

Welcome to Junior Parent Night!

HMTCA
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6:30 PM

School Counseling Department

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Tonight's Agenda

- Post-Secondary Options
- Junior Planning Activities & Timeline
- Standardized Tests & Test Preparation
- College/Career Resources Available
- Jr. Planning Meetings with Counselors
- Naviance
- Important Upcoming Events
- Q & A

Post High School Options

- Four Year College
- Two Year College
- Technical School
- Gap Year
- Military
- Employment

Important Upcoming Events

- Individual Student Meetings (February-April)
- Course Selection (March & April)
- CT school-based SAT (Wednesday, March 25th)
- National College Fair in Hartford (Tuesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 1) *HMTCA is taking all juniors on 4/1*

Why is junior year so important?

- Colleges will look for:
 - End of junior year transcript and GPA
 - Evidence of improvement, demonstrate positive trend over previous years
 - Consistent participation in extracurricular activities
- Senior year grades and courses are also important and will be viewed by colleges!

Junior Planning Meetings (February- April)

- Juniors will be scheduled for an individual planning meeting during the school day with their school counselor sometime from February to April.
- Topics to be covered include:
 - High school reflection and transcript review
 - Planning for senior courses
 - Review PSAT results and discuss strategy and timeline for SATs/ACTs
 - College and career planning

PSAT Scores

- Scores from the October PSAT were released to students online in mid-December.
 - Students have been encouraged to log into their collegeboard accounts and check their scores.
 - All students have created their College Board account:
 - MUST BE student information
 - Only ONE account
- Check CollegeBoard.org for most updated information about PSAT scores.
- Connect scores to Khan Academy for free SAT prep!
- We encourage parents to review the test scores too

Standardized Testing: SATs

- The SAT
 - 3 Subtests: Evidence-based Reading and Writing, Math, Essay (optional).
 - Not all colleges require testing! (fairtest.org)
- The SAT Subject Tests
 - Only a handful of colleges require subject tests
 - If you need to take a subject test for admission, take it at the completion of the course (May or June)



Standardized Testing: ACTs

- The ACT is another college entrance exam that can be submitted in lieu of the SAT
 - It includes five subtests: English, Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing (optional)
 - We recommend taking it with writing, just in case you need it
 - The scoring is different from the SAT (1-36)



In School Test Dates

- **SAT:** will be administered to all HMTCA juniors during the school day on Wednesday, March 25th.
 - Scores are reportable to colleges.
 - Does NOT include Writing section.
 - Is **REQUIRED** for graduation.
 - Students are automatically registered and paid for by the district for **THIS** test date only!
- **ASVAB:** military entrance exam *and testing your skills*
 - Offered at HMTCA
 - Thursday, February 26th at 8:00 AM
 - Contact Ms. Tamburro to sign up!

Let's take a deeper look at the Junior Planning Packet

Lots of useful information inside!

College/Career Resources: College & Career Center

- School Counselors and College/career center
- Naviance support and other online resources
- The College Board website
- Admission rep visits in the fall

College/Career Resources: Naviance

- Naviance is a comprehensive online program that HMTCA subscribes to that assists students and their families in all aspects of college and career planning.

The screenshot shows the Naviance Student dashboard for a user named Dan Aguirre-Flores. The browser address bar shows the URL <https://student.naviance.com/main>. The dashboard header includes the Naviance logo, the user's name, and navigation links for Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. A welcome message "Welcome, Dan!" is displayed, along with a search bar for colleges and a "SEARCH" button. Below the header, there are two main sections: "Planning for your future" and "My Favorites".

Planning for your future

Time to plan your future and explore the education and training options that fit your future goals.

- [Research careers and colleges](#)

[Read more](#)

My Favorites

- [COLLEGES](#)
I'm thinking about
- [COLLEGES](#)
I'm applying to
- [CAREERS AND CLUSTERS](#)
I'm thinking about

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system tray with the date and time: 8:05 AM, 2/5/2019.

Naviance Tutorial

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://student.naviance.com/hartford>. The page features a teal header with the Naviance logo and the text "Naviance | Student". Below the header, the Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy logo is displayed, which includes a blue circular emblem with a white silhouette of a person and the text "Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy".

The main content area contains the following text and form elements:

- Welcome to Naviance Student**
- Please log in. Your username is your student ID. Your password is your birthdate (YYYYMMDD).
- Email or Username**: A text input field.
- Password**: A text input field.
- Remember me
- Login**: A teal button.

