



WELCOME!

Post-Secondary Options and
Resources

South County High School
March 2024



Overview

Community College
Career Training
Military
4-Year College
Financial Aid
Timelines and Resources

Class of 2023 - Student Plans

Attend 4-Year College / University	68%
Attend 2-Year College	19%
Join the Military	1%
Pursue Employment or Career Training Program	4%
Other / Unknown	5%

Northern Virginia Community College

- #1 Destination for SCHS graduates
- Largest public school in Virginia; second largest community college in the US
- Transferable and non-transferable options
- Six campus locations and NOVA Online
- Roughly 1/3 to 1/2 the cost of tuition at four-year public schools in Virginia

Guaranteed Admission Agreements

- Transfer agreements with 40+ area colleges and universities
- Learn more at nvcc.edu/gaa
- Note - Guarantees admission only

Advance NOVA/GMU

- NOVA-Mason Partnership for specific degree pathways
- Advising and mentoring in both locations
- Goal to transfer and save money by graduating in four years
- Learn more at nvcc.edu/advance

NOVA Dual Enrollment

- Students can receive both high school and college credit while still being enrolled in high school
- Tuition is paid for by FCPS
- College transcript begins

NOVA Honors

- Smaller, seminar style classes
- Experiential learning and scholarship opportunities
- Memoranda of Understanding with several other colleges and universities

Additional Pathways

- [Richard Bland College of William & Mary](#)
(residential two-year college)
- [UVA Wise “Year at Wise”](#) (four-year institution
affiliated with UVA)
- [Radford University Bridge Program](#)
(partnership between Radford University and local
community college)

Career & Technology

- FCPS Academy Classes
- [Adult and Community Education \(ACE\) / Apprenticeships](#)
- NVCC Non-Transferable Options
 - [Information and Engineering Technologies](#)
 - [Medical Education Campus](#)
 - [Workforce](#)
 - Certificate Programs
 - Fast Forward
- Helpful resource: [Ms. Biehl's Google site Career Training Page](#) - Detailed list of opportunities ranging from first responders to trades to IT available

Edison Academy

Automotive Collision
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Cyber- Network
Administration
Cyber: Computer
Systems Tech A+
Cyber Security Capstone
Electrical Construction

Heating, Ventilation,
AC & Refrigeration
Teachers for
Tomorrow
Veterinary Science

West Potomac Academy

Broadway and Hip Hop Dance
Biomedical Technician
Biomedical Foundations
Dental Careers
Early Childhood
Emergency Medical Tech.
Exploring the Language of Med
Exploring Health Sciences
Medical Assistant

Music and
Computer Tech.
Pharmacy Tech.
Physical/
Occupational
Therapy
Professional TV
Production
911 Dispatcher

