

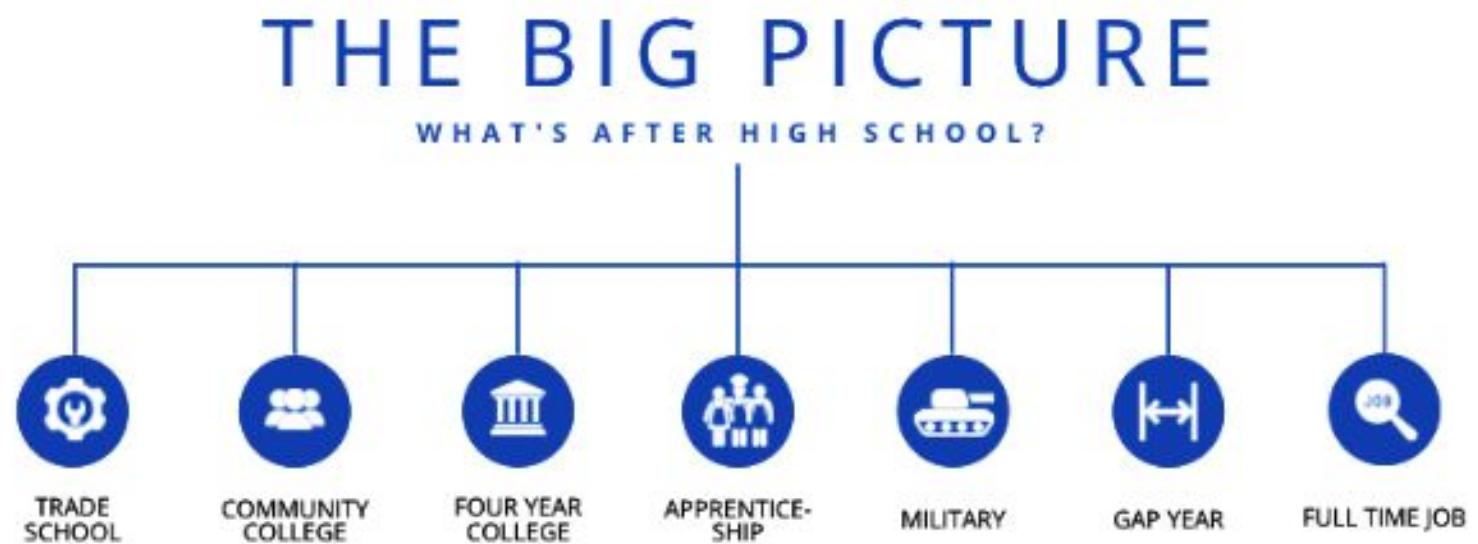


11th Grade Student & Parent Program

**Janine O'Brien, School Counselor
Sarah Rust, School Counselor**
January 7, 2026

Program Outline

- Course Selection Process
- High School Opportunities
- College Selection Process
- Application Process
- Financial Aid
- SAT / ACT Information
- Scholarships
- Important Dates
- Contact Information



Course Selection Process

Prior to the December break, we met with all students during English class to select courses for the 2026-2027 school year.

Individual student and parent/guardian meetings will also take place.
Letters will be mailed home with meeting date/time.

Review transcript/graduation requirements, review selected courses for senior year, discuss potential post high school plans, review application process, financial aid, and scholarships.

Senior Internship Program

Program Overview

- Full year = 108 hours (1 credit); Half year = 54 hours (½ credit)
- Students spend 8-10 weeks in 2-3 careers, 2-3 days/week for 1½-3+ hrs.
- Students must have their license and own transportation
- Students meet mentors prior to starting an internship
- Weekly time sheets, journals, and other career related activities
- Students can still take honors/AP courses and participate in sports/clubs



Senior Internship Program Continued ...

Application Process:

Students apply late winter/early spring:

- 1. Application (includes resume, essay, teacher recommendations)**
- 2. Review of:**
 - grades
 - attendance
 - transportation
 - career interests
 - disciplinary issues
- 3. Interview with Ms. Bean**

New Visions Program

Health Careers Exploration

- Academically rigorous one year program for college bound seniors who plan to major in pre-med or other health related field.
- Application process includes written statement, letters of recommendation, transcript review, attendance report, interview with selection committee.



Empire Boys & Girls State

- Junior students are invited to participate in the American Legion Empire Boys and Empire Girls State.
- State citizens will build the government of a mythical 51st state, from the local level up to the state level.

Boys State

June 27th - July 2nd
SUNY Morrisville

Girls State

June 30th - July 6th
SUNY Brockport

Selecting the “right” college



- Consider your priorities and academic needs
- Use all available resources to identify those that match your priorities/needs
- Visit the campus/community
- Interview and ask questions





Sources of College Information

- Your school counselor
- College webpages/catalogs/viewbooks
- College visits (virtual and/or in-person)
- College Representative visits to Student Services
- College fair programs
- Parents/relatives/teachers/friends
- Professionals in your intended career field/college major



The College Application Process

- **Application**
 - Online Common Application/SUNY Common Application
- **Official SAT and/or ACT Scores**
 - *Students send scores directly to the college/university from their College Board or ACT account **some schools are now test optional***
- **High School Transcript**
- **College Essay**
- **Portfolio/Auditions** (Art, Music, Performance Majors)
- **Letters of Recommendation**
 - Counselor, Teacher(s), Coach, Mentor
- **Application Fee** (varies by institution)





What Are Colleges Looking For?

