

MATTITUCK HIGH SCHOOL
Guidance Department

July 26, 2017

Dear Senior Parents:

We hope you are enjoying the summer. This letter is intended to share important information regarding the college application process for 2017-18.

All seniors received college application guidelines last year and will again at the beginning of this, their senior year, detailing standardized testing deadlines and fees. Please see the enclosed testing schedule and free test prep options available to MHS students. **Please take special notice of the deadlines for the newly offered August SAT and the October SAT and September ACT all of which have registrations deadlines before school begins. We strongly recommend that students register online at www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org well before the posted registration deadlines to ensure they are placed in their first choice test center.**

If your son/daughter will be playing a sport in college on the Division I or II level, the student must file an NCAA Clearinghouse Release form. These forms are available online at www.eligibilitycenter.org. When registering for the SAT I or the ACT, the prospective student/athlete should make sure to release the scores to the NCAA clearinghouse.

Most parents are aware of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), however, there is an additional financial aid form required by many colleges that helps determine institutional need. ***The CSS Profile Guide is available at <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>***. This guide includes instructions on how to apply via the web. A list of colleges requiring this form is available on their web page. Now, both the FAFSA (www.fafsa.gov) and the CSS Profile can be completed beginning in October. Both of these financial aid applications will look at the two prior year's financial data rather than waiting for the current year to end. **Detailed information on the new Prior-Prior Year Financial Aid Policy that went into effect last year and the New York State Excelsior Scholarship Program will be forwarded via a separate letter this October.**

All seniors will be writing personal statements for college applications as part of the English 12 curriculum. Each student will receive guidelines for writing effective essays. **Essays are an important piece of your student's application.** Guidebooks with sample essays are available for borrowing from the guidance department.

Much of the important Guidance/College Application information will be available throughout the year on our website, www.mufsd.com/guidance. Please visit the guidance page to review information concerning application deadlines, essays, recommendations, scholarship lists and standardized testing. You can also access these sites for important information and additional links to informative college admissions and financial aid sites.

In addition to our school website, there is a wealth of information on Naviance, the web-based college application system where each Mattituck student and parent has their own account. We will be using Naviance this year for the processing of applications and for important communications. If you have not yet registered as a parent, we have included in this mailing another copy of your registration code so you may access this all important site. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the guidance office for assistance.

Lastly, we hope that you and your child have a successful year as you proceed through the college admissions process. The Guidance Office will be conducting group sessions with seniors within the first two weeks of school and inviting the students to make individual appointments to discuss their post-secondary plans. Please contact your child's counselor if you would like to set up an appointment to discuss your student's future plans or with any questions or concerns that may arise throughout the year.

Sincerely,



Brian M. Lynch
Guidance Coordinator

SAT and ACT Prep -Now Available on Naviance

Mattituck High School is pleased to provide students with a free opportunity for SAT/ACT test preparation. This online prep is available through a link on Naviance Succeed to Method Test Preparation and is available to all MHS students with a Naviance account. Students can access the test prep page by logging onto their Naviance account and click on the link on the home page for **SAT-ACT Test Prep (MTP) or by using the link.**

<https://app.methodtestprep.com/login>

Accessing Method Test Prep on-line allows students to do SAT and ACT test preparation activities at their convenience. These activities include:

- Listening to audio explanations of test questions
- Accessing strategy guides for each test
- Completing full-length practice tests
- Receiving hundreds of practice questions
- Reading easy explanations for every question
- Tracking strengths on each test
- Receiving valuable test-taking tips
- Taking practice quizzes to boost knowledge

**NEW YORK STATE STANDARDIZED TEST DATES
MATTITUCK HS CEEB CODE: 333-070**

SAT I: Reasoning Test SAT II: Subject Tests

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
August 26, 2107**	SAT I & SAT II	July 28, 2017 (late deadline Aug. 15 th)
October 7, 2017	SAT I & SAT II	September 8, 2017
November 4, 2017*	SAT I & SAT II	October 5, 2017
December 2, 2017	SAT I & SAT II	November 2, 2017

***Please note that the November SAT test date is held at Mattituck. Students should register early if they wish to take the test at Mattituck High School.**

****Offered for the first time in 2017. Limited testing centers on Long Island.**

ACT / ACT with Writing

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
September 9, 2017	ACT	August 04, 2017
October 28, 2017	ACT	September 22, 2017
December 9, 2017	ACT	November 3, 2017

NO STUDENT SHOULD MISS TAKING THESE TESTS BECAUSE OF AN INABILITY TO PAY THE REGISTRATION FEE. IF YOUR FAMILY'S INCOME FALLS BELOW A FEDERALLY ESTABLISHED FIGURE, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A FEE WAIVER. SEE YOUR COUNSELOR IMMEDIATELY IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT QUALIFY.

