

Your School Counselors

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Paths After High School

- Working
 - If you can, start with part-time work now - part time can lead to full time
 - Look at the jobs you might want to have and see what the requirements are
 - Reach out to places you might want to work
 - Work on your resume - they help you keep track of all you accomplished during high school - Major Clarity or resumebuilder.com
 - Talk with the adults in your life about their job
 - Practice interviewing

Paths After High School - Military

Take the ASVAB - <https://forms.gle/cpMQSyPf7Hdcpfde>

- This is a military aptitude test that tells you the military jobs best for you
- Sign up if you are interested in testing (October 13)
- Reach out to recruiters - GHS has relationships with many - your school counselor can help you locate, or you can visit their tables in the commons.



Paths After High School

- Apprenticeship Programs
 - Can replace traditional education prep for certain jobs
 - Allow you to learn a trade on the job
 - Look here for opportunities or more information
 - [Norfolk Naval Shipyard Apprentice Program](#)
 - [Virginia Dept of Labor Apprenticeship Information](#)
 - Fast-Forward Program
 - [Fast Forward Virginia](#)
 - Short-term training programs for a variety of careers



Paths After High School

- 2 Year College
 - Gain skills in specific area - job training programs/trade schools
 - or Guaranteed transfer to four-year colleges

Guaranteed Transfer Agreements



Paths After High School

- Four Year College/University
 - Some careers require many years and levels of education
 - Probably the option you have heard most about
 - Not just for the top students
 - There are college options for all types of students
 - All colleges have support for students with disabilities and support for students who need help academically

College - Where to Apply

- Target schools - schools with requirements you meet
 - Check admissions websites
 - Look at admitted student stats - GPA, classes taken
- Safety schools - schools with requirements you exceed
 - You are in the top range of accepted students with GPA, rank, classes taken
- Reach schools - you meet some requirements but not others
 - You might be in the lower percentile for accepted students
 - This might be an out of state school with caps on out of state acceptances
 - This might be a highly competitive school or program



College - When to Apply

- **Early action** - You apply early and receive an early response, but don't have to go if you get in (non-binding)
- **Early decision** - You apply early and receive an early response, but if you get in, you are committed to going and must withdraw other applications
- **Rolling admissions** - apply and receive admission decision within a few weeks, but don't have to go if you get in
- **Regular admission** - Standard application deadline set by the college. Depending on the college, there may be less of a chance of getting in because spots are taken by early applicants



College - Building Your List

- Resources for building your college list
 - [Academic Common Market](#)
 - [Big Future](#)
 - Search for colleges using the college search feature - you can put in your preferences for lots of categories, and it will suggest colleges for you to consider
 - [Niche.com](#)
 - [Admissions websites](#)
 - If you are already interested in a college, look to the source!
 - Will have application requirements and deadlines and financial information

College - How to Apply

- Every college has a different application process with different directions to follow. To determine the best way to apply, visit each college's admissions website and follow their instructions.
- Over 1000 four-year colleges use Common App (commonapp.org), where you can apply to multiple schools.
- Some schools have their own application
- Can application fees be waived?
 - Sometimes yes. You can use your SAT waiver code if you have one, or reach out directly to the school. Look for emails from colleges!
- Random important details you might be asked to fill out:
 - Our grading scale is 4.0
 - Our grading timeline is full year (we have two semesters, four marking periods)
 - Our class rank is Weighted
 - It is correct to **waive** your FERPA rights - it lets colleges know you agreed not to be able to see recommendations, so they can be trusted as a true evaluation

College - Staying Organized



- Create a spreadsheet of all colleges, deadlines, requirements, recommendations needed, and application/login information
- Get feedback on your essays.
- Ask your recommenders if they are willing to write you letters.
- See if your college offers interviews - these are a great chance for colleges to get to know you and for you to ask questions

College - Teacher Recommendations

- Some colleges *do not* want recommendation letters, so do not send letters to those colleges.
- You will invite recommenders on Common App. If colleges on Common App differ in their recommendation requirements, don't worry! You can assign recommenders to different schools
- Remember that writing a letter of recommendation is not mandatory for teachers, administrators, club sponsors or coaches. Ask your recommenders if they are willing to write you a letter of recommendation.
- Make sure you provide the recommender with plenty of time. You should ask at least 2-3 weeks in advance of your deadline.
- Teachers will speak to your performance in the classroom while counselors speak to who you are as a whole (Brag Sheets)
- If you need a recommendation for a college not on Common App or for a scholarship, let your recommender know and provide deadlines and instructions on how to submit.

College - Counselor Recommendations

- Invite the counselor in Common App.
- Make sure you need a letter of recommendation before requesting
- Some colleges just need academic/school information from the counselor and some also want a letter
- If you need a counselor letter, please complete the counselor brag sheet and give to your counselor to assist them in writing a strong letter for you. Brag sheet can be found here:
 - [Godwin Counseling College Applications](#)
 - Allow at least two weeks for letters to be completed
- School Reports
 - These are reports that verify your academic standing
 - Most of the time if you add your counselor to Common App or “invite” them on an application, that is all you need to do to communicate that report needs to be completed.

