JUNIOR PREVIEW

with College Counseling

September 14, 2023
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Beware of the lady in the dog park
Class of 2025: A Sneak Preview

- Who we are and what we do
- Resources
- Timeline for Juniors
- All about Testing
  - PSAT
  - SAT vs. ACT
- Dates to Remember
College Counseling:
Who we are and What We Do
College Counseling: Who we are and What We Do – by Season

Fall (Aug – Dec 15): Focus on Seniors

- 1-on-1 meetings with seniors reviewing college lists, their applications, all their essays
- Host the PSAT for George School Juniors*: October X, 2023
- Guide seniors towards meeting early deadlines (Oct. 15, Nov 1, Nov 15, Dec 1)
- Meeting with the 85 college representatives that visit GS to showcase George School and connect with those who will read our GS student applications
- Host evening events related to the college process

Winter (Jan – March):

- Begin Meeting with juniors 1-on-1.
- GS CC Seminar for juniors
- Discuss their senior schedule and testing plan with deadlines in mind.
- Each counselor meets with their counseling group, split in half through the GS College Counseling Junior Seminar (1x per week in Feb – April)
- Hold 1-30 minute meeting with each sophomore on course planning (March)
- Host evening programming (See Past Programs: GS PORTAL)

Spring (April – June):

- The Unbranded College Fair
- Arts Panel
- Athletics Panel
- HBCU Panel
- Three Day Virtual Essay Workshop
- Interview Workshop
Resources at your fingertips: The Parent Portal
COLLEGE PLANNING

COLLEGE COUNSELING RECOMMENDS: VIDEO SERIES
- Counselor and Celebrating the Path to HBCUs Student Panel, May 2023
- Visual & Performing Arts Fair, May 2023
- Planning & Maximizing the College Visit, February 2023
- College Athletics and the Recruitment Process, May 2023
- The Truth About College Admission: A Conversation with Rick Clark, April 2022

GENERAL RESOURCE DOCUMENTS
- Standardized Test Dates & Approved Test Centers
- Tips on Navigating a College Fair
- Regional College Visit Cluster List, March 17, 2022.xlsx
- Senior HS Drug Policy

CLASS OF 2024 COLLEGE COUNSELING RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

Senior Night with College Counseling 8/32/2023
- Senior Night with College Counseling Presentation PowerPoint
- Senior Night with College Counseling Recording
- Resource Guide

Paying for College: What You Need to Know
- Payment for College: What You Need to Know, Presentation PowerPoint
- Recording: Paying for College, What You Need to Know, 8/14/2023

Scheduled College Rep Visits
- College Rep Visits as of 8/14/23

Week Ahead with College Counseling
### Phases of the College Process: 17 Months

**Junior Year**
- **Research and Testing Phase**
  - Pre-Application Phase
- **Application Phase**
- **Waiting Phase**
- **Decision Phase**

**Senior Year**
- **Reflection Phase**

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The Research Phase

- SCOIR: Your college resource portal
  - What is it? And what is it not?
- College fairs and campus tours
- College rep visits to GS
- College websites
- The Month Ahead – starting in December
College Visit Policy

- Juniors may miss two class days to visit colleges, beginning after Winter Break.
- Seniors may miss two class days before Winter Break, and two class days after Winter Break.
- College visit days must be requested in REACH at least two school days before the planned absence, before 4:00 PM.
College Counseling Timeline for Juniors

- **Now – November 3:** Visit with College Reps at GS
- **October 5:** *The Testing Landscape* virtual program with Compass Education Group
- **October 20:** PSAT
- **November 16:** Junior Kickoff with College Counseling!
- **December 15:** College Counselor assignments announced
- **January:** Start meeting with your college counselor one-on-one (meetings continue all spring and next year!)
- **February–April:** Junior College Counseling Seminars
- **March 9:** Take your first SAT
- **Spring:** Lots of programs. Stay tuned!
Timeline for Juniors

