The College Admissions and Application Process

2016-2017

What this presentation will cover…

- Application definitions
- What students should have done already
- What students have to do now
- What we (the School Counselors) will do
- Miscellaneous
- The Inevitable
- Overview/Timeline

Application “Lingo”

Early Decision (I and II):

The binding admission process where the student applies to his/her first choice school in the fall. If offered admission, the student must withdraw all other applications from other schools.

EARLY ACTION

- **Early Action:** The non-binding admission process whereby the student applies to his/her first choice college in the fall.
- **Restrictive Early Action:** The non-binding admission process which restricts how students can apply to other colleges. If your child is applying Restrictive Early Action to a college, make sure they meet with their School Counselor before applying to any colleges/universities.

There's more!

- **Rolling Admission:** Students are offered or denied admission throughout the calendar year.
- **Priority Admission:** Application is given special consideration based on when the application is received by the college
- **Regular Admission:** Non-binding admission process where students apply in the winter and learn of the decision in the spring.

FAFSA UPDATES

- There are significant changes to the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) process that will impact all students, beginning with seniors this school year.
- **Students will be able to submit a FAFSA® earlier.** Students will be able to file a FAFSA as early as **Oct. 1, 2016,** rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year.
- **Students will use earlier income information**. Students will be required to report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information.

By now students should have:

- Visited colleges
- Organized and reviewed their college list (Reach, Target & Safety schools)
- Checked to see if they have met all of the requirements needed to meet the application deadlines
- Spoken to **two** teachers about writing letters of recommendation

How will your child know if they need to give envelopes to their teachers?

= Common Application

= Accepts electronic submissions through Naviance

= Regular Mail

(Student must give their recommenders addressed and stamped envelopes)

= Coalition Application

The coalition is a new application system that does not yet work with Naviance. If a school accepts both Coalition and either the common and/or a school-specific app, **DO NOT** use this application

What students need to do now:

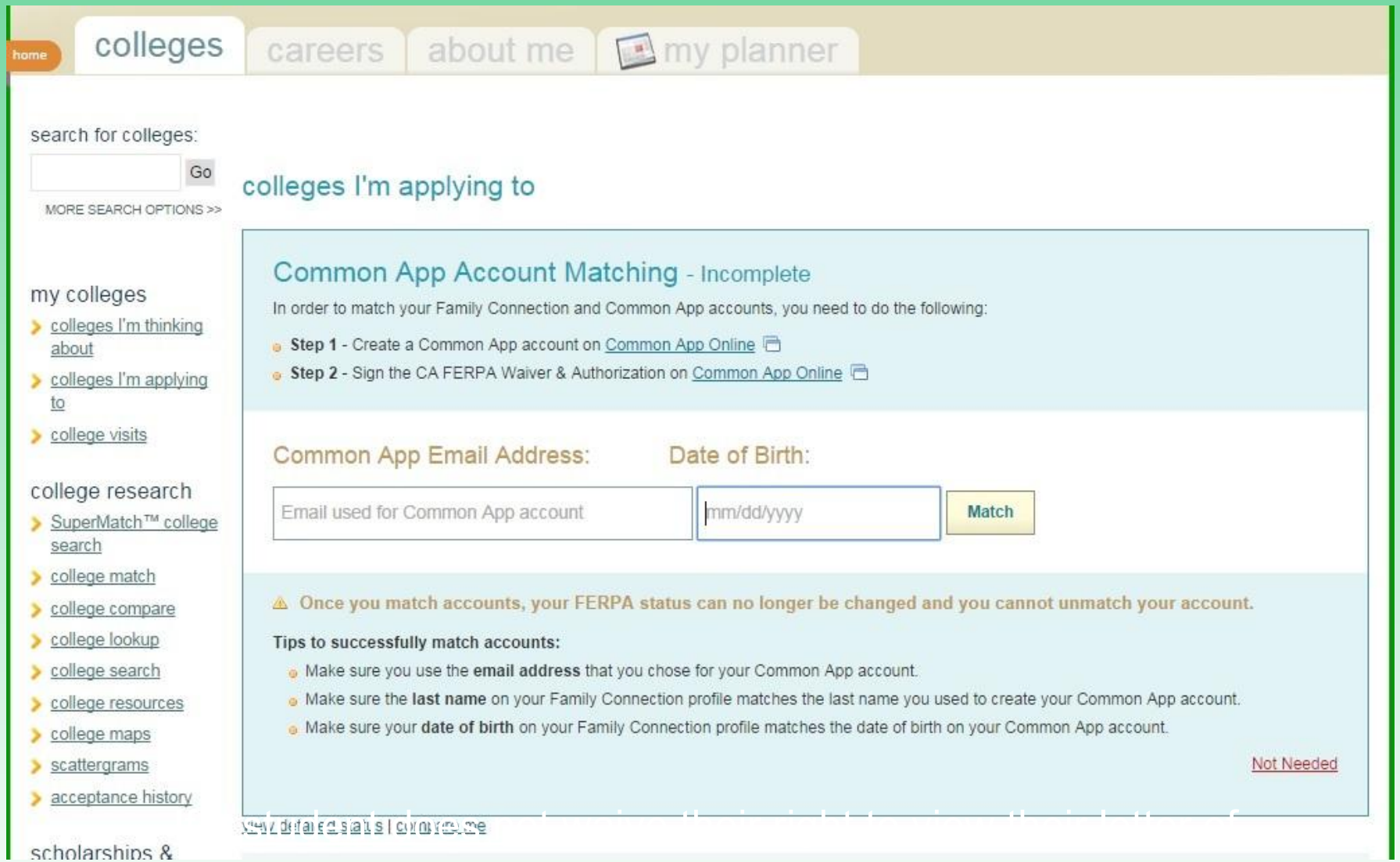
- Complete applications online through the college's website or through the Common Application
  - Self-reporting grades – becoming a trend!
- Send out SAT, SAT II, and ACT scores – Student's responsibility
- Confirm that they have TWO teacher letters of recommendation
- Recommenders outside of MHS need to mail in their letter
- Complete steps 1 – 6 in the "green packet"
- Submit a "pink card"

Steps 1-6 in the “Green Packet”

<u>We cannot send any materials until these steps are completed.</u>

1. Be sure to use their full legal name on all college-related forms.
2. Log into NAVIANCE through the Guidance website.
3. Students must create a Common Application Account Link their Common Application to Naviance and complete the FERPA waiver.

