



Counseling Department Newsletter

WELCOME CR SOUTH JUNIORS AND PARENTS

The Council Rock South High School Counseling Department is excited to continue our work with students and parents for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year! We hope to continue developing strong relationships and supporting students in an effort to finish this year with success. Our newsletter contains important information about colleges, financial aid, scholarships, SAT and ACT testing dates, and other beneficial information.

WHEN SHOULD I TAKE THE SAT/ACT?

It is helpful for students to take the SAT and/or ACT twice in the spring of their junior year. See below for upcoming dates offered. Students can take it again in the fall of their senior year if necessary.

2023-2024 SAT TESTING DATES

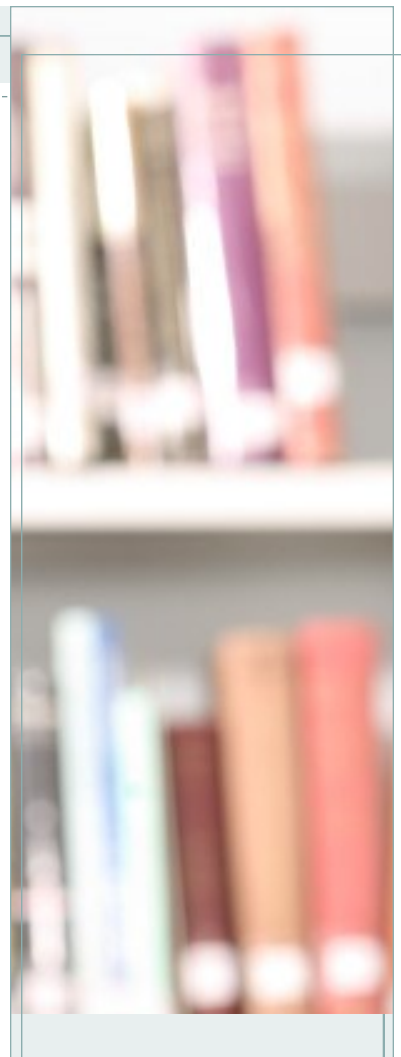
Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
May 4, 2024	April 19, 2024	April 23, 2024
June 1, 2024	May 16, 2024	May 21, 2024

Visit <http://sat.collegeboard.com/register> CR South School Code: **391790**

2023-2024 ACT TESTING DATES

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 22, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 24, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 19, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024

Visit www.act.org to register CR South School Code: **214180**



COUNSELING STAFF

11th grade assignments:

A-B Beth DiGuiseppe

C-E Jennifer Howard

F-J Meghan Bradley

K-L Amy Holder

(Substitute for Laura Strenge)

M-O Jennifer Nicholl

P-R Nicole Ventresca

S Lori Solit

T-Z Lauren Persson

INSIGHT INTO THE COLLEGE PROCESS

Unofficial transcripts are available to students and parents through HAC. Once logged in, click on the “Transcripts” tab at the top left corner.

Keep an eye out in **March** as the Guidance department will be **emailing** letters home inviting parent to meet in **April** with their child to talk about the college application process!

In the meantime, here are some things that can be done to begin your exploration of colleges:

- ◆ Begin your college search: Log on to Naviance Family Connection and research different colleges
- ◆ Try utilizing the “Advanced College Search” and “SuperMatch” features, and look at “Scattergrams” and the admissions criterion for your favorite colleges
- ◆ Consider registering for college campus tours to see what fit is right for you

“The earlier you start, the better off you’ll be.”

ATTEND THE COUNCIL ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT COLLEGE FAIR!

Date:

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Location:

Council Rock South

6:00 - 7:00 pm:

Parent Information Seminar—CR South Cafeteria

7:00 - 8:30 pm:

College Fair—CR South Gymnasium

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

• **Fall of Senior Year**

⇒ August through early November is ideal

• **How many colleges should I apply to?**

⇒ 6 – 8 Schools, including a few in each of the following categories:

Reach: A reach school is a college that is unlikely to offer you admission. A particular college qualifies as a reach school for you if your high school GPA and standardized test scores are significantly below those of the college's average student.

Likely: Sometimes called a “safety” or “back-up school,” a likely school is a college that you will *almost certainly* get into because your standardized test scores and high school grades are well above the average for admitted students.

Comfort: Somewhere in between; your standardized test scores and GPA are in the average range of their accepted applicants.



COLLEGE DEADLINES EXPLAINED:

- **Early Decision—(Legally Binding)** Early decision plans are binding — a student who is accepted as an ED applicant must attend that college.
- **Early Action—(Non-Binding)** Early action plans are nonbinding — students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the normal reply date of May 1.
- **Rolling—(Apply Early)** Applications are evaluated as they are received (versus waiting to evaluate all applications after a hard deadline). Schools will continue to evaluate applications until they've filled all the slots for their incoming class.
- **Regular Admissions—(Watch Dates)** The vast majority of students who apply to a given institution will do so through Regular Decision, and they can apply Regular Decision to as many schools as they would like. The application submission deadlines will vary between institutions.

