# Junior Night

Planning for your future. Understanding your options.

### Welcome & Introductions

- Missy Jewell, Principal
- Jordan Ashman, School Counselor A-L
- Marjorie McKinery, School Counselor M-Z
- ▶ Jen Rudolph, Director, Pre College Opportunity Programs, Cornell University
- Cell phones on vibrate
- Ask questions as they come up

#### Purpose & Goals

- Gather information
- Understand your options
- Begin to create a plan to chart your process
- Ultimately: preparing for your life and career path



This presentation contains a LOT of information! While it may feel overwhelming, know that you have time on your side and people to support you.

Presentation on school website - green underlined Hyperlinks to websites

<u>Biggest Piece of Advice:</u> make decisions when you have to decide. Until you MUST decide you should be focused on exploration, gathering information & creating options for yourself.

### Overview of the evening

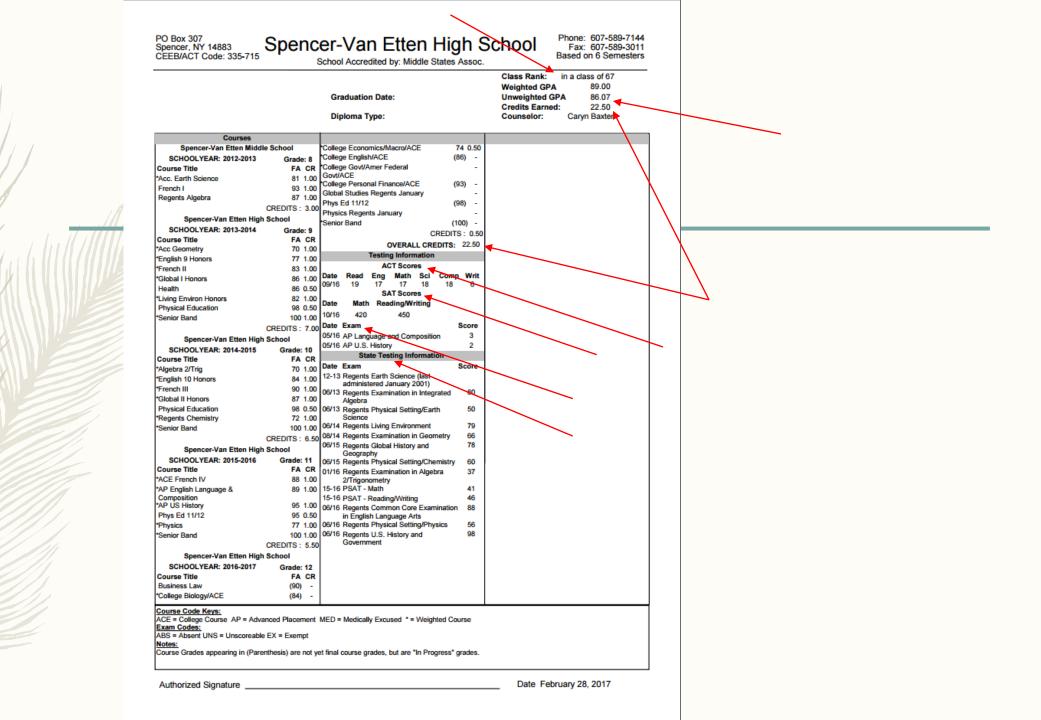
- ▶ Where we've been & where we're going...
- What are your options?
- What should you be taking into consideration?
  - How to explore your options.
  - Questions to ask yourself.
- Preparing for your future career
  - Job exploration
  - Military Service
  - College
- More Tips & Advice
- ▶ Q & A

#### Where we've been & where we're going...



Explore and begin to narrow your focus.

Where we've been : Transcript Review



#### To Do:

- Choose a test: SAT / ACT
  - SAT : Reading / Critical Thinking / Math / Writing ~ Optional
    - Subject Tests
  - ACT : Reading / Critical Thinking / Math / Science
- Register Online
  - Fee waivers available for families with limited income
    - ► Free / Reduced Price Lunch Eligible
  - ► Take in May / June
  - Retake (if necessary) August / October of Senior Year
- DO take the test! Create the OPTION!

