College Prep

Kerri Anderson, Heidi Mercer, Kyle Meteyer and Marci Nowaczok
Timeline

Standardized Testing

- **Freshman and Sophomore Year:** PSAT 9 and PSAT 10 provides useful information about student strengths and areas of improvement.

- **October of Junior Year:** PSAT/NMSQT test is an optional test for students and the only way to be eligible for a National Merit Scholarship.

- **April of Junior Year:** The School Day SAT that all students are automatically signed up for through LOHS and is used for college admissions.

- **June of Junior Year:** Counselors typically recommend that students sign up on their own for the ACT exam.

When to Apply to College

- **Senior Year:** start applying in August and September of Senior Year. All applications should be submitted by November 1.

- **Senior Year:** Begin the FAFSA in October to determine level of aid available.

- **Senior Year:** Begin looking at local scholarships that are available in December/January. Postings are available on the LOHS website and hard copies are available in the Counseling Offices.
Helpful Parent Tips During High School

- Have your student save essay writings done in high school
- Organize events throughout the year
  - College night
  - Career day or job shadow
  - College visits
  - FAFSA night
Helpful Tips for Parents During Senior Year

- Shop Programs
- College choice could change throughout the year
- Create a student/parent contract
- Community College Classes during the summer
  - Cheaper
  - Get hard classes out of the way with lower class load
Nuts and Bolts of the Application Process

- Students need to complete the following for each school they will be applying to:
  1. Online application
  2. Transcript
  3. SAT or ACT scores

- SAT and ACT scores must be sent directly from College Board or ACT.org
On-Site Admissions

Each year, we have approximately 50 college and military recruiters who come to the high school to do presentations for interested students. Students in all grades are welcome to sign up to hear the recruiters talk.

Seniors are fortunate enough to sign up for On-Site Admissions interview. A student completes an application ahead of time, meets with the recruiter, and learns that very day if they have been accepted by the university or college. Not many high school provide this wonderful opportunity; we are proud at Lake Orion High School to be able to offer on-site interview for our interested students.

Schools who have conducted on-site interviews in the past: Eastern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Lawrence Technological University, Grand Valley State University, Michigan Technological University, and Northern Michigan University.
How to Find the Official Transcripts

- Go to www.lakeorionschools.org
- Go to Lake Orion High School – then to Counseling
- Along the left side find – Transcript Request
- Students use a website called Parchment. All transcripts can be sent via Parchment at www.parchment.com
- For students using the Common Application, a counselor will upload transcripts and Parchment will not be necessary
Anxiety

- Often happens during junior year
- Some reasons why:
  - SAT/ACT testing
  - Worried about what colleges to apply to
  - Reality about getting accept to college
  - Reality sets in about school ending and leaving home
Important Dates

- **August**: Students should start looking at applications online and start writing essays. If students decide to apply to a Common Application school, the earlier, the better.

- **September**: Counselors meet with 12th grade students individually to discuss options, applications, transcripts, and financial aid.

- **September**: FAFSA Night at LOHS

- **October**: FAFSA applications can be completed

- **November**: Early Action deadline

- **December/January**: Local scholarship application applications become available

- **November-April**: Visit campus again if undecided, consider financial aid packages, and put down deposits to school of choice
Additional Resource

www.lakeorion360.org
Passcode: lakeorion
Lots of resources around college prep on this website
Questions?

Thank you for coming tonight.

For tonight’s PowerPoint you can find it on our district website at: