Pioneer School Counseling Department

The Nuts and Bolts of College and Career Planning

11th Grade Counselor Assignments

- **Sara Vance:** A-CAM
- **John Shelton:** Car-E
- **Levi Jackson:** F-JI
- **Marissa Bailey-Johnson:** Jo-Lei & Rising Scholars
- **Andrew Reinemann:** Li-Pet
- **Stephanie Carter:** Pro-So
- **Chris Kasper:** St-Z

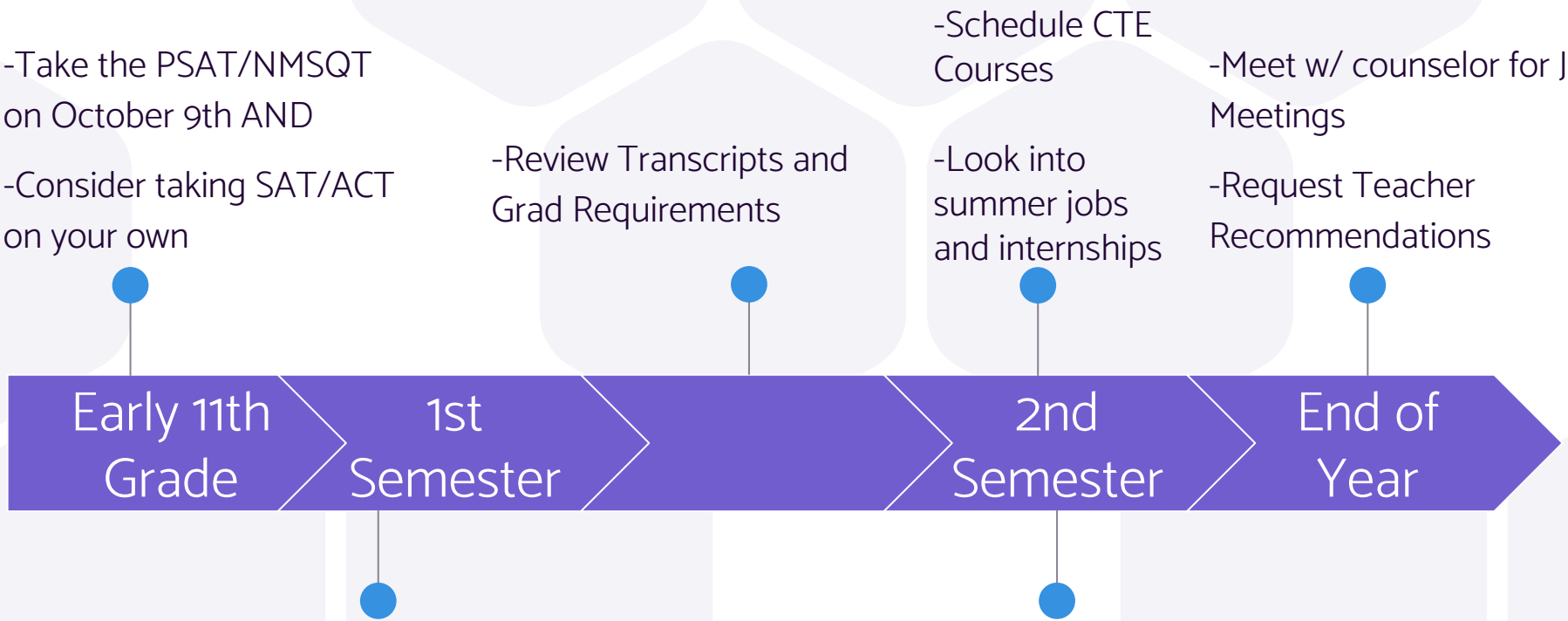
- **Calvin Griggs**: College and Career Coordinator

Agenda

- Xello: A College & Career Planning Tool
- Junior & Senior Year Timelines
- Overview of College Application Process
- Standardized Testing
- Post High School Options
- Questions

Every Student, Future Ready!