Military

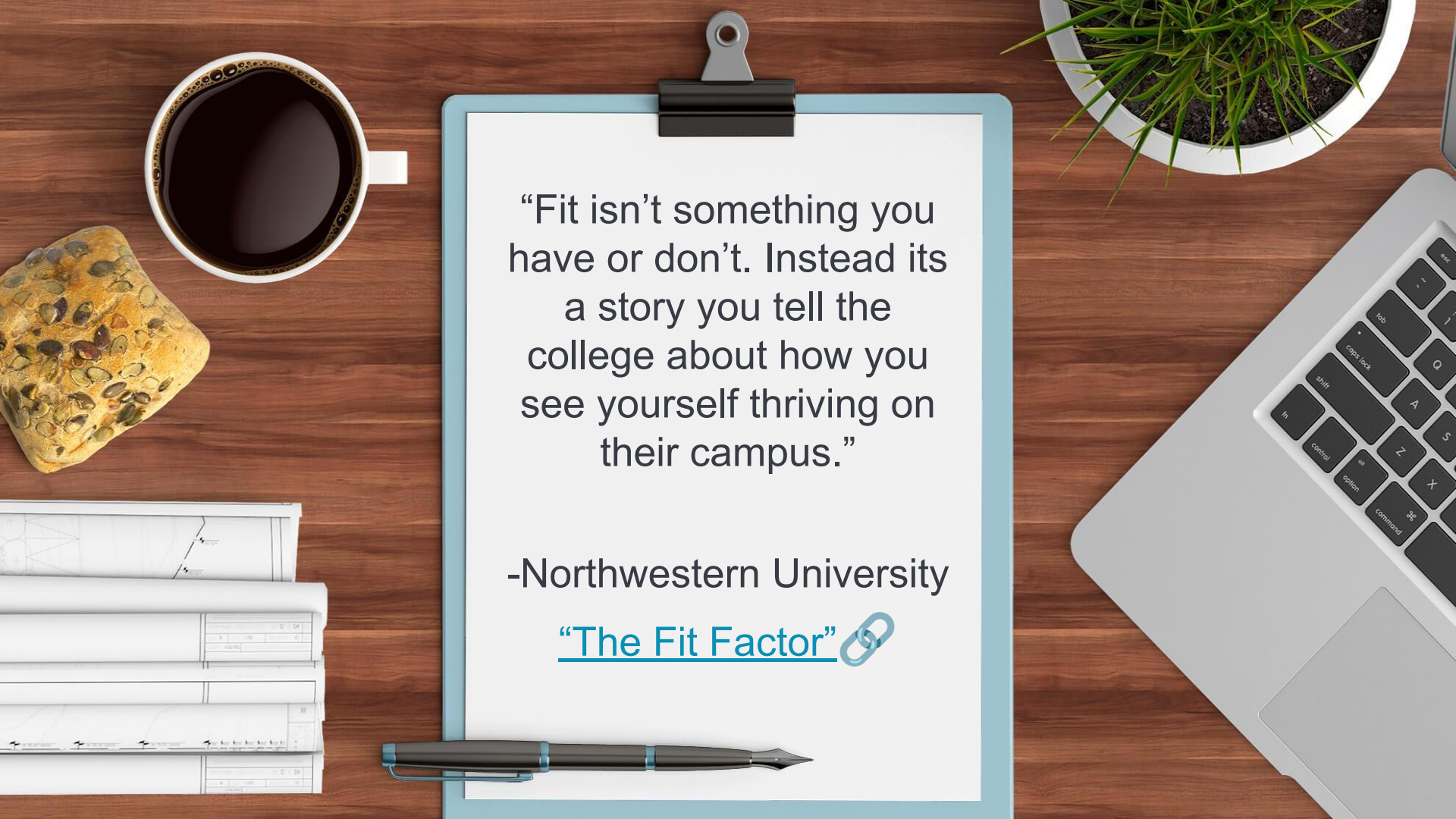
- Military Recruiter Cafeteria Visits
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) 11th and 12th grade
- FCPS Virtual Military Night - March 20th
 - Academies and Nominations
 - ROTC
 - Senior Military Colleges
- Helpful resource: [Ms. Biehl's Google site Military page](#)



4 Year Colleges

Things to Consider

- Selection and “Fit”
- Testing
- Admission Requirements
- Finances



“Fit isn’t something you have or don’t. Instead its a story you tell the college about how you see yourself thriving on their campus.”

-Northwestern University

[“The Fit Factor”](#) 

Considerations for Fit

- Size
- Location
- Academic Programs
- Sports and Social Opportunities
- Public vs. Private
- Cost
- Selectivity
- Graduation and retention rates

Entrance Exams (SAT & ACT)

Test Required - All applicants are required to provide test score for admission review

Test Blind / Test Free - Admissions will not accept or consider test scores for review

Test Optional - gives applicant choice to submit if score improves application

Test Flexible - Applicants choose tests to report - ACT, SAT, IB, AP, etc.

Check the application instructions and confirm with each college admission website!