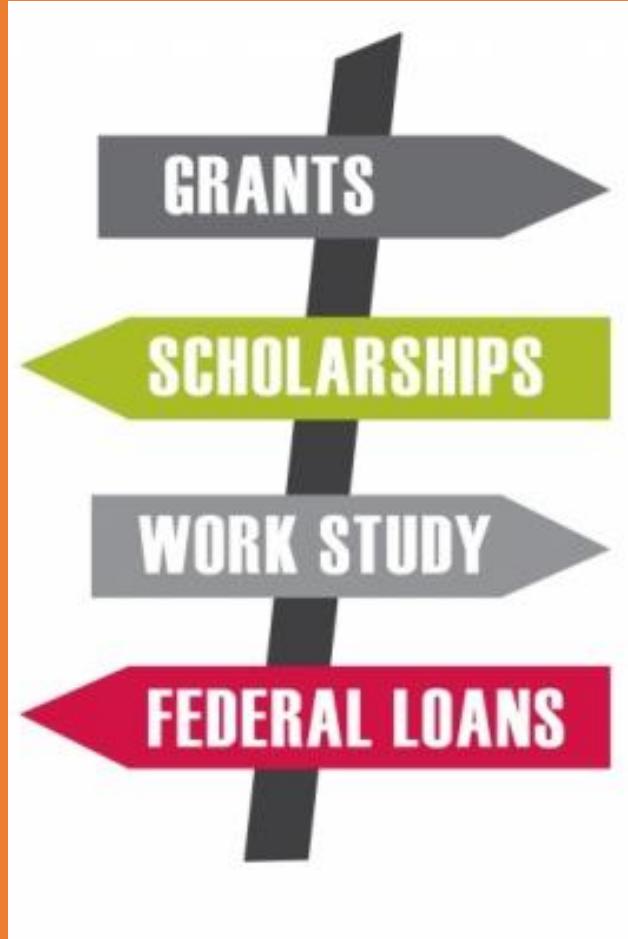
- **Transcript**
 - Strength of program
 - Grade Point Average (GPA)
 - Class rank
- **Involvement**
 - Extracurricular activities
 - Athletics
 - Community service
 - Employment
- **Standardized Test Scores**
 - SAT
 - ACT
- **Special Interests**
 - Art
 - Music
 - Athletics
 - Scout Awards
 - Noteworthy experiences...
- **Other**
 - College essay
 - Demonstrated interest
 - Interview (if offered)
 - Recommendations
 - Diversity

Financial Aid - Forms to Complete



- **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**
 - Anticipated to open 10/1/2026
 - Contributors to the FAFSA must apply for FSA ID
<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>
 - Visit FAFSA website to complete the form: studentaid.gov
- **NYS Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)**
 - Attend a college/university within New York State
 - Link to complete application provided after completion of FAFSA application
- **CSS Profile**
 - Required by more selective colleges and universities
 - Visit the College Board website to complete the CSS Profile: www.collegeboard.org
- **Institutional Forms**

Financial Aid Continued ...



Nearly all students receive some form of financial aid:

- Grants (free money): PELL, TAP, Institutional
- Scholarships: School Specific, Private, Regional, National
- Federal Work Study: Employment on campus
- Loans: Stafford/Perkins Federal Loans, PLUS (Parent Loans)

Excelsior Scholarship

The Excelsior Scholarship allows students to attend a SUNY or CUNY college tuition-free. **this does not cover room/board/misc fees*

- The program covers tuition for eligible SUNY and CUNY students.
- Adjusted combined federal household income of \$125,000 or less.
- Enroll in full-time study (at least 12 credits per semester)
- Complete at least 30 credits per year.
- Live and work in NYS for a duration equal to the number of years you received the scholarship.
- Must complete the FAFSA & TAP application each year for payment.

The Excelsior scholarship application typically opens late Spring of senior year.



SAT & ACT Information

When and how often should you take them?

- SAT (*collegeboard.org*)
- ACT (*act.org*)

How do you register for these?

Where will you take the test?

School Based Testing

- March 13th (payment due to the Main Office by February 2nd)

How do you test with testing accommodations?



Important Dates to Remember

- **Student & Parent/Guardian Meetings**
 - Letters with meeting dates/times will be mailed home
 - Please contact Student Services to change meeting date/time if necessary
 - Review course selections/begin post graduation planning
- **New Visions Information Session**
 - January 13th - 1:00 pm @ Schuylerville - Health Careers Exploration; *see school counselor if interested*
- **SAT School Based Testing**
 - March 13th - 9:00 am @ Schuylerville High School



Student Services Contact Information



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