FINANCIAL AID

- ◆ Talk as a family about total cost of College (tuition, room and board, books, travel)
 - ◆ All students need to fill out the FAFSA form (Federal Financial Aid Form) --available October 1st
 - ◆ Contact Colleges regarding financial concerns (Financial Aid Depts.)
 - ◆ Search for Scholarships
 - Nationally (online—counseling website or Naviance)
 - Locally (local scholarships for CRSD will be available the beginning of March of their senior year)
- * **Keep an eye out for our Financial Aid night held every Fall**

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS DO'S AND DON'TS

- ◇ DON'T wait until the last minute to begin the application process
 - *The earlier you start, the better off you'll be.
- ◇ DO continue to take challenging courses during senior year. And DO continue to earn good grades in those courses.
- ◇ DO visit colleges of all different campus types to get a feel of the type of campus you would like and visit the colleges you are applying to (if possible).
- ◇ DO research each college to determine: (entrance requirements, location, costs, reputation/ranking, majors, etc.) for developing your list of colleges and utilize the online search tools.

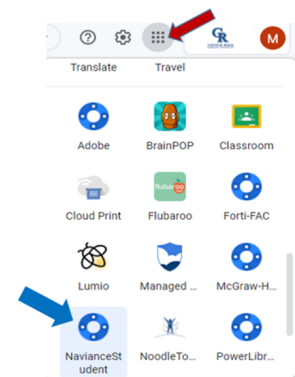
NOT SURE WHAT TO MAJOR IN?

Be sure to visit your **Naviance** account. Go to the “Self-Discovery” tab. There are four career assessments to choose from! Take one or take them all.

Accessing Naviance through your CRSD Google Account

Step 1- Make sure you are logged onto your student Google account.

Step 2- Click the **Google waffle**. Scroll all the way down to the **blue Naviance icon**. Once clicked, you are automatically logged into Naviance.



NCAA ELIGIBILITY:

Any student who plans to pursue Division I or Division II sports at the college level should refer to the **NCAA website** for information about required high school course work.



LOOKING AHEAD TO THE START OF SENIOR YEAR

OVERALL APPLICATION PROCESS:

- ⇒ Student completes application online
 - Submit the application with any fees and essays
 - Add colleges to Naviance
- ⇒ Meet with counselor to do the following:
 - Transcript request form
 - Counselor recommendation letter (if needed)
- ⇒ Student sends SAT or ACT scores from official testing website
- ⇒ Teacher recommendations—sent electronically or mailed

Keep an eye out for college admissions reps visiting in the fall!

SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE!

As a reminder, the counseling staff is ready and willing to support our students and families with anything that may be impacting them.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any way we can support you!



SUCCESS FOR EVERY STUDENT EVERY DAY

Council Rock High School South
STUDENTS FIRST. ALWAYS.

HAC • Parent/Student Handbook • Staff Resources • STAFF DIRECTORY

About CRS Athletics Activities **Support Services** Library Parents Calendar

HOME ; SUPPORT SERVICES ; COUNSELING ; WELCOME

Welcome

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[ACT Information](#)
[Activities Resume](#)
[AP Exam Information](#)
[ASYAB Test](#)
[Career Search](#)
[College Fair](#)
[College Search](#)
[College Timeline](#)
[Fall College Visits](#)
[College Visitation Form](#)
[Counseling Newsletter](#)
[Financial Aid](#)
[Get Good Grades!](#)
[GPA/Decile](#)
[Homework Requests](#)
[MBIT](#)
[Military](#)
[Naviance](#)
[NCAA](#)
[9th Grade Parent Meetings](#)
[Profile](#)
[Program Planning Guide](#)
[PSAT](#)
[SAT Prep](#)
[SAT](#)
[Scholarship Information](#)
[Senior Year Information](#)
[Student Admission & Withdraw](#)
[Summer School](#)
[Transcript Requests \(Current Students\)](#)
[Transcript Requests \(Past Students\)](#)
[Virtual Calming Room](#)

Counseling Center

Welcome to the Council Rock High School South Counseling Center's Webpage. The information offered through this site will assist students and parents to gather important information on topics such as colleges, careers, scholarships, financial aid, and academics.

The links and websites offered on this site are updated annually for accuracy. Council Rock South Counseling Center is not accountable for purchased or changed sites that are no longer available.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS ARE...

- Child advocates who work cooperatively with the educational staff, parents, and community.
- Educational specialists who assist students with their social, emotional, and educational development.
- Human resource specialists who assist students, parents, and educational staff through counseling, consultation, and coordination.

DEPARTMENT GOALS

- To assist students with educational, personal, career, and goal planning.
- To develop personalized programs based on each student's strengths and needs.
- To help students understand themselves and others.
- To assist students in identifying and dealing with problems.
- To facilitate the identification of students with special needs.
- To provide crisis intervention when necessary.
- To coordinate referrals to school and community support services.
- To serve as a resource to students, parents, teachers, and administrators.

SOME REASONS TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- Academic concerns
- Divorce, separation, and family changes
- Drug and alcohol concerns
- Educational and career planning
- Experiencing loss, death, and grief
- Peer relationship issues
- Problem solving skills
- School adjustment issues
- Stress reduction and coping skills
- Study skills