IF YOU QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS OR EXTENDED TIME FOR TESTING, YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR ELIGIBILITY CODE AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION. SEE YOUR COUNSELOR IMMEDIATELY IF YOU WILL BE TAKING EITHER THE SAT OR ACT.

The following will be reviewed/explained during Group Meetings in September

Congratulations on becoming a senior at MHS. You have had great success in reaching this far. With success comes responsibility and this year along with your academic and extracurricular responsibilities comes the responsibilities of applying to college. Regardless of what you have done to this point each of you has some work ahead of you before applications go out. The guidance office will meet with seniors in early September to discuss all of the important timelines and requirements. Following those meetings, we will host individual meetings to discuss your own post-secondary plans and all the while we will utilize the Naviance Family Connection to help you research your prospective schools, process your applications, and communicate with you and your family.

You can stay current by making sure you are up to date in your checklist which is linked on your Naviance home page. As you begin your senior year here are some things you should be doing:

CONTINUE YOUR RESEARCH:

College Visits- Each year around 30-40 colleges visit Mattituck High School to meet with interested students. Please see Updates on your home page for instructions on how to see whose coming and how to sign up. Remember meeting with college representatives is a good way to show you are interested. You should always follow up with a thank you card or email.

College Fairs- Check for announcements on additional upcoming fairs in the area this fall.

After a group meeting with guidance counselors in early September, students should sign up for an individual meeting with counselor to discuss your plans. Parents are invited to contact counselors to set up a meeting as well.

There are helpful links on the navigation bar of your home page that will provide you with useful information and statistics for students from Mattituck as well as students from around the country. Check out both College Match and Acceptance History when researching your colleges

AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR SEARCH:

FERPA Waiver- All students will need to either complete the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act Release (FERPA) Survey under the About Me tab or for those students using the common application complete a FERPA waiver on the Common App website and match up their Common App and Naviance accounts. Most teacher and guidance recommendations are sent electronically and these waivers must be completed before we will send out any recommendations in any format. See the news bulletin at the top of your home page for instructions.

Teacher Recs- When meeting with your counselor students should list from what teachers they will be requesting recommendations. Most applications require 1-2 teacher recommendations and a counselor recommendation. Outside recommendations can enhance an application if the

person can speak specifically about the student. Outside recommendations can be sent electronically if sent to the guidance office from your recommender.

Update College Lists- Students will need to update college lists on the “my colleges” page and then with your counselor move colleges from “colleges you are considering” to “colleges you will be applying to”. From here, the guidance office will be able to track what you need sent and to where you need it sent. You will also have an excellent resource with deadlines and requirements for each school.

Scholarship lists- There will be scholarship lists distributed monthly to students and posted on the school website. Some applications will have online links and instructions while others will need to be picked up in the guidance office, completed and returned.

SAT/ ACT -Test scores- Mattituck High School does not automatically include standardized test results on student transcripts. It will be the student’s responsibility to send scores directly from the testing agencies. Options and instructions on how to do this can be found at www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and at www.act.org for the ACT.

Resume- Most students should consider creating a college resume highlighting their activities and interests. Naviance has a resume writer and students can use their program to create their own document. We have also posted some sample resumes under the document library link for students who would like other options. Other schools use programs such as www.zeemee.com for students to create online profiles.

Interviews- Students need to check admission requirements for specific colleges to see if an interview is recommended or required. Some colleges will not allow you to schedule an interview until after you submitted all or part of your application. See your counselor or the document library for a list of frequently asked interview questions.

Personal statement- All students in an English 12 class or AP English Literature will work on personal statements in class.

Create Account at Common App- Students applying to college will likely use the common application. If you have not done so you should register at www.commonapp.org to get started.

NCAA- Students interested in playing Division I or II sports in college need meet eligibility requirements. You must apply for clearance at www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org. Students should begin this process early in the senior year.

It may seem overwhelming however if you get an early start you can work ahead of the deadlines. As always if you have any questions please feel free to see your counselor. Your counselor is there to assist you through this process. Meet with him/her early and start working now. You will be happy you did.

On www.mufsd.com, go to [Schools/Mattituck Jr/Sr High School/Guidance](#) and Select [Naviance Family Connection](#):

Welcome to Family Connection

Nice to see you again! Please log in.

e-mail

password

remember me

[Log In](#)

[forgot your password?](#)

[need additional help?](#)

are you new here?

[i'm a guest >](#)

[i need to register >](#)

Click here to register for first time.

Click here to reset your password



Naviance Succeed High School
3033 Wilson Blvd
Suite 500
Arlington VA 22201
p: 703-859-7300

Figure 1. Family Connection Login page

Once the student or family member has reached this page, he or she should click the **I need to register** link.

New User?

If you have been given a registration code by your counselor, you can begin the registration process below.

[Register](#)

[Go Back](#)



Naviance Succeed High School
3033 Wilson Blvd
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Figure 2. New User Registration page

The student or parent enters the registration code and clicks the **Register** button.

