



College Planning Night for Juniors

For Students & Parents!

December 3, 2014
Las Lomas High School
Presented by
Counseling Department and College/Career Center



Welcome Students & Parents!

Presentation Overview

- ➔ Student Responsibility/Parent Responsibility
- ➔ Understanding Post-High School Options
- ➔ Resources



The Formula For Success

YOU, the student



What's the magic recipe to get into a good college?

- ➔ Prepare Yourself
- ➔ Challenge Yourself
- ➔ Search Yourself
- ➔ Be Yourself
- ➔ Show Resilience
- ➔ Applying to college is an act of personal integrity



Where to Start?

How can I help my child?

Student Responsibility

What am I doing this summer? This spring?

Students! Shop for your "perfect" college!



Parent's Responsibility

- ➔ Mentor your child to look for the “best fit” option
- ➔ Discuss your financial options regarding paying for college
- ➔ Listen
- ➔ Provide support



Student's Responsibility

- ⇒ Think about classes you like
- ⇒ Ask yourself what you want in a college
- ⇒ Sign up to take ACT/SAT in the spring
- ⇒ Visit colleges to create list of desired attributes



What is Naviance?

- ➔ A web-based program offering a database of post-high school programs
- ➔ A communication tool
 - Order transcripts
 - Request letters of recommendation
 - Alerts for up-and-coming workshops, presentations, and important information
 - Lists of college representative visits and sign-ups
 - Up-to-date scholarship lists



How do I get on Naviance?

- <http://connection.naviance.com/laslomas>
- If you have not already registered, visit Ellen Smith in the College/Career Center to get started.
- See Ellen Smith to reset your username or password.



Timeline

- ➔ Feb. 2015 – Pick classes for senior year
- ➔ Spring 2015 – Junior appointment with counselor; colleges recommended
- ➔ Spring/Fall 2015 – SAT and/or ACT
- ➔ Summer 2015 – Narrow down college list
- ➔ September 2015 – “College Night for Seniors”
- ➔ Fall 2015 – Apply to 4-year college

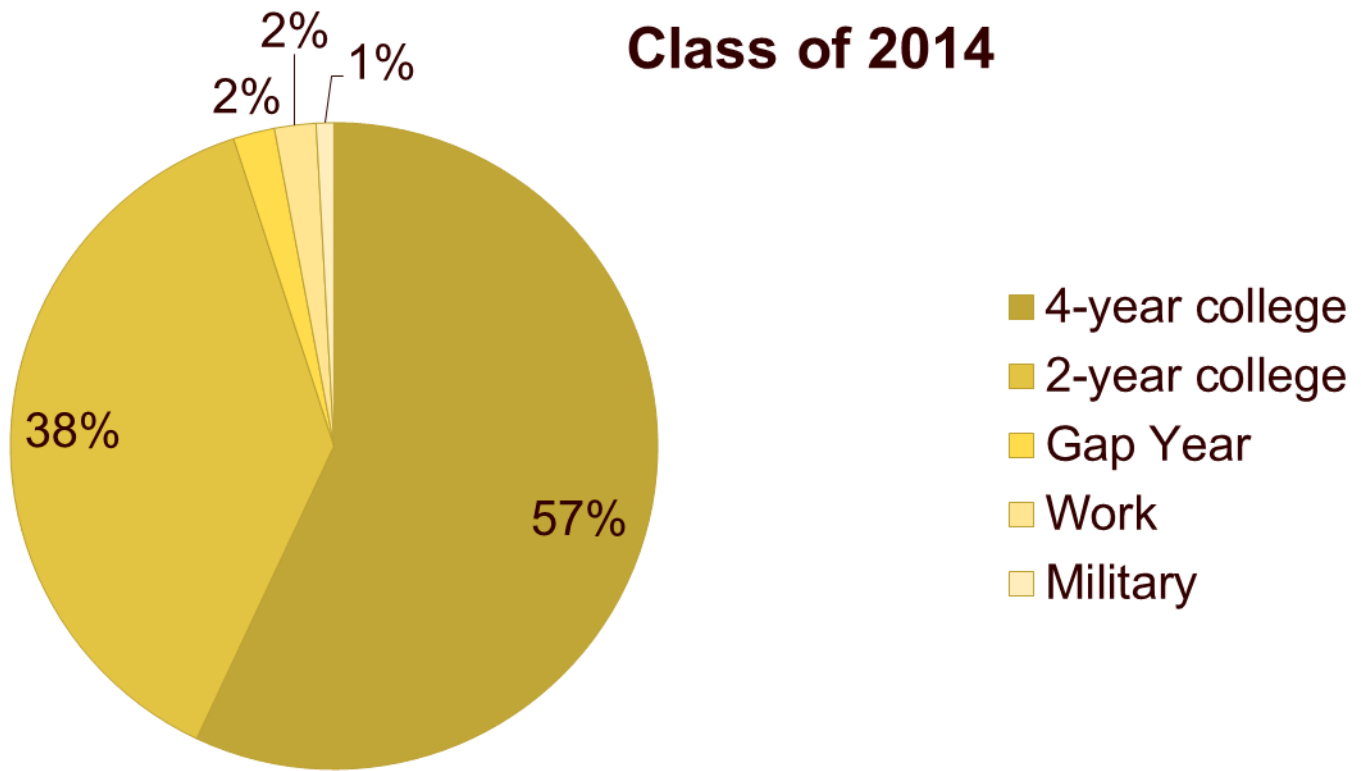


What Options Exist?