SAT vs ACT

SAT

- Score between 400-1600
- Reading, Writing, and Math
- More time per question

ACT

- Score between 1-36
- Reading, Writing, Math and Science
- More questions with less time for each

Test Preparation

- [Compilation of Paid Test Prep Resources](#)
- [College Board](#) - Download Bluebook app for full-length practice tests.
- [Khan Academy](#) - Official College Board SAT practice. Offers free, personalized practice for the SAT.
- [ACT Academy](#) - Offers a question of the day, practice test questions, and tips.
- [Tutor.com](#) - 24/7 live tutoring and self-paced resources accessed through Schoology.

SAT vs ACT

Considerations When Registering

- Fee Waivers Available - [Email Mrs. Lauria](#) in Student Services for Free/Reduced Lunch and College Partnership Program
- IEP/504 - Must Request Accommodations

SAT - <http://www.collegeboard.org>

ACT - <http://www.actstudent.org>



Admissions Criteria

- Strength of Curriculum
- Grades / GPA
- Activities / Resume
- Recommendations
- SAT or ACT

Criteria by School Type

High Volume / Large Schools

- Grades / GPA
- Strength of curriculum
- SAT/ACT scores
- Essays/activities/recommendations have minimal impact

Highly Selective Schools

- Strength of Curriculum
- Grades
- SAT/ACT scores
- Essays/activities/recommendations can be tie-breakers

Smaller / Less Selective Schools

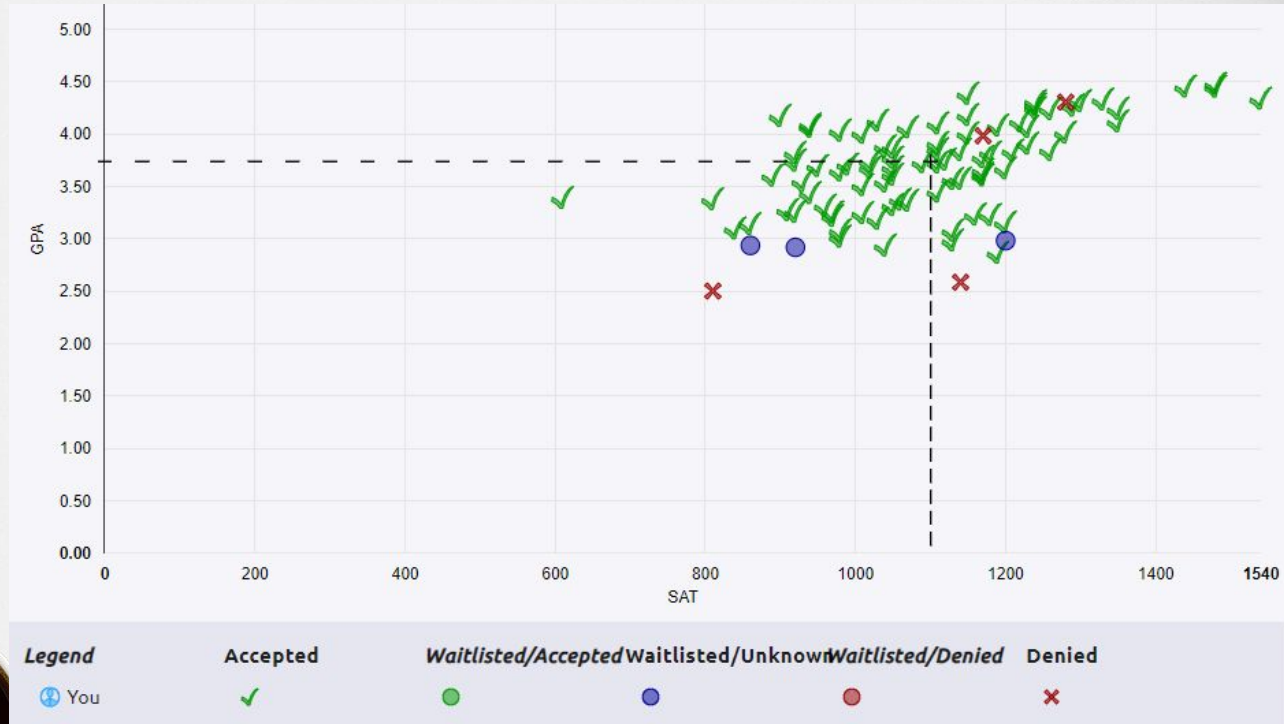
- Strength of Curriculum
- Grades
- SAT/ACT scores
- More holistic approach using essays/ activities/recommendations/ and special circumstances