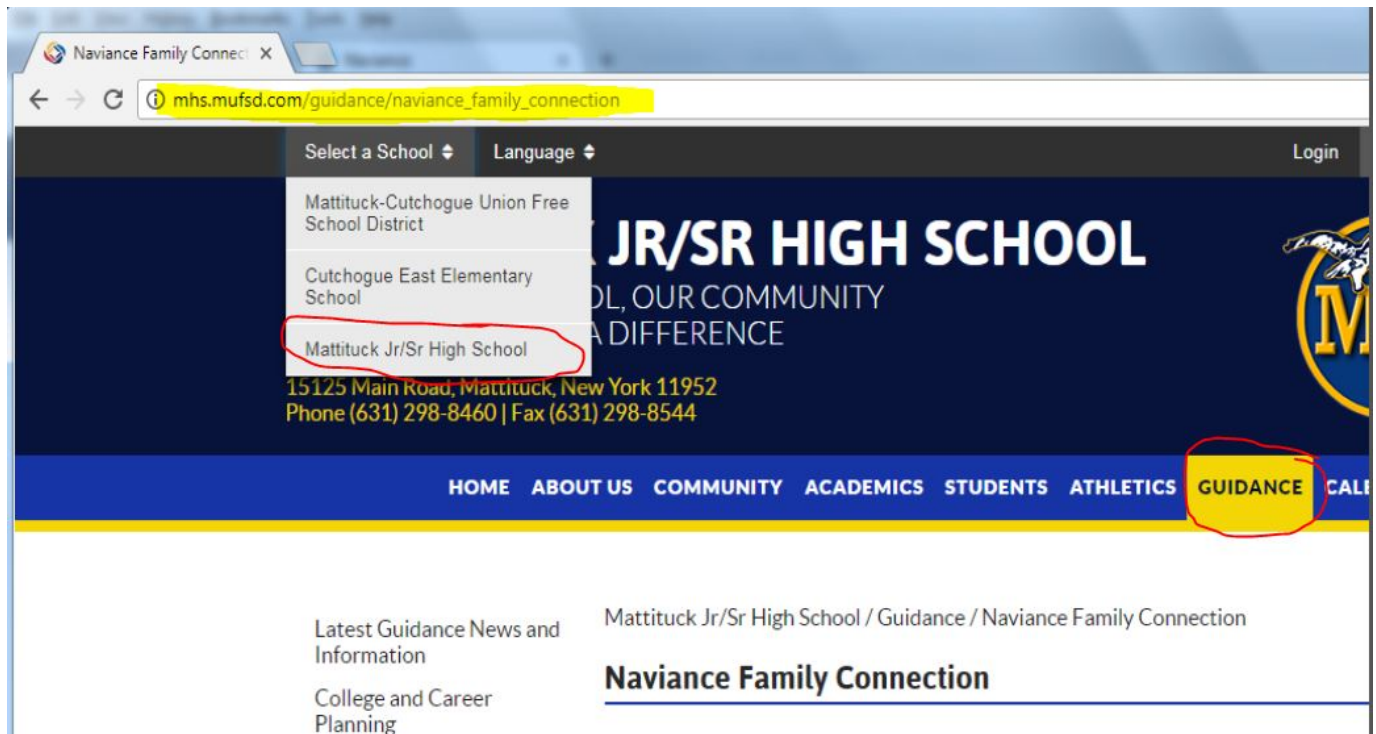
The student or parent then completes the registration by entering a valid e-mail address and creating a password. Passwords must be at least six characters and cannot contain blank spaces.

After that, the student or parent accepts the terms of service and clicks the **Complete Registration** button.

To sign into Family Connection:

In order to sign in to Family Connection, a student/parent should:

1. Navigate to mhs.mufsd.com/guidance/naviance_family_connection (or via www.mufsd.com)
2. Enter his or her e-mail address.
3. Enter his or her password.
4. Click the **Log In** button.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL mhs.mufsd.com/guidance/naviance_family_connection. The page features a dark blue header with a navigation menu. A dropdown menu is open under "Select a School", listing three options: "Mattituck-Cutchogue Union Free School District", "Cutchogue East Elementary School", and "Mattituck Jr/Sr High School", with the latter circled in red. The main content area displays "JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL" and "MATTITUCK JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL, OUR COMMUNITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE". Below this, the school's address and contact information are provided: "15125 Main Road, Mattituck, New York 11952" and "Phone (631) 298-8460 | Fax (631) 298-8544". A navigation bar at the bottom contains links for "HOME", "ABOUT US", "COMMUNITY", "ACADEMICS", "STUDENTS", "ATHLETICS", "GUIDANCE", and "CALENDAR", with "GUIDANCE" circled in red. The footer includes "Latest Guidance News and Information" and "College and Career Planning" on the left, and "Mattituck Jr/Sr High School / Guidance / Naviance Family Connection" and "Naviance Family Connection" on the right.