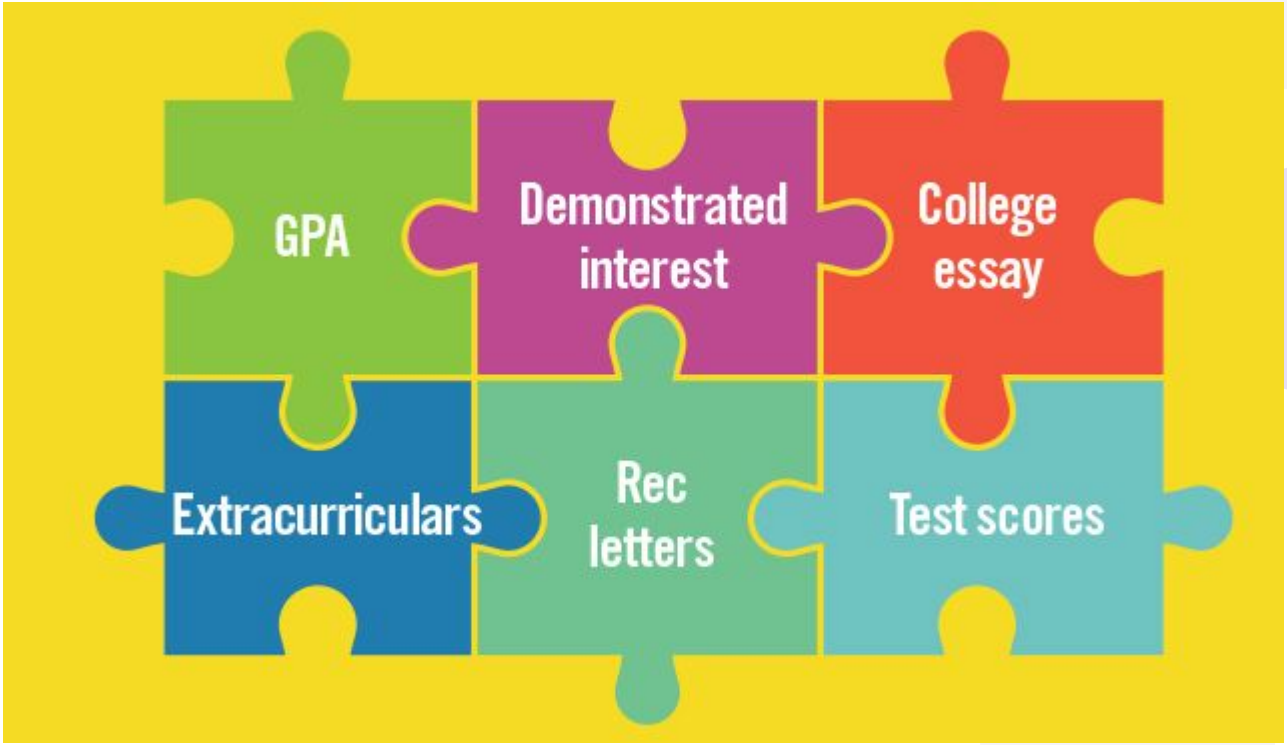
Junior Year: Planning For Life After High School


-Take the PSAT/NMSQT on October 9th AND
-Consider taking SAT/ACT on your own
-Review Transcripts and Grad Requirements
-Schedule CTE Courses
-Look into summer jobs and internships
-Meet w/ counselor for Jr Meetings
-Request Teacher Recommendations
Early 11th Grade
1st Semester
2nd Semester
End of Year
-Explore & Research Colleges
Xello
Internet & Catalogs
Attend College Visits
-Course Selection AND
-Take SAT/MME in April (Week of April 16th)

The Anatomy of the College Application

- Application materials will vary based on the type of institution the student wants to attend
  - i.e. : 2 year vs 4 year vs 4 year (competitive)
- Example of needed materials:
  - Transcript
  - Standardized Test Scores (Sometimes Optional)
  - Teacher Recommendation (Sometimes Optional)
  - Student Essay (Sometimes Optional)
- MAAP.Org (Michigan Assured Admission Pact)

The Anatomy of the College Application



Courtesy of:The Princeton Review

Researching Colleges

The “best” college is the one that is best for your student!

Enlightened Definition of College (from MCAN)

College is any training or education after high school that provides a certificate or degree.

COLLEGE:

IS A MATCH TO BE MADE,

NOT

A PRIZE TO BE WON…

What Do I Look For?