Make a List

- Different for every student
- May initially be very broad
- Narrow as you research
- 4 to 8 final options



Scattergrams in Naviance Student



SCHS Acceptance Averages - 2023

VA Colleges	GPA	SAT
James Madison	3.91	1183
Univ. of Virginia	4.39	1405
Old Dominion	3.41	1024

OOS Colleges	GPA	SAT
Penn State	3.86	1156
Univ. of Alabama	3.77	1186
Howard Univ.	3.76	1027

College Visits - Timing and Considerations

- Schedule campus tours in advance
- Share trips with other families
- Plan around sports, SATs, prom, etc.
- Distance from home
- Size of campus / town
- Student / faculty ratio
- Activities
- Campus atmosphere
- Residential life

College Visits at South County

- College Admission Counselors visit SCHS to meet with juniors and seniors in the fall.
- Visits are typically 30-40 minutes and provide a wide range of information and advice for applications, financial aid and scholarships.
- Students can view the schedule of visits and register using Naviance Student.

Financial Aid

- Aid refers to grants, scholarships, loans and work study
- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) should open October 1st.
- [College Access Fairfax](#)
 - Live presentations, workshops, and help by appointment
 - Resources
 - Virtual Library - recorded presentations
 - Military / GI Bill / Yellow Ribbon
 - Scholarships
 - Undocumented Students

Financial Aid Resources

- ECMC Opportunities Books
- [Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority](#) (MEFA)
- [Financial Aid Guides & Resources](#) are available on the SCHS website
- [US DOE Net Price Calculator Center](#)
- Scholarships – Naviance Student database
- Helpful resource: [Ms. Biehl's Google site Scholarships page](#)

Junior Year

- Take the SAT or ACT
- Research and visit colleges
- Athletes register with NCAA Eligibility Center
- Apply for Military Academy nominations
- Attend Northern Virginia Regional College Fair – Wednesday, April 10th at GMU from 6:30-8:30 PM

Senior Year: August-October

- August - Complete “Request for Counselor Recommendation”
- Early September - SCHS Senior Parent Night and Senior group meetings with counselors
- Sept.- Nov. - Sign up on Naviance to attend college rep visits in the Career Center
- SAT School Day in October if desired
- Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Senior Year: October - June

- Oct. – Feb.- Students complete applications, request transcripts and letters of recommendation, meet with counselors.
- Dec. - April- Admission notifications and financial aid awards sent out.
- May 1- Decision Day! Student intentions and deposits due.
- June - Graduation!
- Summer - Orientations and Registration

Additional Resources

- [Ms. Biehl's Google Site](#) (Student Access Only)
- [SCHS CCC Website](#)
- Naviance Student
- [Common Data Set](#): Google "School Common Data Set"



Demo's Future Planning

College: Bachelor's Degree

 [Edit Path](#)



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Plan Your Future

Quickly access your path highlights, favorite careers, information from your school, and more from this page.



Welcome

Welcome to Naviance. We help students and parents explore career choices and self-discovery.

In Naviance, you can take surveys, and more you use, more you will learn about yourself.

Ready to get started?


- [Check out our resources](#)

At

Parting Thoughts

- Avoid making comparisons to siblings, neighbors, or others you may know
- Remember that you and your experiences are unique
- Celebrate all victories however small.
- Ask for help if needed.
- **This journey requires research and effort.** Have open, honest conversations.





Please contact your
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College and Career
Specialist if you need
more information.



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THANK YOU!