- ➔ Specialty School
- ➔ Community College
- ➔ 4-year College/University
- ➔ Work force
- ➔ Military
- ➔ Gap year

LIFE AFTER LAS LOMAS

Where do Las Lomas students go after graduation?





Specialty Schools

- ➔ Schools in dedicated fields
 - Health Care
 - Culinary Arts
 - Automotive Technology
 - Arts
- ➔ Admission policies vary
- ➔ Apply spring of senior year
- ➔ Be sure accredited in field



Community College

- ⇒ 112 campuses to choose from www.cccco.edu
- ⇒ Associate Degree & Vocational Certificate Programs are offered
 - Career oriented programs www.baccc.org
- ⇒ Transfer programs to 4-year colleges
- ⇒ Must be a high school graduate or 18 years old to attend
- ⇒ Math and English assessment test required
- ⇒ No SAT or ACT required for admission or transfer
- ⇒ Apply in the spring of your senior year



4-Year College Admissions

- ⇒ LLHS graduation requirements are different from 4-year college admission requirements!!
- ⇒ Possible criteria for admission:
 - Grade of a “C” or higher in required courses
 - Rigorous Coursework
 - Standardized Tests (SAT/ACT)
 - Extracurricular activities and awards/honors
 - Essays/Personal Statements
 - Letters of Recommendation



Admission Options

➔ Early Decision/Early Action

- For the student who is sure of his/her interest in attending a specific college
- Apply early, hear back early
- Early Decision is binding, Early Action is not
- Early Decision not recommended if applying for financial aid
- NOT easier to get in



More Admission Options

➔ Regular Decision

- Apply by established deadline, receive response after several months

➔ Rolling Admissions

- Application reviewed after receipt, and student notified within weeks
- Acceptances sent on ongoing basis



UC/CSU Required “A-G” Courses

- a) **History/Social Science** – 2 years required
- b) **English** – 4 years required
- c) **Mathematics** – 3 years required, *4 years recommended*
- d) **Laboratory Science** – 2 years required, *3 years recommended*
- e) **Language Other Than English** – 2 years required, *3 years recommended*
- f) **Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)** – 1 year required
- g) **College Preparatory Electives** – 1 year required

*View LLHS “A-G” approved course list:

<https://doorways.ucop.edu/list/>



California State University (CSU)

⇒ Admission based on:

- “A-G” courses
- GPA (minimum 2.0 required--see Eligibility Index)
- SAT Reasoning or ACT test score
- No essay or recommendations required or accepted

⇒ Application period Oct. 1- Nov. 30



California State University

- ➔ Impacted means more applications are received than freshman spots available at that campus resulting in increased competitiveness.
- ➔ Local area CSU' s: East Bay and SFSU
- ➔ Non impacted campuses may have impacted programs
- ➔ Visit <http://calstate.edu/SAS/impactioninfo.shtml> to determine impacted majors/campuses



California State University

- ⇒ College Placement/Assessment Testing
 - Early Assessment Program (EAP)
 - Will be included in the 11th grade testing, spring 2015
 - Entry Level Math (ELM) and English Placement Test (EPT)



California State University

⇒ www.csumentor.edu

- Check out the “Matching Assistant” & “Planning for College” tool!

⇒ www.csumentor.edu/Planning/high_school/cal_residents.asp

- CSU Eligibility Index

⇒ www.assist.org

- Helpful college comparison site with majors and career info



University of California (UC)

- ⇒ Admission based on a comprehensive review of:
 - “A-G” courses
 - GPA (minimum 3.0 GPA)
 - SAT or ACT score
 - Extracurricular activities and honors/awards
 - Personal Statement
 - No letters of recommendation required or accepted
- ⇒ SAT subject tests recommended (not required) for some majors
 - <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html>



University of California (UC)

- ➔ Application period Nov. 1 - Nov. 30
- ➔ Holistic Review
 - A holistic review consists of a comprehensive assessment of all information provided on the application
- ➔ Eligibility Calculator:
www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/scholarshipreq



Private Universities

- ➔ Campuses vary in admission policies & deadlines
- ➔ Admissions criteria: Check with individual campus!
 - Most require SAT or ACT
 - Most require essays, letters of recommendation & official transcript
 - Subject Tests may be required
 - Extracurricular activities and honors/awards



