THE BASICS OF THE PHS COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS
CLASS OF 2023

TYPES OF COLLEGE APPLICATIONS:
- Common application (https://www.commonapp.org/)
- Coalition application (https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/)
- Apply directly to institution

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR THE COMMON APPLICATION:
- Class of 2023 has 471 students
- Pioneer does NOT rank students
- Pioneer uses a weighted gpa on a 4.0 scale
- CEEB CODE: 230088

SEND TEST SCORES
- For ACT test scores, go to **act.org** to send them to colleges.
- For SAT and AP test scores, go to **collegeboard.org** to send them to colleges.
- Counselors do not know the username and passwords for students' accounts.
- For help w/ACT SCORES: Call 1-319-337-1270
- For help w/SAT SCORES: Call 1-866-756-7346

SEND TRANSCRIPT
- Create an account at Parchment: https://www.parchment.com/
- Send your transcript to your colleges
- If using the Common Application: send transcript to "Common App: First Year Student" (This will automatically send your transcript to your Common Application)
- If you will be a Division 1 or Division 2 college athlete, send your transcript to the NCAA along with sending to colleges.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
- Colleges want letters from core academic teachers
- Only ask teachers for letters of recommendation if a college needs it. Do not send letters of recommendation to colleges if they are not requesting it.
- A Counselor Recommendation Letter is not sent to colleges that do not require one.

FERPA (FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT)
- Waive your right to view your recommendation letters. Colleges take letters more seriously that have not been viewed by a student. This question is asked inside the Common Application.

FEE WAIVER
- If a student qualifies for a fee waiver on a college application, then please communicate this with the counselor who will verify and approve it from their end.

EMAIL
- Students should use their personal email on college applications.
- Students should use their counselor's email that includes "aaps.k12.mi.us" not "a2schools.org"

FAFSA
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Every student should fill out this form regardless of family income
- Colleges also use the FAFSA to determine some scholarships and grants
- Website: FAFSA
- Application opens October 1, 2022 for the class of 2023

EARLY ACTION AND EARLY DECISION

- Early Action is non-binding and students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the normal reply date of May 1st.
- Early Decision is binding and if accepted, the student must attend that college. A student can only apply to one college for early decision. Some ED colleges will allow you to apply to other colleges through EA and some do not. Review the individual college's admissions requirements. Almost all ED colleges will allow you to apply to other colleges through regular or rolling admissions.

DEADLINES
- Students: it is your responsibility to be aware of college application deadlines
- For any **NOVEMBER 1ST DEADLINE**: students must request letters of recommendations and transcripts by **Tuesday Oct. 11, 2022**. This will alert your counselor that you are aiming for this deadline.

SCHOLARSHIPS
- Local and Pioneer Athletic Scholarships will come out toward the beginning of 2nd semester.
- Counseling will host a webinar or presentation on scholarships around this time.
- Common Websites for Scholarships that seniors can start now:
    fastweb.com
    scholarships.com
    finaid.org