



COLLEGE & CAREER BULLETIN

October 8, 2020

UPCOMING MLHS EVENTS:

October 8: *Financial Aid Night at 7pm*, hosted by Ed Zamora from Principia Prep. This event will be held virtually. The presentation will cover the financial aid process and important items to consider while applying to college during the pandemic. Students and parents from all grades are welcome. Please register in advance for the session:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SSxiXhsvRFerIVwrv9KX0A

October 17: PSAT for registered Sophomores & Juniors.

* Missed the *Application Basics* event last week? The PowerPoint is available [HERE](#) and a recording will be posted shortly.

VIRTUAL COLLEGE VISITS:

* Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to attend visits for any college/university that they are interested in. This is a great way to demonstrate interest and learn more about the school. Registration is available on **Naviance, under the Colleges tab > Research Colleges > College Visits**. You must register 24 hours in advance. Students will have access to the virtual meeting link (posted on the Naviance College Visits page) at least 15 minutes before the start of the visit. Reminder: please turn your camera on during visits.

* Missed a college visit? You can find notes from the session on each college page in Naviance. Look for the "Counselor Comments" section.

* Students are responsible for requesting permission to miss class for a college visit. You should email your teacher *at least* one day in advance.

Check out the schools visiting tomorrow:

Lehigh University

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

County College of Morris

Pace University-New York

HIGHLIGHTED VIRTUAL EVENTS:

October 8: Attend *Northeast Public Universities at a Glance* to learn more about the *University of Delaware, Binghamton University, Stony Brook University, University of Maryland, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State, University of Connecticut, and Rutgers University*. Two dates are offered. Registration is available [here](#).

October 8: *Yale Virtual Session & Current Student Conversation* for students in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Also offered on October 11. Register for 10/8 [here](#) or 10/11 [here](#).

Now through October 9: *Virtual College Exploration Week* for NJ students. Choose from 185 different presentations and information sessions. Register for sessions at <https://www.njacac.org/virtualfair/>

October 10-11: *Virginia Tech's Virtual Open House*. Registration available [here](#).

October 11: The *Jesuit Excellence Tour* college fair. Learn more Jesuit schools, including *Fairfield, Fordham, and Loyola Maryland*. Registration is available at <https://www.ajcunet.edu/jet-tour>

October 12: *Penn State's Virtual Open House*. Learn about their academic colleges, admissions, student life, and more. Registration is available [here](#).

October 12: The *National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)* is hosting a virtual college fair on 10/12 and 10/18. Over 600 colleges will

be in attendance. To register, visit <https://virtualcollegefairs.org/>. Check out [this guide](#) to prepare for the fair.

October 14: *Telling Your Story in the Time of COVID*, webinar by the *University of Notre Dame, Washington University in St. Louis, Johns Hopkins University, and Emory University*. Given impacts of COVID on the application process this year and beyond, they will talk about how to share your context in our current global climate. Registration is available [here](#).

October 15: *Drexel University* is hosting a series of webinars on portfolio preparation, exploring your academic interests, and financial aid. Learn more at: <https://drexel.edu/undergrad/visit/webinars/>

October 15: Attend the *Catholic College Admission Association* fair. Join representatives from 100+ Catholic colleges and universities to explore their programs, majors, student life and more. Registration is available [here](#).

October 24: *Northwestern's* vlog series will discuss admission interviews on 10/24. Registration is available [here](#).

OTHER VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITIES:

October 9: Priority deadline to apply to *Journey to Bucknell*. This program provides students with the opportunity to meet Bucknell faculty and attend a sample class, as well as interact with the Bucknell Admissions team and get tips on preparing your application. The application is available [here](#).

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES & FEE WAIVERS:

Davidson College, James B. Duke Scholarship: recognizes students whose academic achievement, diverse talents, work ethic, resilience, and concern for others give evidence of their capacity to make a difference in the world. The award is valued annually at full tuition + a \$5,000 special study stipend. Any Davidson applicant for admission is eligible to [apply](#).

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards: honors students in grades 5-12 for making meaningful contributions to their communities through volunteer

service. Students must submit their completed [application](#) by November 10.

Savannah College of Art and Design is offering an application fee waiver for MLHS applicants. Use code **EDU2021** to waive the \$60 fee.

OTHER RESOURCES:

[Apps 101: 9 Tips for the Activities Section](#), blog post by Tulane University

[Care Counts in Crisis: College Admissions Deans Respond to COVID-19:](#) This statement has been endorsed by leaders at more than 360 institutions across the United States. It describes what college admissions offices value and expect—and don't expect—from students during the pandemic.

[How to Choose a College That's Right for You](#), blog post by Bucknell University. This post discusses factors to consider in the college search process – and may be particularly helpful if you are just starting your search.

[Portfolio Tips](#), by the Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design

* Many families have asked how increased gap year requests due to the pandemic will impact college admission prospects for the current senior class. The majority of colleges have shared that this will not disadvantage seniors:

“Though we did grant approximately 40 gap year requests beyond our historic mean, we plan to expand the size of the Class of 2025 accordingly. Students should know that the overall probability of admission has not changed despite how different the admission process may look this year.” – Brown University

Other colleges, such as *Vanderbilt University*, expressed that they did not see much of an increase in gap year requests and shared that this shouldn't impact students applying now.

TESTING UPDATES:

Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, and SC

Johnson College of Business will not use SAT/ACT results as a part of their admissions review for students seeking admission for Fall 2021. Learn more [here](#).

A list of “test-blind” colleges/universities - institutions that will not consider ACT/SAT scores, even if submitted – is available [here](#).

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to schedule an appointment to discuss college and career questions, please contact Mrs. Nicholson at cnicholson@mlschools.org or (973) 334-8580 ext. 5243.

SENIOR CLASS:

Reminders:

* Submit the [Transcript Request Form](#) to your counselor *at least 3 weeks before* your first college deadline. **If you have a November 1 deadline, this form must be submitted by Monday (10/12).**

* Return the [Release of Records](#) form. This form authorizes Guidance to release your transcript information to colleges. Email a signed copy of the form to your counselor.

* Submit the **Student Brag Sheet** for your counselor recommendation. This can be found on Naviance in the About Me tab > Surveys.

* Make sure that your parent/guardian has completed the **Parent Brag Sheet**, available in the parent account under the About Me tab > Surveys > Surveys Not Started.

* Make sure that your recommendation requests are in Naviance.

* Need help? Here are some of the things that Mrs. Nicholson can assist you with:

- Finalizing an appropriate list of colleges
- Preparing for interviews
- Brainstorming, reviewing, and revising college essays
- Reviewing and editing applications

Email Mrs. Nicholson at cnicholson@mlschools.org to set up an appointment.