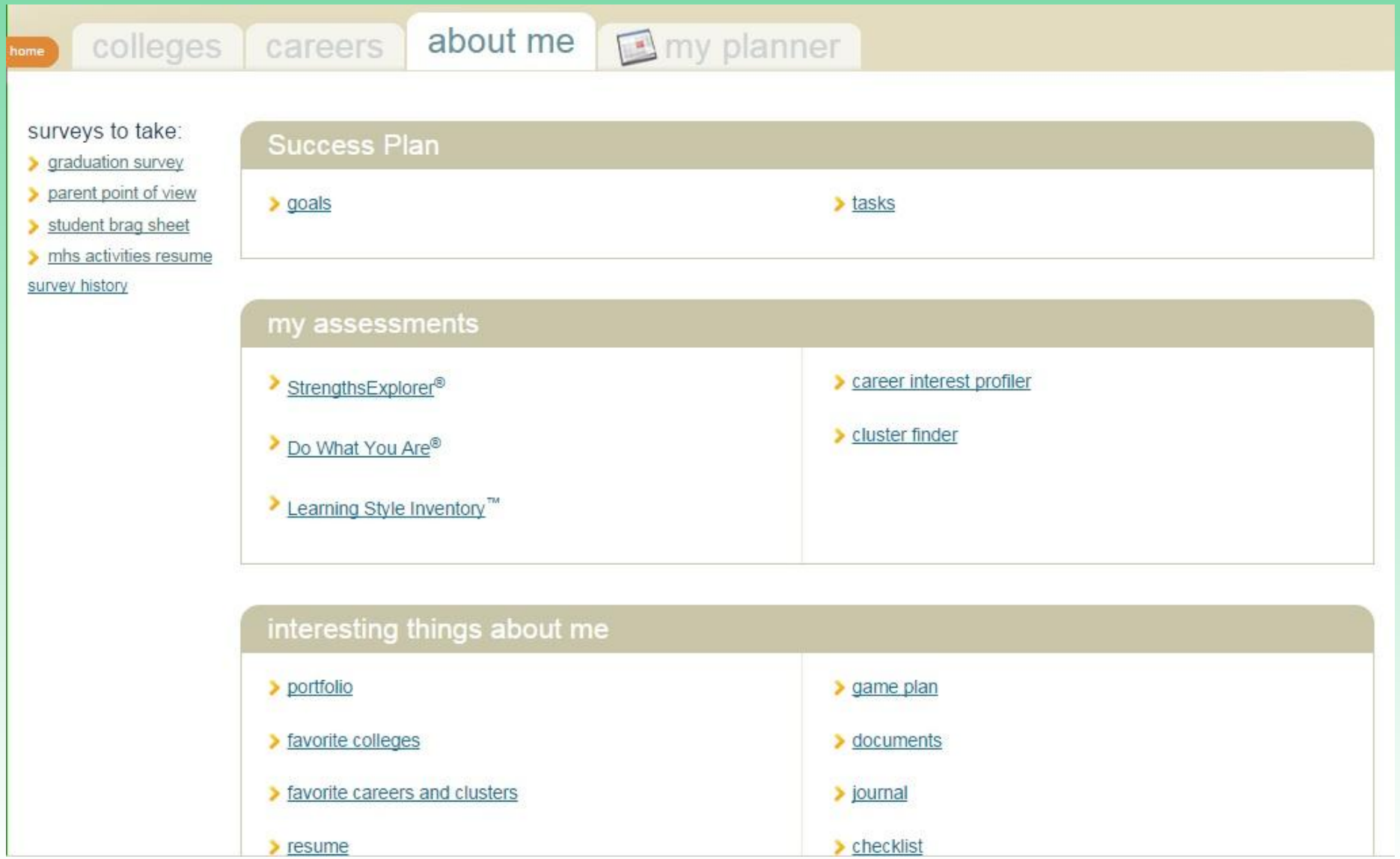
Account Matching & FERPA Waiver



recommendation some teachers may refuse to write a letter for them.

5. If a student is applying to colleges using the Common Application, he/she must add them to their list on the common app website.
    - Guidance cannot send out materials unless the student has started their application.
6. Under the “About Me” tab in Naviance, student need to complete the Student Brag Sheet, Activities Resume, and parents need to complete the Parent Point of View.

Where are they located on Naviance?



I have completed steps 1-6,

What does a “pink card” do?

The counselor’s signal to send the following documents out to colleges within 15 school days:

- Transcript
- Letters of Recommendation
- Secondary School Report
- MHS School Profile

When do students submit a pink card?

- Students should submit the pink card to their counselor at least 15 school days before the application deadline.
- Students can hand in multiple pink cards, as needed.
- Students should not hand in a pink card unless they know that they are definitely applying to that school, and have started their application for that college/university.
- Envelopes, college-specific forms and common application recommendation forms are not necessary; do not submit them to your child's counselor.