College - SAT and ACT

- Many colleges are standardized test optional
- You still have time to sign up for the SAT or ACT if you need/want to take them
 - collegeboard.org
 - act.org
- Should you take them - completely up to you if you are not required to send scores!
- Schools are moving to a more holistic review of applications
 - Transcripts, activities, essays, recommendations, rigor of classes all give a more thorough picture of you as a student
 - SAT and ACT scores are just a small piece
- If you want your test scores to be considered, you will likely need to order your scores from College Board or ACT and have them sent directly to your schools
- Your SAT and ACT scores may be viewed on your transcript - if you would like to remove your scores from your transcript, your parents can opt out through Power School parent portal.

Parchment

Ordering Transcripts:

- All seniors need to create a Parchment account in order to send transcripts.
- If you do not yet have a Parchment account, create one at Parchment.com
- Make sure to use a personal email address, not your HCPS email address, when setting up an account
- Do NOT make a parent account, you must make a student account



Godwin Transcripts

- Rank is available. Use Parchment to order a transcript to yourself to see your rank.
- 99% of transcripts can be sent through Parchment
 - Colleges on Common App - order the transcript to Common App
 - You will be asked for your Common App ID and you will have to invite your counselor to your Common App.
- Transcripts are not processed on days school is closed - order transcripts two weeks before Winter Break if you need them at the beginning of January
- SAT and ACT scores and class rank are displayed on your transcript - your parents can ask for test scores and/or rank to NOT be displayed.



www.eligibilitycenter.org

- If you intend to play DI or DII sports, you will need to register with the NCAA. There is a cost associated with this registration.
- Use Parchment to order a transcript to be sent to NCAA.
- Send ACT/SAT scores directly from testing agency (using code #9999).



Financial Aid 101



- ▶ Most financial aid is awarded based on information you and your parents submit through the FAFSA form.
- ▶ www.fafsa.ed.gov
- ▶ Our GRASP advisor helps support students and families through the financial aid process, including FAFSA completion and searching for scholarship opportunities.
- ▶ Cathy Semel is Godwin's GRASP advisor.
- ▶ Reach out to the financial aid offices at your colleges about additional programs and scholarships.

Scholarships



- ▶ Colleges
- ▶ Clubs
- ▶ Religious Organizations
- ▶ Banks/Credit Unions
- ▶ Employers
- ▶ Online Scholarship Sites
- ▶ Scholarships
 - ▶ GHS posts scholarships that are offered through Godwin, through HCPS and others.
 - ▶ Check the scholarship spreadsheet to see opportunities
 - ▶ [Godwin Scholarship List](#)

Some Resources and Supports...



General timeline

- Fall
 - Senior Meetings - individual meetings with counselors over the next month
 - College Applications
 - Take SAT/ACT final time if needed
 - Meet with financial aid advisor and look for scholarship opportunities
- Spring
 - Continue looking for scholarships
 - Make decisions about your next step-May 1 National Commitment deadline
 - Finish strong with your high school classes

Two-year College Application Support

- ▶ We have a Reynolds Career Coach
 - ▶ **Jessica P. Anderson, M.S.**
 - ▶ *Student Outreach/Recruitment Specialist*
 - ▶ jpanderson@reynolds.edu
 - ▶ **804-523-5789**

- ▶ Over the course of this school year, Godwin School Counseling will offer periodic group sessions to support students applying to Reynolds Community College. Please let your counselor know if you are interested.

College Rep Visits

- College Rep Visits will happen throughout the fall
- Dates, times, and sign ups are on the Schoology School Counseling page and School Counseling Website:
- [Colleges Visiting Godwin Fall 2023](#)
- We would love for you to attend, ask questions, and show your prospective colleges you are interested in them!

Managing Stress and Anxiety

- ▶ It is normal to have anxiety about the future, especially senior year!
- ▶ Tips for managing that anxiety
 - ▶ Start small - start with some of the sites mentioned in this presentation to see what's out there
 - ▶ Reach out to teachers/adults you have a relationship with. As you gather more information, ask for help in sorting through it and deciding if options are a good fit
 - ▶ Take career assessments
 - ▶ Use your senior meeting! Talk about your worries, bring your questions, and be honest about where you are in the process
 - ▶ Hint: No one is behind right now
- ▶ Find healthy activities that ease stress
 - ▶ Get outside, read, hobbies, nap, spend time with family and friends, take breaks, listen to music, exercise



- ▶ Check the School Counseling webpage & Schoology group for resources.
- ▶ Common Study College Admission Visits start Monday, 9/11 - next week American University, Washington University, UVA and Berkeley will all be here!
- ▶ October 11^h- Senior Convocation
- ▶ October 13th - ASVAB
- ▶ November 1st - HCPS College & Career Night 6-8 pm Deep Run High



**KEEP
CALM**

Your School Counselor

**CAN
HELP**

Please fill out this
survey!

[Tinyurl.com/Godwin
Classof2024](https://tinyurl.com/GodwinClassof2024)

We are here to
support you towards
a future you are
excited about!