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# Junior Parent Night

*Evangelical Christian  
School*

# What Should You Expect?

As Guidance Counselor, I will:

- Work on schedules and academic choices
- Make sure students meet academic requirements for graduation
- Organize opportunities to meet college representatives
- Make students aware of scholarship opportunities
- Guide students in college and career choices
- Send transcripts to prospective colleges
- Work alongside and pray for parents and students

# What Should You Expect?

As the parent of a junior, you will:

- Discuss college options with your student
- Decide what perimeters are appropriate for your family
- Discuss major and career expectations
- Visit prospective colleges and universities
- Help your student apply to colleges and universities next year

# What Should You Expect?

As a junior, you will:

- Think about what kinds of colleges interest you
- Consider what you want to be when you grow up
- Devise a list of colleges over the summer
- Take the SAT and/or ACT
  - Send scores to ECS (100512)
  - NCAA (9999)
- Make the best grades you can!

# First Things First

- Choosing a college is one of the biggest decisions that one can make.
  - Pray!
- Have open dialogue with your student—this is scary for the both of you.
- Encourage your student to take the initiative in the process.
- I'll do my part, you do your part, and let's stand back and watch the student grow.

# The SAT and ACT

- SAT and ACT are very different tests.
  - **SAT**=Verbal, Math, and Writing (2400)
  - **ACT**=Verbal, Math, Science, and Writing (36)
- Take the test during the spring.
- While most colleges make you take the writing, the score for SAT does not include it.
- Visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to register.
- ECS school code is 100512.
- The scores are included on the transcripts if the student uses the school code.

# Transcripts

- Transcripts are the official record of high school coursework.
- Included on the transcript:
  - Demographic information
  - All courses taken 9-12—semester grades
  - Cumulative GPA (weighted and unweighted)
  - SAT and ACT scores
  - Community Service Hours
  - Accomplishments
- Transcripts are based on semester grades.

# Grade Point Average (GPA)

- The GPA will be recalculated by the college—each one is different.
- Many will only take academic courses: English, math, science, history, and foreign language.
- Weighted means honors and AP credits are included. (0.5 for honors, 1 for AP)
- Unweighted means honors and AP credits are taken out. (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1)
- Recalculated GPA is also sometimes called **academic GPA**.



# Community Service

- Choose how you use your community service hours.
  - Don't waste them just to get the hours completed! (160 hours)
  - Try to work in an area in which you think you may be interested.
- Be creative.
- Use the summer wisely.
- Check the bulletin board outside my office for opportunities.

# Extracurricular Activities

- Remember that you are building a high school resume.
  - Colleges are looking for more than good grades—they want well-rounded students.
- Take on any leadership positions for which you are suited.
  - School
  - Church
  - Employment
- Step up and shine!

# Florida Bright Futures

- This scholarship is funded by the lottery.
- Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)
  - Public--\$125 per semester hour at 4 year, \$86 per semester hour at 2 year
  - Private--Fixed award amount based on the agreement the state has with the school.
  - Some Christian schools honor Bright Futures.
    - Covenant and Southeastern

# Florida Bright Futures

- Grade Point Average (GPA):
  - 3.5 based on the following courses:
    - 4 English, 4 Math, 3 Natural Sciences, 3 Social Sciences, 2 Foreign Languages or 16 credits
  - SAT score of 1270 (Verbal and Math)
  - ACT score of 28
  - Community Service:
    - 75 hours
- GPA's are not rounded. Either they have it or they don't.

# Florida Bright Futures

- Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)
  - Public--\$94 per semester hour at 4 year, \$77 per semester hour at 2 year
  - Private—Fixed award amount based on the agreement the state has with the school.
  - Florida Bright Futures no longer covers 100% at any institution. It is a flat dollar amount.

# Florida Bright Futures

- Grade Point Average (GPA):
  - 3.0 based on the following courses:
    - 4 English, 4 Math, 3 Natural Sciences, 3 Social Sciences, 2 Foreign Languages or 16 credits
  - SAT score of 970 (Verbal and Math)
  - ACT score of 20
  - Community Service:
    - None required

# Florida Bright Futures

- To receive the Florida Bright Futures, you must fill out the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org).
- This releases transcripts and test scores to FBF.
- I will put in all the grades—you fill out the FFAA.
- You will be notified if your student qualifies.
- Your college will be notified, and the money will be applied on their end.

# Money for College

- Pre-Paid
- Loans
  - Subsidized Loans—The government pays the interest.
  - Unsubsidized Loans—You pay the interest.
  - Loans accrue interest the entire time—payments begin 6 months after college is finished.
  - The government determines your EFC.



# Money for College

- Grants
- Scholarships
  - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - [www.college.net](http://www.college.net)
  - [www.srnexpress.com](http://www.srnexpress.com)
  - [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com)
  - [www.wiredscholar.com](http://www.wiredscholar.com)
  - [www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)
- Work Study

# A Helpful Tip

- Be really careful about the types of pictures and content you choose for your Facebook or MySpace. College representatives search these places for prospective students. Make sure you truly represent who you are and what you're about on the Internet
- Choose a college based on what you want in the future, not on the cool mascot, cool colors, or where your friends are going.

# Dates to Remember

- October 28: Facebook Seminar
- November 13: Mock SAT Test, 9-1pm.
- November 20: Mock ACT Test, 9-1pm.
- November 24-26: Thanksgiving Break
- December 17: End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
- April 22-29: Easter Break
- May 31: Last day of school

# Helpful Websites

- Information on SAT:  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- Information on ACT: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
- Information on colleges and future plans:  
[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- Educational testing information:  
[www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)
- College Athletics: [www.naia.org](http://www.naia.org)
- National Collegiate Athletic Association:  
[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

# Helpful Websites

- College and career news:  
[www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com)
- Information regarding various majors:  
[www.majorsexplored.com](http://www.majorsexplored.com)
- Choosing a major: [www.mymajors.com](http://www.mymajors.com)
- Federal Pin Number: [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)
- Federal Student Aid on the web:  
[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)
- US Department of Education:  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)