

Senior Parent Meeting

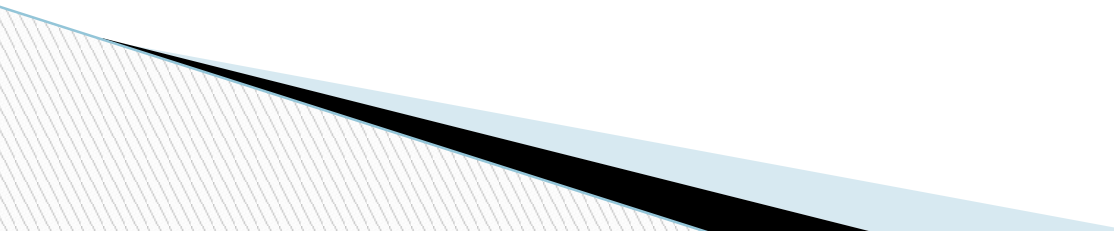
Sept. 25, 2017

Graduation: May 20th, 2018

Then what???



Up to this point...

- ▶ **Visited colleges (narrowed choices to 3–5).**
 - ▶ **Researched admission requirements.**
 - ▶ **Taken the ACT or ACT Plus Writing.**
 - ▶ **Discussed post–high options: 4 year college, 2 year college, tech school, military, work, or gap year.**
 - ▶ **Started scholarship search, thought about financial aid.**
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Now what???

- ▶ Take or re-take the ACT: www.actstudent.org
- ▶ ACT Benchmark scores:
 - English = 18
 - Math = 22
 - Reading = 22
 - Science = 23

Benchmark scores = 50% chance of getting a B or better and a 70% chance of a C or better in freshman college courses.

Remediation...

- ▶ Students who attend SD State colleges will have to take remedial courses if they don't achieve the following ACT benchmark scores:

English 18

Math 20

OPTIONS:

1. Re-take the ACT and achieve the scores
2. Successfully complete a remediation course through the SD Virtual School
3. Take (and pass) the Accuplacer Test
4. Take the remedial course in college (\$\$)

Average ACT scores: Class of 2017

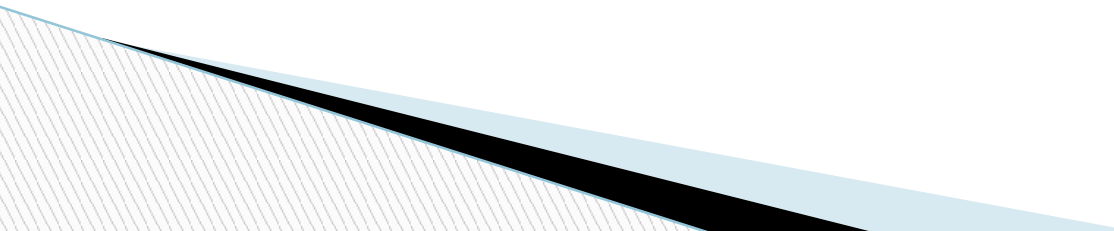
	<u>ENG</u>	<u>MATH</u>	<u>RDG</u>	<u>SCI</u>	<u>COMP</u>
NAT'L	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0
SD	20.7	21.5	22.3	22.0	21.8
O'G	25.1	24.3	25.1	24.6	24.9

% tested: O'G = 99

SD = 80

US = 60

APPLY...

- ▶ Set a target date of Thanksgiving to have applications submitted.
 - ▶ Some schools have Early Action or Early Decision options. Be sure to meet their application deadline.
 - ▶ Colleges want ACT results sent directly from ACT.
 - ▶ Request transcripts from Sue (\$1.00).
 - ▶ Recommendations: allow 2 weeks.
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Choosing a college...

Major

Location

Size

Public/Private

Urban/Rural

Housing

Placement rate (to career or graduate school)

Programs

Activities

Cost (scholarships/financial aid offers: FAFSA)

“Is it the right fit for me?”

“Can I see myself living there for the next 4 -5 years?”

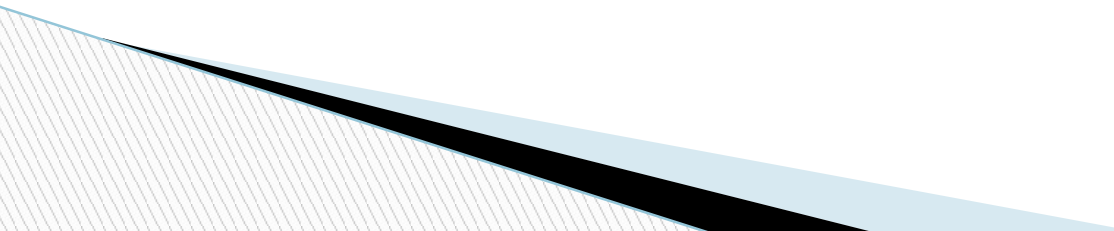
College Athletics...

- ▶ The NCAA and NAIA have academic (and ACT) requirements to be eligible to compete in college.
- ▶ NCAA www.eligibilitycenter.org
- ▶ NAIA www.playnaia.org

See Mr. Hagg for more information.



College Faith Life...

- ▶ Attend a Catholic college?
 - ▶ Newman Centers (at non-Catholic colleges).
 - ▶ Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS).
 - ▶ Parental influence.
 - ▶ Senior retreat will focus on “Staying Catholic in College”.
 - ▶ Choice of friends in college has a huge influence.
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Scholarships...