- What do you know about yourself?
  (Likes, Dislikes, Interests, Values)
- Environment - location, size, etc.
- Admission Requirements
- Academics
- College Expenses & Financial Aid
- Housing
- Facilities
- Activities

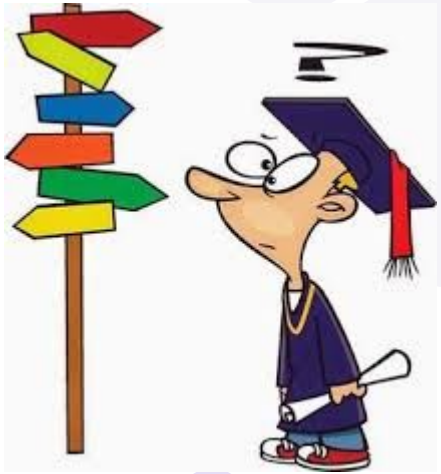
You are looking for a college that “fits” you!

How Do I Search?

- Xello
- College visits at Pioneer
- On-campus college visits
- Online internet research (helpful websites on next slide)
- Helpful books
- Research - Research - Research!

Helpful College Search Websites

- Xello (login via Clever)
- https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
- www.gocollege.com
- www.petersons.com
- www.campustours.com
- www.appily.com(formerly Cappex)
- www.act.org



On-Campus College Visits

- Sign up for an official college visit online through the individual college websites
- Try to plan visits while college classes are in session
- Try to attend a class or two & ask about eating in the dining hall
- Try to spend a night in the dorm or see a dorm room during a campus tour

College Athletics

Student athletes seeking to play a Division I or Division II college sport will need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/

District NCAA Liason:

Molly Lipton - liptonm@aaps.k12.mi.us

Standardized Tests

Standardized College Admission Exams

- **SAT (collegeboard.org)**
- **ACT (ACT.org)**
- **Advanced Placement (AP) Exams (collegeboard.org)**

Michigan Merit Exam (MME)*

Part I : SAT (with essay)**

Part II: ACT Work Keys (work readiness assmt.)

Part III: M-STEP (Science and Social Studies)

*MME is required for graduation.

**During the registration process, students can select up to 4 colleges for this specific SAT score to be sent to. NO FEE.

The SAT

- Digital
- 3 parts:
  - Reading/Writing & Language: 64 Minutes
  - Math: 70 Minutes (Calculator)
  - Essay (In school only): 60 Minutes
- Score Scale: 400-1600

Digital SAT Test Specifications
Reading and Writing

96 questions (2 sections)	→	54 questions (1 section)
100 minutes	→	64 minutes
Set based questions	→	Discrete questions

Digital SAT Test Specifications
Math

58 questions (2 sections)	→	44 questions (1 section)
Calculator & no calculator	→	Calculator
80 minutes	→	70 minutes
Discrete and set based questions	→	Discrete questions

Multi-Stage Adaptive Testing

The digital SAT will have two modules in each section

Module 1

Students are given a broad mix of easy, medium, and hard questions

Module 2

Students are given a targeted mix of questions of varying difficulties based on their performance in module 1

Essay

Michigan will continue to require students to complete the SAT Essay.

The digital SAT Essay will

- Be administered following the Reading and Writing and Math sections of the test.
- Continue to use the same question design/format/scoring.
- Be 60 minutes long

Practice for the digital SAT Essay will be available in the Bluebook testing application.

SAT Practice

Khan Academy

(www.khanacademy.org/sat)

- 4 short, diagnostic quizzes that cover all the skills in a specific SAT subject
- 4 full length, timed SAT exams
- Students can write an essay and receive feedback

CollegeBoard - Bluebook App Practice (digital)

(https://bluebook.collegeboard.org/students/practice)

The Princeton Review - Full Length Practice Test (free & paid options)

(https://www.princetonreview.com/)

PSAT/NMSQT

- A Practice Test for the SAT
- Given to juniors October 9th
- Students will receive results through their CollegeBoard account
- Results used by scholarship programs to look for eligible students (National Merit Scholarship Program)

Standardized Testing Policies

- Test Optional
- Test Flexible
- Test Blind (Test Free)