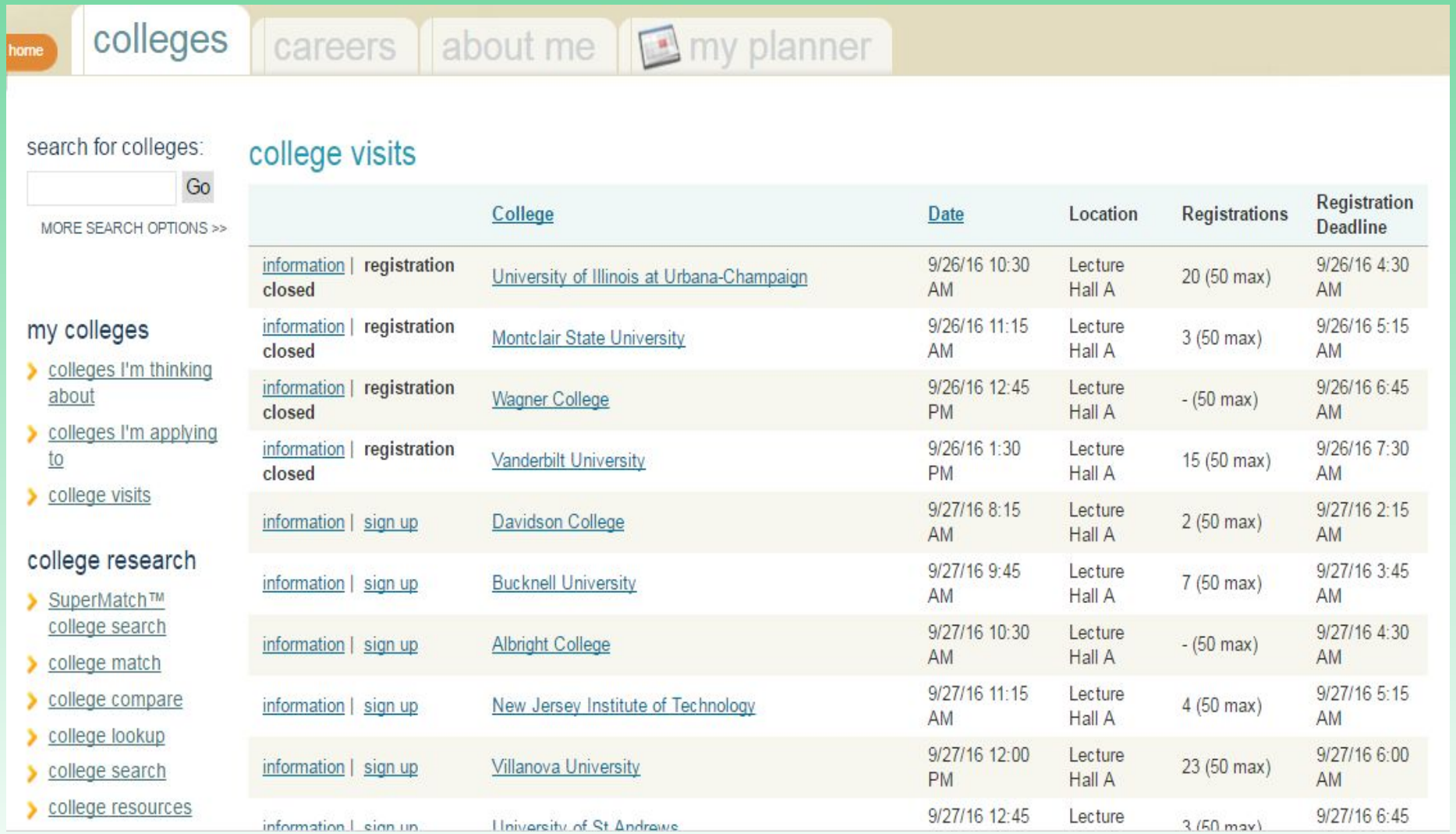
When we receive a student's pink card we will…

- Write a comprehensive letter of recommendation on the student's behalf.
- Complete the Secondary School Report on-line (Students should **not** give their counselor a hard copy).
- Submit all materials electronically or by US Postal Service once we receive your child's pink card.