- ▶ #1 – the college. Most will be renewable.
- ▶ Counseling/College Planning web page. Check every couple weeks.
- ▶ Parents employment.
- ▶ Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation.
www.sfacf.org
- ▶ Service clubs.
- ▶ Churches.
- ▶ Watch deadlines! Be aggressive!
- ▶ Build Dakota Scholarship: SD Tech schools

SD Opportunity Scholarship...

1. 3.0 gpa with no final grade below a “C”.
2. 24 ACT (must have before you enter college).
3. 4 English, 4 math (Alg I and higher), 4 science, other SD graduation requirements, and 2 world language/CTE courses.
4. OR, a 28 ACT Composite and meet ACT benchmark scores.
5. ENTITLEMENT if you meet requirements.
6. \$6,500 over four years of college (\$1,300 the first three years and \$2,600 the senior year). Only at SD colleges.

Dakota Corps Scholarship...

- ▶ Minimum 2.8 gpa.
- ▶ 27 ACT or higher.
- ▶ Agree in writing to stay in SD and work in a **critical need occupation** after graduation for as many years as the scholarship was received plus one year.
- ▶ Critical needs are updated by Dec. 1 each year.
- ▶ Deadline is February 1.
- ▶ Provides tuition and fees.
- ▶ Competitive scholarship (about 50 awarded).
- ▶ www.sdbor.edu/dakotacorps/welcome.html

Scholarship Searches...

- ▶ Fastaid.com
 - ▶ Fastweb.com
 - ▶ Meritaid.com
 - ▶ Scholarships.com
 - ▶ Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation
www.sfacf.org (click on scholarships)
 - ▶ SDMyLife.com
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Financial Aid...

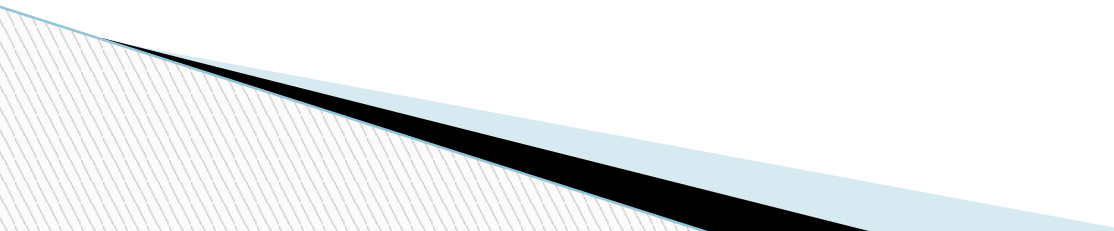
- ▶ FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov)
 - requires 2016 tax information
 - apply for a PIN for one parent and student
 - complete FAFSA after Oct.1

Financial Aid Package: college will prepare based on the FAFSA information. It will include:

Scholarships, Grants, Loans, Work Study



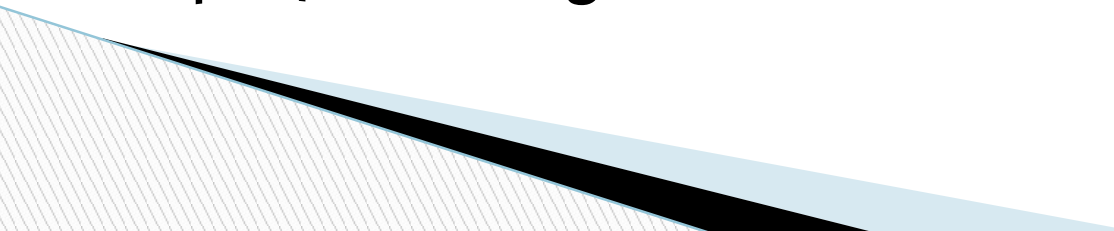
Helpful Hints...

- ▶ Watch the use of social media. Colleges are watching!
 - ▶ Is your child ready? Responsible, mature, focused, independent.
 - ▶ Let your child take ownership of the college process. Parents...be there for support, but don't do it for them. Keep lines of communication open.
 - ▶ The college decision may require more than one visit.
 - ▶ Have the talk about the family financial situation, loans, scholarships, work study, etc.
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Peer Relations

- ▶ Seniors have an important role in the atmosphere of the school
- ▶ Students and parents are able to report bullying or safety or mental health concerns (anonymous or not, your choice)
- ▶ Report goes directly to counselors
 - www.sfcss.org
 - Click O’Gorman H.S.
 - Peer Relations Online Reporting

5 biggest mistakes of college freshmen...

- ▶ Cutting class (take responsibility, relate it to the cost of the class).
 - ▶ Overloading (take a standard load. You want quality, not quantity).
 - ▶ Oversurfing (set up “media free” times. Be careful what you post).
 - ▶ Procrastination (TIME MANAGEMENT).
 - ▶ Going it alone (Advocate for yourself. Go to the professor or graduate assistant).
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Once a decision is made...

- ▶ Inform the school.
 - ▶ Confirm scholarship and financial aid offers.
 - ▶ Send in housing deposit.
 - ▶ Notify other schools you will not be attending.
 - ▶ Inform the counseling office where to send the final transcript.
 - ▶ After graduation, request that Mount Marty send a transcript to your college if you took any courses through them.
 - ▶ If AP tests are taken, have scores sent to the college.
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