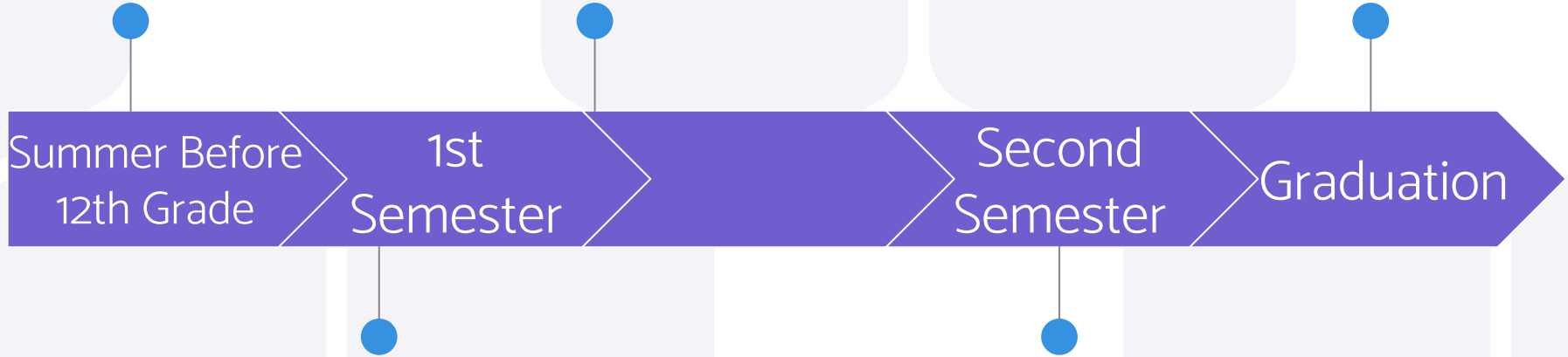
Great Resource: Fairtest.org

SuperScoring

- Some colleges will “superscore”, which involves taking the highest score from the sub-sections of multiple tests.

- It is recommended to send all test scores to the college to assist them in making a holistic review of the student.

Senior Year Timeline



- Begin to fill out applications and write essays
- Consider retaking SAT/ACT in fall

- Submit college applications
- Fill out FAFSA when it becomes available (Oct. 1st)

- Finish classes strong!
- Graduate!

- Attend senior family night in September
- Attend college visits at Pioneer
- Invite/Remind teachers of rec letters

- Scholarship search
- Receive college admission decisions
- Start to work on financial plan for college (deposit)

Senior Year: College Applications & Solidifying Post-High School Plans

Overview of the College Application Process Handout

- Selecting Prospective Colleges
- Sending Standardized Test Scores
- Types of College Applications
- Application Terms and Decision Plans
- Deadlines
- Other Resources

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Scholarships

Students can begin applying for scholarships during their senior year. Check out the following websites:

www.fastweb.com

https://www.appily.com (formerly Cappex)

www.scholarshipowl.com

www.aaacf.org

Financial Aid

Michigan.gov/mistudentaid
Financial aid resource for Michigan residents

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Students seeking help with college costs will need to apply for financial aid. For a student to be considered for federal aid, he/she will need to complete an online application at: www.fafsa.gov

The FAFSA is processed free of charge. FAFSA is used by most state agencies and colleges to determine eligibility for financial aid. Students must complete this form in order to also be eligible for Work Study opportunities on campus. ***Registration opens October 1st of senior year.***