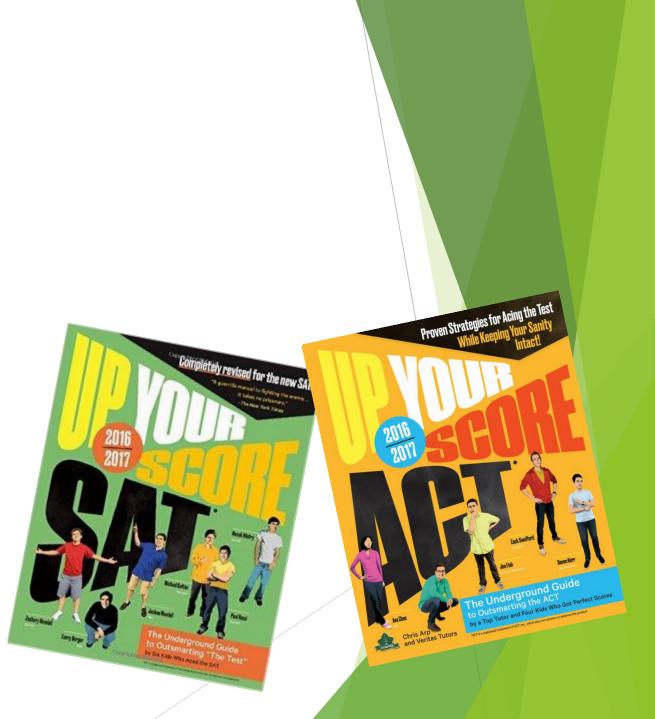
### **Testing Information**

**SAT Dates:** 

- March 10<sup>th</sup> TEST = February 9<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline
- ▶ May 5<sup>th</sup> TEST = April 6<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline
- ► June 2<sup>nd</sup> TEST = May 3<sup>rd</sup> Registration Deadline

#### ACT Dates:

- April 14<sup>th</sup> TEST = March 9<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline
- ► June 10<sup>th</sup> TEST = May 5<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline
- Study Resources: Online, Books, Study Groups
  - Be truthful & mindful in your plans to prepare
  - Build it into your routine / schedule
  - www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat



## **Exploring Your Options**

What will you do after you graduate?

- Get a Job
- Join the military
- Go to College
- ► Take a "Gap Year"

#### What to consider:

- Long Term Goals: What type of life do you want to create for yourself?
  - What is important to you?
    - Family? Adventure? Financial Security? Time? Material Things? Service to Others?
- Short Term Goals: What are your current priorities & needs?
  - ► Now → April 2019
  - These will change / fluctuate. Know what they are, keep updating & evaluating.
    - ► Family circumstances, health, financial considerations, opportunities, etc

#### To Do:

#### Long term goal evaluation:

- Imagine yourself at 30, 50, 75 years old: where do you want to be in your life?
  - Brainstorm your goals
  - Define your values
- Leave room for them to change & grow

#### Short term goal evaluation:

- Map out the next 14 months: how do you want to wrap up your high school career?
  - Brainstorm your "to do" list : have to & want to
  - Define your priorities
- Work your process : How do you process?
  - Write? Talk? Draw?
  - Revisit and refine often

### Ultimate Goal: Preparing for life & your career path.

- How do you choose what you want to do for a job/career?
  - Consider: How do you want to spend your time?
    - Days / Weeks / Years
      - Do you want to do the same thing for decades?
      - > Do you want to grow in your career path / create opportunities to change jobs / get promoted?
      - > Punch a clock? Work until the job is done?
  - Consider : What type of work do you enjoy?
    - Working with people? Alone? Sitting inside? Moving outside? Making decisions? Doing what's asked?
  - Consider : What education / training is needed?
  - Consider : What will the demand be for this type of job?
  - Consider : Financial Outlook / Earning Potential

Use information from your long term goal reflection!

Unemployment rate in 2014	Level of education completed	Mean (average) earnings in 2014
9.0%	Less than a high school diploma	\$30,108
6.0%	High school graduate, no college	\$43,056
6.0%	Some college, no degree	\$48,984
4.3%	Occupational program (career school)	\$48,152
4.6%	Associate degree (academic program)	\$52,364
3.5%	Bachelor's degree	\$74,308
2.8%	Master's degree	\$88,036
2.1%	Doctoral degree (e.g., Ph.D.)	\$105,456
1.9%	Professional degree (e.g., M.D., J.D.)	\$124,904

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, unpublished tables, 2015

### **Career Exploration Resources**

- Many online sites!
  - StudentAid.gov/careersearch
  - ► <u>NY State Career Zone</u>
  - ► <u>O\*NET</u>
  - ► <u>Naviance</u>
- ▶ Job Shadow  $\rightarrow$  Mrs. Ott @ SVE HS each Thursday
- Talk to people you know / Talk to people that know YOU!

#### Getting to that job...

- Go directly to work after graduation
  - > Young, able bodied now  $\rightarrow$  think 20 years from now
  - Consider benefits / retirement options
    - ► Health insurance
    - Other perks (company car, child care assistance, education /training programs, etc)
    - Retirement accounts or pensions?
- Get training or education
  - Military
    - ▶ Talk to local recruiter
    - ▶ Talk to someone you know / a friend knows hear their story
    - Fully understand your commitment / expectations
    - ▶ How will your experience prepare you for your future career / life

### **College : Basics**

#### ► <u>Types of Colleges</u>:

- > 2 Year / 4 Year
- Public / Private / Career (Technical/Vocational)
- International
- Types of Degrees:
  - Certificate
  - Associates (Arts / Science)
  - Bachelors (BA / BS)
  - Masters (MA / MS)
  - Doctoral (PhD)
  - Professional Degree (MD, JD)

### Majors / Minors

- Direct Training
  - ▶ Turbine Mechanic, Teaching Certificate, Nursing Degree
- Indirect Preparation
  - Human Development, English, Graphic Design
- Pre Professional Programs
  - Pre Medicine, Pre Law, Pre Veterinary Studies
  - Prepare for advance study
- Your choice in major <u>can</u> or <u>can not</u> lead you directly to your career/job
- May require additional education / training (ex. NY State Teacher)
- Side note: your resume & experience is also very important

### What are colleges looking for?

- > Your application review:
  - Academic Transcript
    - ► GPA
    - Class Rank
    - Course Load / Academic Rigor
  - SAT / ACT Test Scores
  - Letters of Recommendation
  - Essay / Supplemental Required Writings
  - Activities / Involvement / Resume
  - Community Service (icing on the cake!)
- Certain Major / Program Requirements
  - Ex. Nursing major may require 75 in chemistry, etc.

