

Recommended College Counseling Reading

The Truth about College Admission - Brennan Barnard and Rick Clark

This book is a well-done general overview of the college admissions process. It covers topics such as finding the right school, standardized tests, common obstacles families encounter and much more.

Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be; An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania - Frank Bruni

This book contains valuable perspective for students (and parents too) who are feeling overwhelmed and under pressure to find - and get into - the perfect college.

Great Jobs, Great Lives; The 2014 Gallup Purdue Index Report

This is a 25 page report that summarizes the results of a 30,000 person study that examined the long-term impacts of a college on its graduates. What graduates are most happy? What is linked to the most successful college experience?

Available at: <https://www.gallup.com/services/176768/2014-gallup-purdue-index-report.aspx>

The Price You Pay for College - Ron Lieber

This book talks about the financial aid system including merit aid. It also discusses college as a value proposition and considers both price and value. The author examines what is worth paying for - and how you assess if a college has it. He walks families through the process of figuring out how to pay for college.

Designing Your Life - Bill Burnett & Dave Evans

Written by two Stanford design professors, this book will be helpful for students who don't know what they want to do in college and aren't sure where to start. The book provides a practical framework for how to approach building a fulfilling life, with a major focus on vocation and how people arrive at satisfying careers. While this book is missing any reference to Jesus Christ, incorporating faith into their framework is certainly possible.

Range; Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World - David Epstein

Do students need to know what they are going to do with their lives when they enter college? This book's answer is a resounding "no." It is a modern take on the benefits of a well-rounded (liberal arts anyone?) education and offers interesting perspective on career trajectories and the job market. I would recommend the

introduction and chapters 6 and 7 especially which pertain most to students considering what they want to do in the future.

How to Be a High School Superstar; A Revolutionary Plan to Get Into College by Standing Out (Without Burning Out) - Cal Newport

This is a great introduction to the world of ultra selective admissions. If your student is interested in attending a school with a less than 10% acceptance rate, this book helps you think like admissions counselors and provides an unorthodox approach to standing out in exceptional ways.