Additional Information:

- Prospective Division I and II athletes must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at http://eligibilitycenter.org and send their transcript to the NCAA.
    - A video detailing the NCAA process for sending a high school transcript is posted on the Guidance website.
- Attend College Visits at MHS
- Financial Aid Presentation Monday November 14, 2016 @ 7:00 pm, MPAC
- A transcript request must be filled out if/when a student is applying for a scholarship that requires a transcript

College Visits



The Inevitable

- You will receive an email that reads: “Your application is incomplete. You are missing the following: _____”

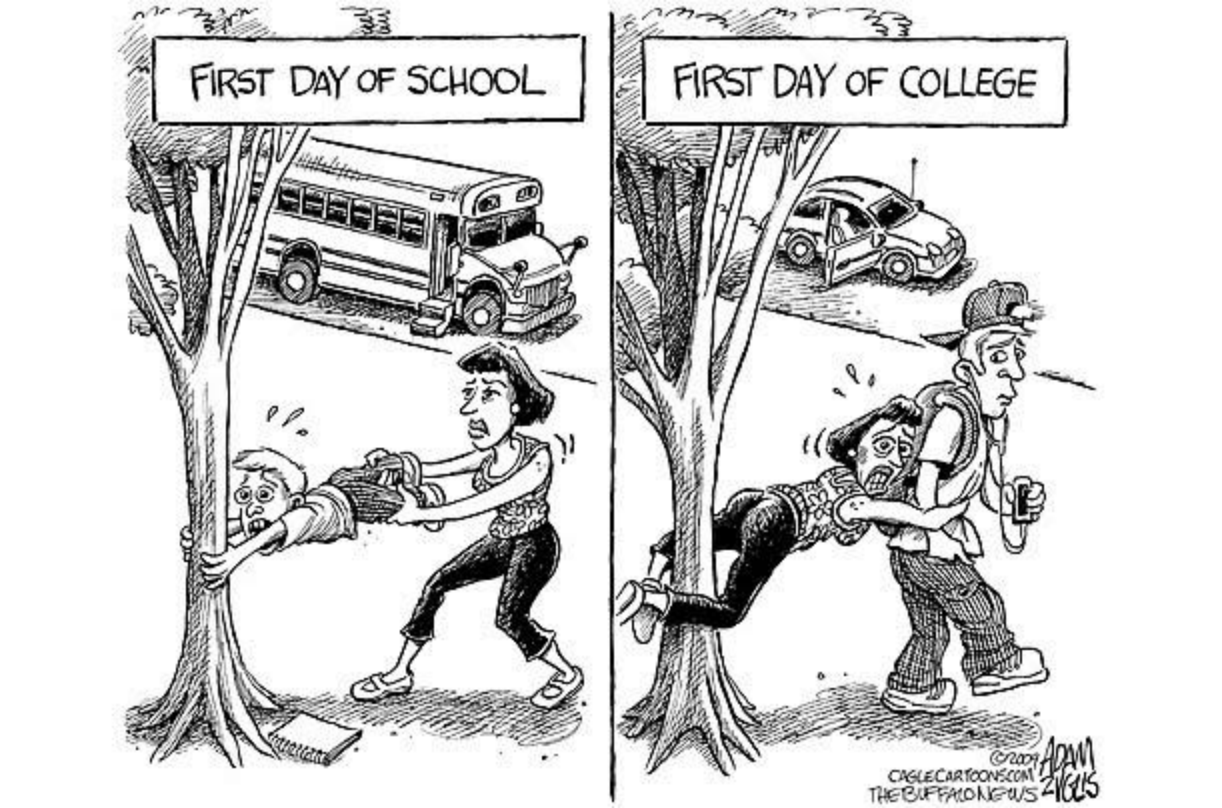
Don’t panic!!

Overview and Timeline!!

- Finalize your college list
- Complete steps 1-6 in the green packet.
- Send out SAT, SAT II and ACT scores to colleges.
- Begin applications, and submit a pink card at least 15 schools days before the application deadline.
- Complete application and check that you've met all the application requirements.

THEN…

REJECTIONS

Good Luck!

(and letting go!)