On the right side of the page, the following contact information is provided:

- Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy**
- 53 VERNON ST.
- HARTFORD , CT 06106
- p: (860)695-7201
- hmtca.hartfordschools.org
- [Privacy Policy](#)

Naviance

- Naviance and links within the Naviance system will allow you to do the following:
 - Research colleges and conduct an individualized college search
 - Compare your academic profile with former HMTCA applicants
 - Students and parents receive emails about important deadlines, events, and special opportunities
 - Obtain financial aid and scholarship information
 - Complete a resume
 - Complete a personality assessment
 - Research careers and majors
 - Links to college resources
 - Keep track of your college applications
 - Keep track of college rep visits to HMTCA
 - Communicate with your counselor!

The College Search: Where should students start?

- Run a preliminary search using Naviance and CollegeBoard
- Helpful information to consider when researching:
 - GPA, course requirements, test scores, majors, location, cost
- Develop a broad list of schools (likely, ballpark, reach)
- Start visiting colleges:
 - Consider size, location, atmosphere, student body, and special programs
 - It is best to visit colleges while they are in session.
 - Take advantage of school vacations!
- This will be covered in junior planning TrinPrep

Where should students be by the fall?

- Know which post-secondary option they would like to pursue and the necessary requirements.
- If they plan to attend college...
 - A list of 6-8 prospective schools
 - Have taken the SAT/ACT (send scores in on time!)
 - Have visited a few colleges
 - Have completed a resume and brag sheets
 - Identify teachers to ask for letters of recommendation
 - Have begun working on their essay over the summer
 - Have your student see their counselor for help as often as needed!

College Admission Trends

- State schools continue to grow in popularity and competitiveness, especially UConn!
- Increase in applicants to CT community colleges
 - With specific majors/criteria, option to transfer to UConn (Guaranteed Admission Program) or to CT State Universities (Transfer Ticket Program)
- Most competitive colleges have not seen a drop in enrollment
 - Important to have target and safety schools!
- Increase in Early Decision (ED) & Early Action (EA) applicants
- College costs continue to rise. Get a heads up on college costs early (check out Net Price Calculator)

Financing College

- Financial Aid Night – Fall of senior year. Date TBD
- Start searching for scholarships online in the fall/winter of senior year
 - Search engines (ex. Fastweb.com) and Naviance
- Individual College Financial Aid pages
- Two types of financial aid:
 - Need based
 - Non-need based (merit aid)
- Student Loans - Be aware and be careful

[Article on how to get more financial aid for college](#)

Types of Aid

Need-Based Aid

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Financial aid packages:
 - Grants/scholarships
 - Work study
 - Loans
- CSS Profile (collegeboard.org)
- Some scholarships need FAFSA information

Merit-Based Aid

- Scholarships for students colleges want to recruit (athletes/musicians/etc.) or who meet academic standards (merit based).
- Some scholarships are automatically offered, while others need to be applied for.
- Local, state, national and private scholarships
 - Look on Naviance

Options in review

- Four Year College
- Two Year College
 - Option to transfer to a four-year school after
- Technical School
 - Career specific, hands-on training
- Gap Year
 - Travel, Community Work, AmeriCorps, etc.
- Military
 - Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy
- Employment

Help your student keep it in perspective...

- Maintain balance as much as possible.
- Study hard but have fun too!
 - Participate in activities you enjoy most.
- Begin the process early so you don't get overwhelmed.
- Take your time on making final decisions about colleges.
 - Remember that there are many potential matches for you, you don't have to find *“the one.”*
- You don't have to have the whole journey mapped out, only the next few steps.
- Ask for help and clarification when needed!

Moving forward, who does what?!

	Student	Parent
Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take control of the process!• Attend the Junior TrinPreps• Begin researching now to develop a plan (and backup!)• Initiate contact with colleges or programs of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage students to self-advocate and communicate with the college admissions offices directly• Prepare your child for the possibility of disappointment• Give them realistic expectations of your part in paying for college
Don't	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask your parents to make appointments/phone calls or complete applications for you• Wait until senior year to begin your research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call the college admissions offices• Register the student for the SATs/ACTs• Complete their applications or write their essays for them

Questions?

This presentation will be posted on our website.

Thank you!

Please fill out the feedback evaluation and leave it outside Trinity Hall.