

How To Prepare for a College Fair:

Before the Fair:

- Ask yourself “Why do I want to go to college?”
- Consider what you are looking for in a school.
- Make a list of schools that are a “must” to connect with.
- Learn about the colleges you are interested in by checking their websites.
- Talk to at least one college representative from a school you have never heard of.
- Prepare a list of interesting questions for the college reps.
- Make a professional e-mail.

During the Fair:

- Arrive prepared.
- Dress appropriately.
- Please do not use cell phones or headphones during the event.
- Bring a pen and paper for notes.
- Please be patient- you may have to wait in line to talk to a college.
- Ask questions respectfully, allowing time for other students and families waiting in line. If you have more to ask, return to that college after circulating to other tables.
- Ask for business cards.
- Keep personal comments to yourself as you pass by tables.

After the Fair:

- Organize and sort through all of the material you collected.
- Make notes about schools that stood out to you while it is fresh in your mind.
- Review college websites, catalogs, and view books of the schools that interested you most in order to narrow your choices.
- Write down any additional questions you want to follow up about.
- Follow up with the rep if you have more questions or just want to thank them for their time and show that you are serious about attending the college.
- Talk to your family and counselor about what schools peaked your interest and why.
- Adjust your college list, if necessary.
- Schedule visits to your top schools, if possible.

What Can Parents or Guardians Do:

- Encourage your students to research the schools and evaluate what they want from the college experience.

- Allow your child to take the lead to ask questions and speak with the college representatives.
- Please be mindful of the time you are speaking to reps and if other students are waiting patiently for their time to speak with college reps.
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- Attend information sessions, meetings, or workshops at school in in the community. The college admissions officers often have other events in the summer and fall.
- Be ready to discuss post high school options, including expenses and finances for college.