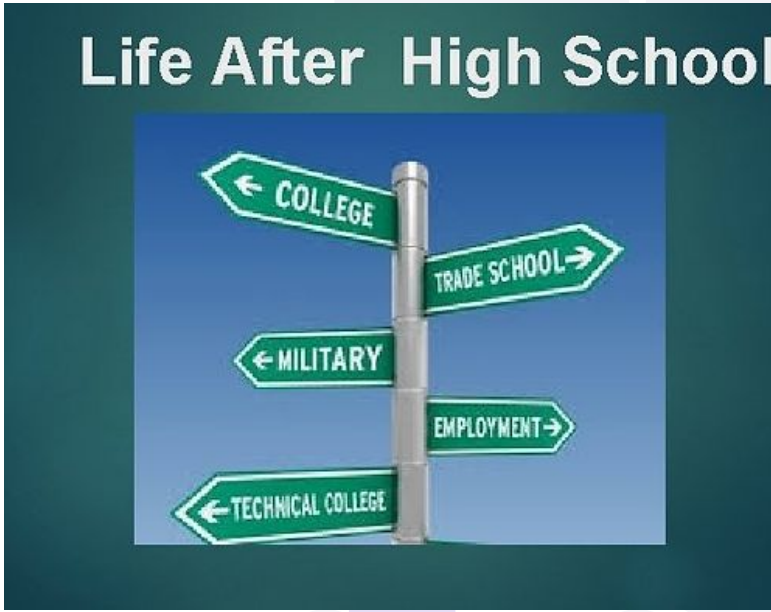
PHS Scholarship & Financial Aid Night

- Mid January

Career Options and Resources

Options

- 2 year and 4 year colleges
  - Community College Guarantee
- Skilled trades jobs and certifications
- Military/Armed Forces
- Apprenticeships and internships
- Gap year



Resources

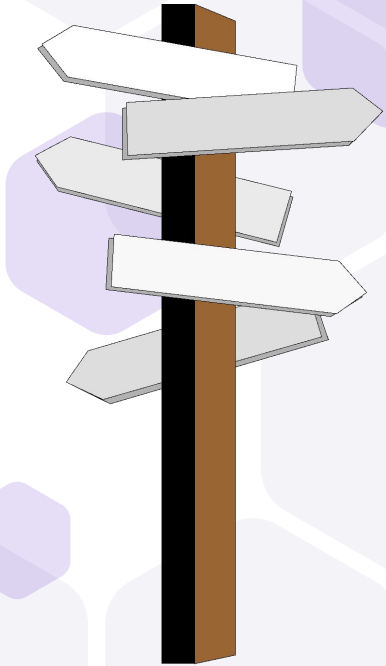
- Military recruiters visits to Pioneer HS
- Gap Year Info
- Mitalent.org - Skilled trades job website
- AAPS CTE Course Website

Pioneer CTE Courses

- Homebuilding
- Auto Service Technology
- Cosmetology
- Health Sciences and Technology
- Business Courses
- Foods Courses
- Engineering Courses

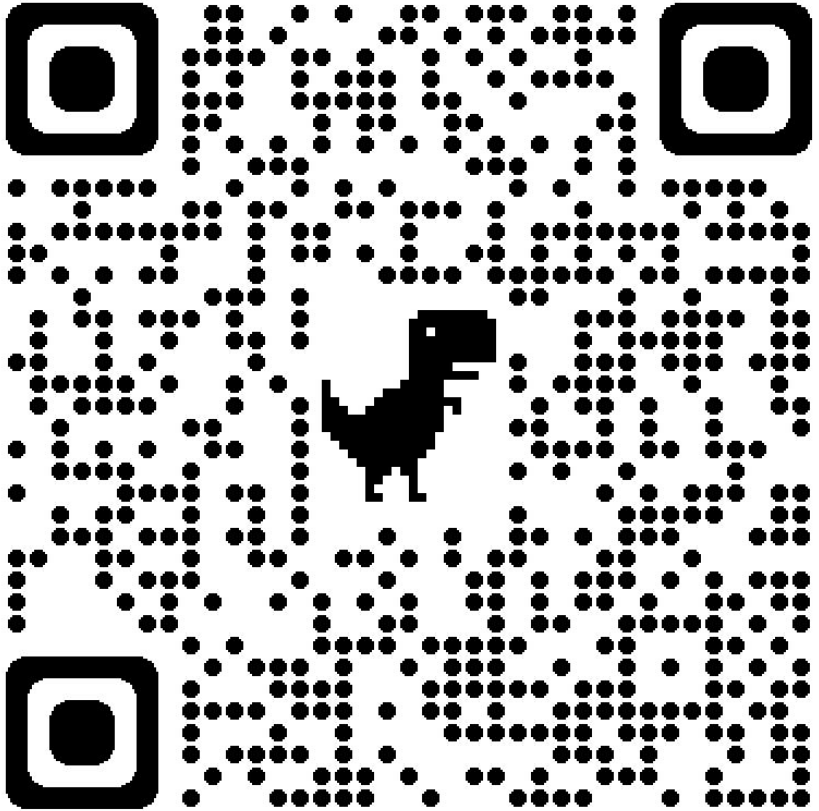
Where Do I Turn To Ask Questions?