Private Universities

→ Common application

- www.commonapp.org
- Application available August of senior year

→ Helpful websites:

- www.aiccu.edu
- www.californiacolleges.edu
- www.collegeboard.com



Out of State Public Schools

- ➔ Check individual admission policies and deadlines!
- ➔ SAT or ACT usually required
- ➔ Extracurricular activities and awards/honors may be considered
- ➔ May require essays and letters of recommendation



College Entrance Exams

- ⇒ SAT Reasoning Test and Subject Tests
-- www.collegeboard.com
- ⇒ ACT -- www.actstudent.org
- ⇒ Recommended to take SAT or ACT in the Spring of junior year
- ⇒ Practice SAT/ACT offered at LL Feb. 28, 2015
See Ellen Smith after Jan 5 to sign up.



Things to keep in mind....

- ➔ VISIT, VISIT, VISIT!
 - Take a tour of various campuses and request information
- ➔ Narrow down your choices
- ➔ Competitive colleges want to know how you spend your time.
 - What are you passionate about? What activities are you involved in? Do you work, intern or volunteer? Leadership positions? (clubs, sports, performing arts, religious groups, etc.)
- ➔ What is it you want out of college?



More to keep in mind...

- ➔ Keep your name consistent
- ➔ Be aware of what you post on social networking sites such as Facebook
- ➔ Use a professional e-mail address



And more...

- ➔ Visual & Performing Arts majors often require a portfolio or audition
- ➔ As juniors, it is not too early to apply for ROTC
- ➔ If you wish to play sports in college, note the NCAA eligibility requirements, including the core courses required
 - Register with the NCAA in spring of junior year



Financial Aid / Scholarships

- ⇒ “FAFSA” and CalGrant Application
 - Free to apply! www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Apply after January 1 of senior year
 - Based upon parents income for 2015 for current juniors
 - FAFSA Financial Aid Estimator
www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/F4CApp/index/index.jsf
- ⇒ Fee waivers for application fees and testing
- ⇒ Scholarships www.fastweb.com
- ⇒ Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)



College/Career Center Resources

- ➔ College Representative Visits
- ➔ Check out College Fairs
 - May 9, 2015, 1 – 4:30 pm at St. Mary's College
 - September/October in the San Ramon Valley District
 - Christian College Fair in September at Berean Christian
 - Visual and Performing Arts College Fair
 - Gap Year Fair
- ➔ Evening workshops at LLHS
- ➔ Lending library available to students and parents



College/Career Center

- ➔ Follow-up study of LLHS graduates
- ➔ “It’ s All On The Web” handout
- ➔ Additional resources in College/Career Center
- ➔ CSF (California Scholarship Federation)
 - Graduating with honors
 - www.laslomaspta.com/CollegeCareer/CSF/eligibility_in_csf.htm
- ➔ Student Athletes contact NCAA Eligibility Center
 - www.eligibilitycenter.org



Timeline

- ➔ Feb. 2015 – Pick classes for senior year
- ➔ Spring 2015 – Junior appointment with counselor; colleges recommended
- ➔ Spring 2015 – SAT and/or ACT
- ➔ Summer 2015 – Narrow down college list
- ➔ Sept. 2015 – “College Night for Seniors”
- ➔ Fall 2015 – Take tests again (if desired)



Timeline continued ...

- ➔ Fall 2015 – Apply to 4-year colleges
 - LL Counseling Department provides essay writing workshops, regular college application workshops, other help
 - Counselors/teachers write letters of recommendation (not UC or CSU)
 - Counselors complete secondary school report for private colleges



Timeline continued ...

- ➔ Winter 2016 – Complete FAFSA/Cal Grant after January 1; financial aid deadlines vary
- ➔ January 2016 – FAFSA workshop
- ➔ Spring 2016 – Apply to community college
- ➔ Spring 2016 – Colleges notify acceptance
- ➔ May 1, 2016 – Deadline to accept college offer



Stay Informed

- ➔ Read the PTSA eBoletin
 - <http://www.laslomasptsa.com/>
- ➔ Subscribe to the Daily Bulletin
- ➔ Naviance
- ➔ School Loop



Counseling Department Counselors and Staff

Las Lomas High School (925) 280-3920

Ellen Smith (College/Career Advisor) Ext. 2117

Allison Ridenhour (Testing Coordinator) Ext. 2116

Beth Chastain (Registrar) Ext. 2119

Counselors:

Amelia Whalen (A-Cho) Ext. 2126

Hanalee Washburn (Chu-Hoe) Ext. 2124

Kara Bloodgood (Hol-Me) Ext. 2127

Marilyn Lewis-Hampton (Mi-Sc) Ext. 2123

Valerie Wright-Smith (Se-Z) Ext. 2125