### How do you choose a college?

- Academic Programs (Majors / Minors)
  - At least 3 you're interested in
  - Competitiveness
  - Requirements for entry
  - Space in the program / # cap
- Activities / Opportunities
  - Most schools have the broad range of basics, some are very unique
    - Study Abroad
    - Internship Programs
    - Athletics

- Clubs
- Specialty Mission (service, sustainability, etc.)
- Specialty Programs
  - Honors
  - Higher / Educational Opportunity Programs



### How do you choose a college?

#### Location

- Close to home? Live at home?
- Far away? Drive? Fly? Train?
- City / Suburb / Rural / International

#### Size

- Campus / College
  - Small < 2,000</p>
  - Medium 2,001 15,000
  - ▶ Large > 15,001
  - (Xtra Large > 30,000+)
- Course / Program
  - Classes with 150 + students vs. classes with 15 students
  - Faculty to Student Ratio

### How do you choose a college?

#### Cost

- At first = last thing to consider
- At decision time = one of the most important considerations
- Considerations about the cost of college:
  - Cost of Attendance
    - ▶ Tuition, Room & Board, Fees
    - Books, Transportation, Spending Money, etc.
  - ▶ <u>Net Price Calculator</u>
  - Sticker Price: Private vs. Public Colleges & Community College vs. 4 Year College
    - Do not make decisions based on the sticker price!
    - > Always apply create the OPTION wait to decide until you have complete information

### **Quick Points on Financing College**

- ► All Students fill out the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - Use 2016 Taxes be sure to keep a copy handy!
  - Application Open October 1 of Senior Year
  - Option to "auto fill" info from IRS website
- ► All NY State Students fill out the Tuition Assistance Program (<u>TAP</u>) Application
  - ▶ Button at end of FAFSA  $\rightarrow$  TAP Application will "auto fill"
- These two applications will tell you how much grant aid & loan aid you are eligible for from the US Gov't & State Gov't.
  - Grants = "Free" money you don't (typically) have to pay back
    - Some grants come with stipulations: required work, required gpa, etc.
  - Loans = money you borrow & have to pay back
    - Subsidized: interest does not begin to accrue until you're done with your schooling
    - Unsubsidized: interest begins accruing as soon as you get it / use it
  - Work-Study: Money you get from a job you apply for / work while at college

### **Quick Points on Financing College**

- College Scholarship Service Profile (<u>CSS Profile</u>)
- Other College Requirements / Program Requirements
  - Thoroughly review your college's Financial Aid Webpage
  - > Applying to special programs may require additional info / separate submission
- Begin Scholarship Search NOW!
- After you apply to the college & submit your FAFSA, TAP, CSS Profile, etc
  - Receive your Financial Aid Package
    - Can include Grants, Loans, Scholarships
    - Be SURE to understand it ASK for help!
    - > Your Aid package can be appealed!
  - Follow up is important!
    - May be asked for verification
    - ▶ Keep up with your email / mail

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### Researching Colleges : Resources & Tips

Tons of online sites:

#### ► <u>Naviance</u>

- College Board
- Go to the college website
- Create a comparison chart / matrix
  - Things that are important to you
  - How do they compare
- Track dates / Deadlines
  - Admissions, Financial Aid, Additional Documents, Specialty Programs
  - Create your own timeline

#### Stay Organized!

### Researching Colleges : Tips

- Junior Year: 10 colleges you're interested in
  - Reach
  - Target
  - Safe

If you can  $\rightarrow G_0^{\circ}$  Academically & Financially

- Definitely visit before you deposit / enroll
- Begin your applications during the summer
  - Common Application
  - SUNY Application
- Start a draft of your essay(s) get them edited / reviewed!
- Start of Senior Year: 4-6 colleges you'll apply to
  - Fee waivers available for families with limited income
    - ▶ Talk with Ms. McKinery or Mr. Ashman
  - ▶ Talk to teachers that can / will be a good recommender for you
    - Follow up early and often!

#### Final thoughts & advice

- Embrace the unknown! Discover FACTS.
- > Don't paralyze your process with fear: of failure, of the unknown, of fear...
- Start NOW!
  - Update your resume, identify recommenders, look at essay prompts
  - Research options, talk about your process / thoughts
- ▶ REMEMBER: Create OPTIONS, keep your doors and windows OPEN.
  - ▶ Know when you have to make decisions & delay the decisions until then
  - LOTS will change as you move through this process
- Take this process & your Senior Year seriously.
- Ask for the help you need!

#### Questions?!