- Pioneer H.S. Counseling & AAPS websites
- Xello & other online resources
- College websites & college representatives
  - Mr. Griggs
- Counselors–we're here to help!



Q&A

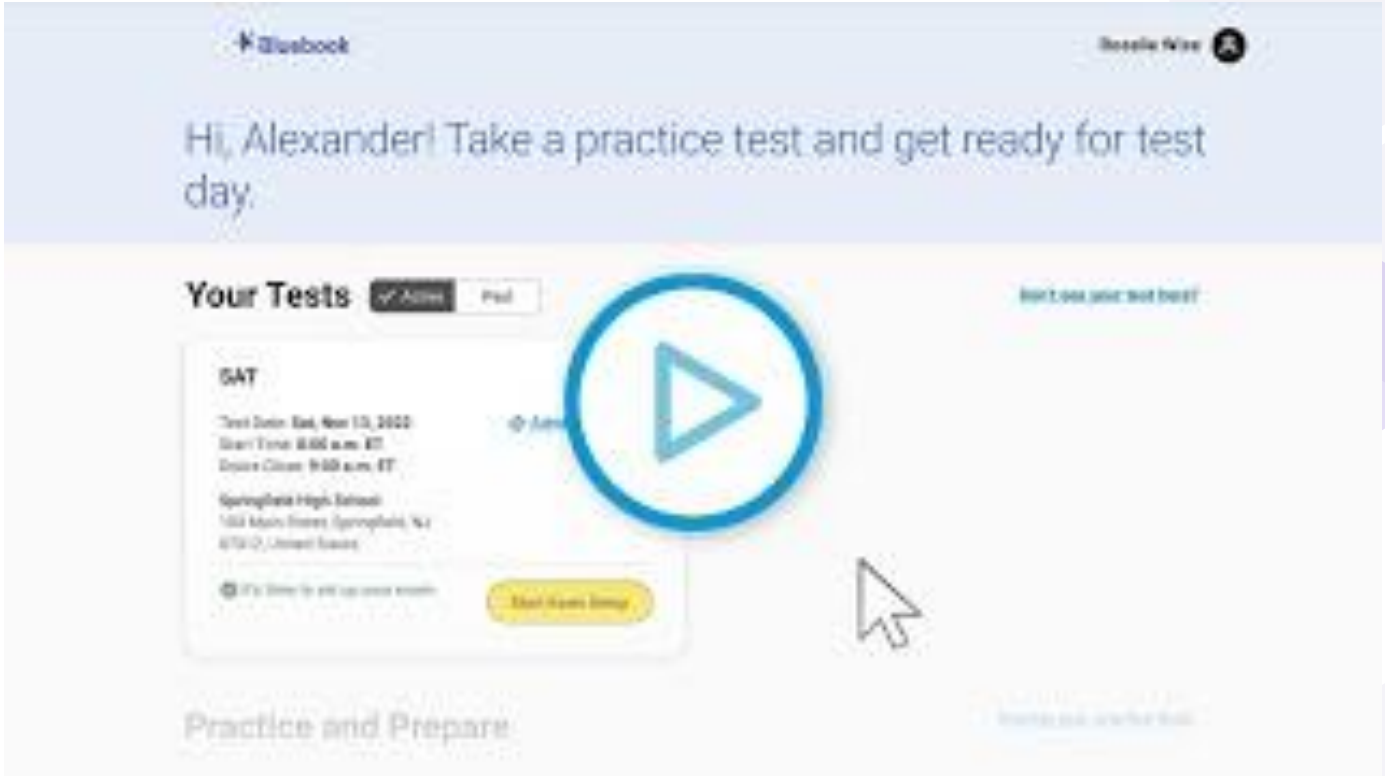
Question QR Code - Any questions we did not get to, please send here



Where You Go is Not who You'll Be

Where you go is not who you'll be

SAT


Bluebook
Hi, Alexander! Take a practice test and get ready for test day.
Your Tests
SAT
Practice and Prepare