- **9/14:** Junior Preview
- **10/5:** The Testing Landscape presentation
- **10/11-11/3:** Meet with college reps at GS
- **10/20:** Junior Kickoff with College Counseling
- **12/15:** College Counselor assigned
- **3/9:** Take your first SAT
- **11/16:** Junior Kickoff with College Counseling
- **12/15:** College Counselor assigned
- **January:** Start one-on-one meetings with your college counselor
- **Spring:** Regular meetings with your counselor, college counseling seminars, and more!
- **Summer:** Relax and recharge. Get a job, go to camp, take a class. College visits to help refine your college list
One-on-One Meetings: Junior Year

- Getting to know you, your interests, your goals!
- Senior courses
- Testing plan
- College Research
- Develop your college list
- Financial Aid
- Your Questions
One-on-One Meetings: Senior Year

Refine & Confirm your college list

Confirm Application Plan & Deadlines

Review your Common App

Review your college essay & school specific supplemental essays

Review/Revise your testing plan

Advise on Financial Aid

Review Expectations, Procedures & Policies

Your questions
Our Approach to testing

- Testing is NOT the most important part of the college process
  - 3.5 hours vs. 3.5 years
- But, it is still a part of the college process
- You don’t know if it will be for you unless you take a test
- We want to help you feel prepared
What is the PSAT?

**It is...**
- a practice test for the SAT
- a way to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship
- how many colleges get your contact info

**BUT NOT YOUR SCORES**

**It is not...**
- ...sent to colleges
- ...used by colleges in the admission process
- ...an indicator of your drive or intelligence or curiosity
- ...a crystal ball that will tell you if you will get into the college of your dreams
PSAT Digital Administration

Friday, October 20th

Arrival Time: 7:30 AM

Exam Start Time: 8:00 AM

Exam End Time: 12:30 PM

Check out College Board for a free preview!
SAT or ACT?

- Equally accepted by colleges
- VERY similar tests, but some students do better on one
  - ACT has a “science” section, but it’s not really about science
- Which one do you prefer? Take a practice test!
  - SAT practice test = PSAT
  - ACT practice test = DIY online for free
Suggested Testing Timeline for (most) Juniors

✓ Thursday, October 5, 6:30–7:30pm: Compass Education Group presentation: The Testing Landscape (virtual)

✓ Friday, October 20: PSAT at GS

✓ November-ish: PSAT results arrive; start preparing for the March SAT with the GS SAT prep course (optional)

✓ March 9, 2024: Take the SAT for the first time (registration deadline Feb. 23)
  ✓ Or: ACT on February 10 or April 13
## Upcoming Test Dates

Register early! Don’t wait for the deadline!

### SAT
*register at collegeboard.org*

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<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>At GS?</th>
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<td>December 2</td>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>YES!</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>YES!</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>YES!</td>
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<td>June 1</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>No-After Exams</td>
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### ACT
*register at act.org*

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<td>April 13</td>
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<td>June 8</td>
<td>May 3</td>
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Test Transportation policy for boarders

- Boarders:
  - If a test is at GS (March and May SAT), we will NOT provide transportation to other sites.
  - If the test is NOT at GS, you must register at one of the approved sites to get transportation.
  - We will send this info to you. Please read your email and fill out the form we send you!
Test Prep At George School

- Small-group, individualized instruction to prepare you for the March SAT (and future tests too!)
- Classes run on Sundays starting late fall through early spring
- Check your email for schedule and registration info!
- Financial aid is available for students who receive aid at GS—email Nick for more info!
What can I do NOW to get into a good College?

How can I maximize my GS experience In and Out of Class?
The Testing Landscape
Thursday, October 5, 6:30-7:30pm (Zoom)

PSAT
Friday, October 20th  Arrival Time: 7:30 am

Junior Kickoff with College Counseling
Thursday, November 16th  In Person in Walton Auditorium.

Junior Student Attendance is Required. Live Streamed for Families.