope for each college if the teacher is not able to submit the recommendation electronically.
Interested in NCAA Division 1 or 2 Athletics in College?

Check out requirements to be eligible for NCAA Division 1 or 2.

Register online: http://www.eligibilitycenter.org

Send transcript and ACT/SAT scores directly to the Eligibility Center.

You may also discuss requirements with your coach, athletic director, or counselor.
Financial Aid: A Brief Overview
Financial Aid/Scholarships

- Includes: Scholarships, grants, loans, work study.
- Loans & work study are primarily based on need. Scholarships and grants may be based on need, achievement, service, other unique qualities, etc.
- Check the box requesting Financial Aid on your college app and/or complete separate application.
- Complete the FAFSA form in Jan-Feb of senior year (File your taxes ASAP!).
- Completing FAFSA online is recommended: www.fafsa.gov
More Details…

- *You* can search weekly for scholarships by checking East’s website and/or [WWW.FASTWEB.COM](http://WWW.FASTWEB.COM).

- Deadlines vary widely. Pay close attention.

- **BEWARE OF FIRMS THAT ASK FOR $**


- Apply for East High School scholarships in January 2016.
Timetable for Jr/Sr Year:

Spring of 2015
- ACT/SAT testing
- Develop list of schools (do research)
- College/program visits
- Finalize resume
- College reps (East CC)

Summer of 2015
- College/program visits
- Volunteer/Job Shadow

Sept.-Dec of 2015
- Complete Applications
- Retake ACT/SAT?

January of 2016
- Financial Aid Night

January of 2016
- Fill out the FAFSA
Some Final Tips for Success in the Junior Year…

Keep On Track With Academics

- Now is a critical time to make sure that students are on track for graduation. Consider how many credits have been earned.

- Choose senior year courses wisely – Look into AP classes and keep a full course load.

- Consider taking a Youth Options or Course Options course at a post-secondary college (YO application deadlines (firm): March 1 for fall semester; October 1 for spring semester). Student should see the counselor if interested/application is available online. MMSD approval is required.

- Interested in NCAA sports? Make sure students have the credits that are needed to be eligible.
East’s Graduation Requirements:

Note: Students must earn 15 credits or more to be identified as a senior in Fall 2015

22 total credits

- English: 4
- Social Studies: 3
- Math: 2
- Science: 2
- P. E.: 1.5
- Health: .5
- Electives: 9
Tips For Success - Continued

Get Involved and Stay Involved

- Keep active in your extracurricular activities – not only are they great experiences to help you explore your career-related interests – they are also important for applications for schools, jobs, and scholarships.

- Check out a list of enrichment opportunities
  [http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/300](http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/300)

- Consider joining GEAR UP/EIP precollege program (applications are available)
Tips for Success - Continued

Make a Plan for Summer

Junior Year summer is a GREAT time to explore your interests. Some ideas for summer include:

- Look for a job (paid or volunteer) in a career area that interests you. Ex. Interested in teaching? Work at a camp.
- Find a paid job that helps you save for college or future expenses.
- Participate in a summer program on a college campus.
- Get involved in community service activities.
East Counseling Department
10th - 12th grade

Laura Gillis  204-1635
Ashley Schuchardt 204-1636
Maria Callis 204-1631
Michelle Olson 204-1628
Robin Murphy 204-1665
Sarah Elmore 204-1647
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Thank you for attending tonight’s presentation...

Any Questions?