



# CHELMSFORD

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**February 5, 2021**

Hello Juniors and Junior Parents!

We have a lot of important information to share with you this week!

Next week, the School Counseling Department will begin meeting with our Junior Plus Blocks (virtually). Please note that the delivery and timing of these meetings will vary by counselor. After those student/counselor meetings are all held, we will begin scheduling our individual junior meetings with our caseloads, which will start on Tuesday, February 23rd. We will also be sharing our Junior Post-secondary Planning Guide with them. This important packet will be posted on the Class of 2022 Google Classroom. (see below)

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: CHS CLASS OF 2022 GOOGLE CLASSROOM:**

As a reminder, this Google Classroom includes a wide range of topics including Health & Wellness, College and Career Exploration, Financial Aid and Scholarship Info and much more. We will keep updating your Google Classroom throughout this year and next, and it will address the needs of all of our students and the many paths they may follow. **IMPORTANT:** the Join Code for this new Google Classroom is: **xqypkwl**. Please join today!!

**JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT:**

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to host our annual Junior Parent Night. Instead, this year we will be filming our panel of college admission representatives and sharing that recording with both students and parents. Look for more information on this in the coming weeks!

**STANDARDIZED TESTING IN A NUTSHELL:**

While many schools are already announcing that they will be test-optional for the 2021-22 application cycle, some of you may still wish or need to take Standardized Testing. The SATs and ACTs are the two college admission exams. While the SAT is most popular here in the northeast, the ACT is very widely utilized in other parts of the country. All colleges that require standardized testing will accept either SAT or ACT scores. Below is a brief description of both tests. Please note that the College Board has discontinued the SAT Subject Tests (also known as the SAT IIs.)

- **SATs: ([collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org))**

The SATs are a reasoning test that assesses a student's ability to reason, problem-solve, and think critically. It tests both what you know and how well you apply that knowledge. The two testing sections are Evidence Based Reading and Writing, and Math and it is scored on a 200-800 scale, with the national average around 1051.

- **ACTs: ([actstudent.org](https://actstudent.org))**

The ACTs are a more curriculum-based standardized test that may be a better format for some students. Some consider it to be more straight-forward than the SATs. The ACT includes English, Reading, Math, and Science sections as well as an optional writing section.

Please note that some more selective colleges may require the writing section. The test is scored on a 1-36 scale, with the national average around 21.

- **SAT Subject Tests: (collegeboard.org)**

As mentioned above, the College Board has discontinued the SAT Subject Tests (also known as the SAT IIs.)

### **SCHEDULING FOR SENIOR YEAR:**

Regarding senior year classes, the 2021-22 Program of Studies will soon be available on-line and the X2 portal will be **open on February 20th** for students to complete next year's course selection. This must be **completed by March 7th**. Remember to take challenging courses your senior year! Instructions and more info will be available next week.

### **Virtual Career Exploration Breakfast**

Chelmsford High School is hosting a Virtual Career Exploration Breakfast for the entire junior class Wednesday, March 10th from 9:30-10:15. This event gives students the opportunity to select two careers of interest, and then spend time in a small group with a professional in that field. Every junior will attend this virtual event and meet with two speakers. Speakers share their interests, educational background, and what skills are needed to perform their jobs. The goal of this School to Careers program is to help students connect academic schoolwork to career readiness and awareness beyond Chelmsford High School. During the Virtual Career Breakfast, juniors will meet with their first career choice from 9:30-9:50 and their second career choice from 9:55-10:15. This form (attached below) requires juniors to select a first, second, and third career choice. Every effort will be made to place students in two of their top three choices. The Junior Selection Form should be completed by February 12th or the selections will be made for the student. Students are strongly encouraged to fill out the "Do What You Are" career survey in Naviance before making career selections. Students should see their school counselor or Ms. Acheson if they need assistance.

<https://goo.gl/forms/H9DVyq9MPjPiB2aw1>

### **CONSIDERING A MILITARY ACADEMY?**

Any junior considering a Military Academy or ROTC should get in touch with their counselor as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact your counselor directly as we do not see the responses to this email address.

Have a wonderful vacation week!

CHS School Counseling

### **Important Dates:**

March 13: SATs offered at CHS, registration deadline is February 12 ([www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org))

April 17: ACT offered at area high schools, registration deadline – 3/12 ([www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org))

May 8: SATs offered at CHS and other area high schools, registration deadline – 4/8

June 5: SATs offered at CHS and other area high schools, registration deadline – 5/6

June 12: ACT offered at area high schools, registration deadline – 5/7

July 17: ACT offered at area high schools, registration deadline - 6/18

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