



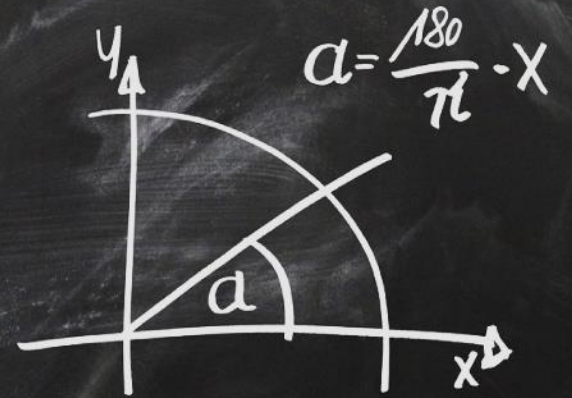
PREPARING FOR COLLEGE: WHAT CAN BE DONE DURING 9TH, 10TH & 11TH GRADE



THERE IS NO
SECRET...BUT IT
TAKES A LITTLE
MAGIC!

(And that magic boils down
to being the best student
you can be!)

$$X_{1/2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



$$X^2 + pX + q = 0$$



$$X_{1/2} = -\frac{p}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - q}$$



$$X = 6 - 2y$$

$$X + a = b$$

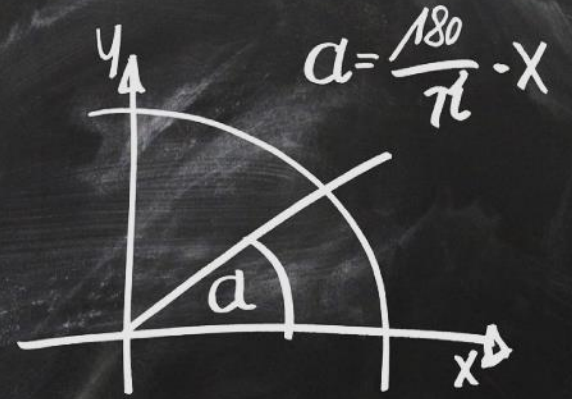
$$f(x) = \tan x$$

$$f(x) = \sin x$$



The process of getting into a college is essentially the same for everyone, but how you prepare yourself before applying is a little different for everyone. There are three common factors that impact all admissions decisions though... GPA, scores on college entrance exams, and the rigor of high school coursework

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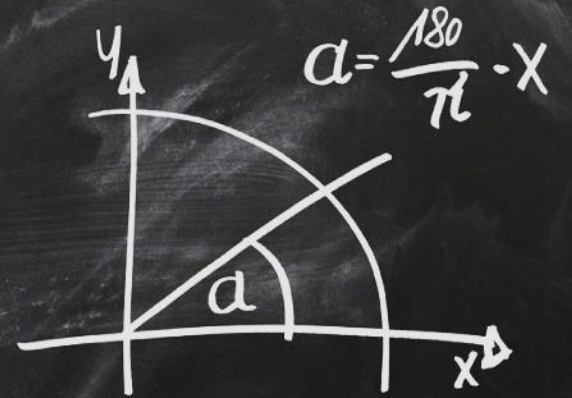


Why are grades such a key factor? And why the cumulative GPA at the end of junior year plays a significant role.

Plus, how do I get help with grades on a daily basis? How can FIT and the library tutoring center help?

How to check grades, keeping in contact with teachers etc.

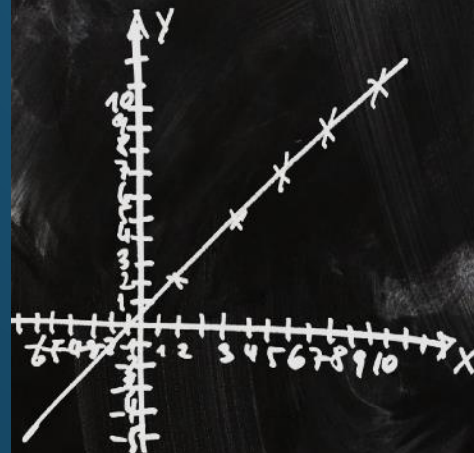
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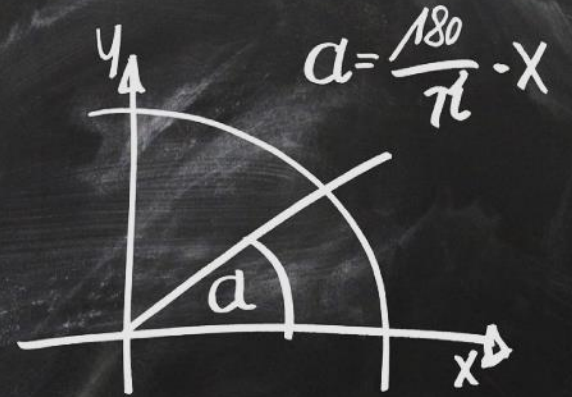
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Grades tell a story, but what kinds of stories do colleges & universities want to hear? And what happens if my first 9th grade report card is not exactly what I wished for? How about if I constantly, steadily improve throughout my high school career?

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LIKE SO MANY THINGS IN LIFE, IT'S ALL ABOUT DECISION-MAKING!

- A student's preparation for college is related to class selections he/she makes throughout high school
- The rigor of courses, choosing the right class for you and how that impacts college admissions and college readiness



- Rigor is the academic challenge level of a particular course
- The most rigorous courses available tend to be Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit classes since they can earn a student college credit
- Honors-level work (often termed Pre-AP) is the best way to prepare but it's not a formal requirement to gain entry into AP/IB classes



THERE IS PREPARING, AND THEN THERE'S *BEING PREPARED*

What's going on?
I had better get
ready!

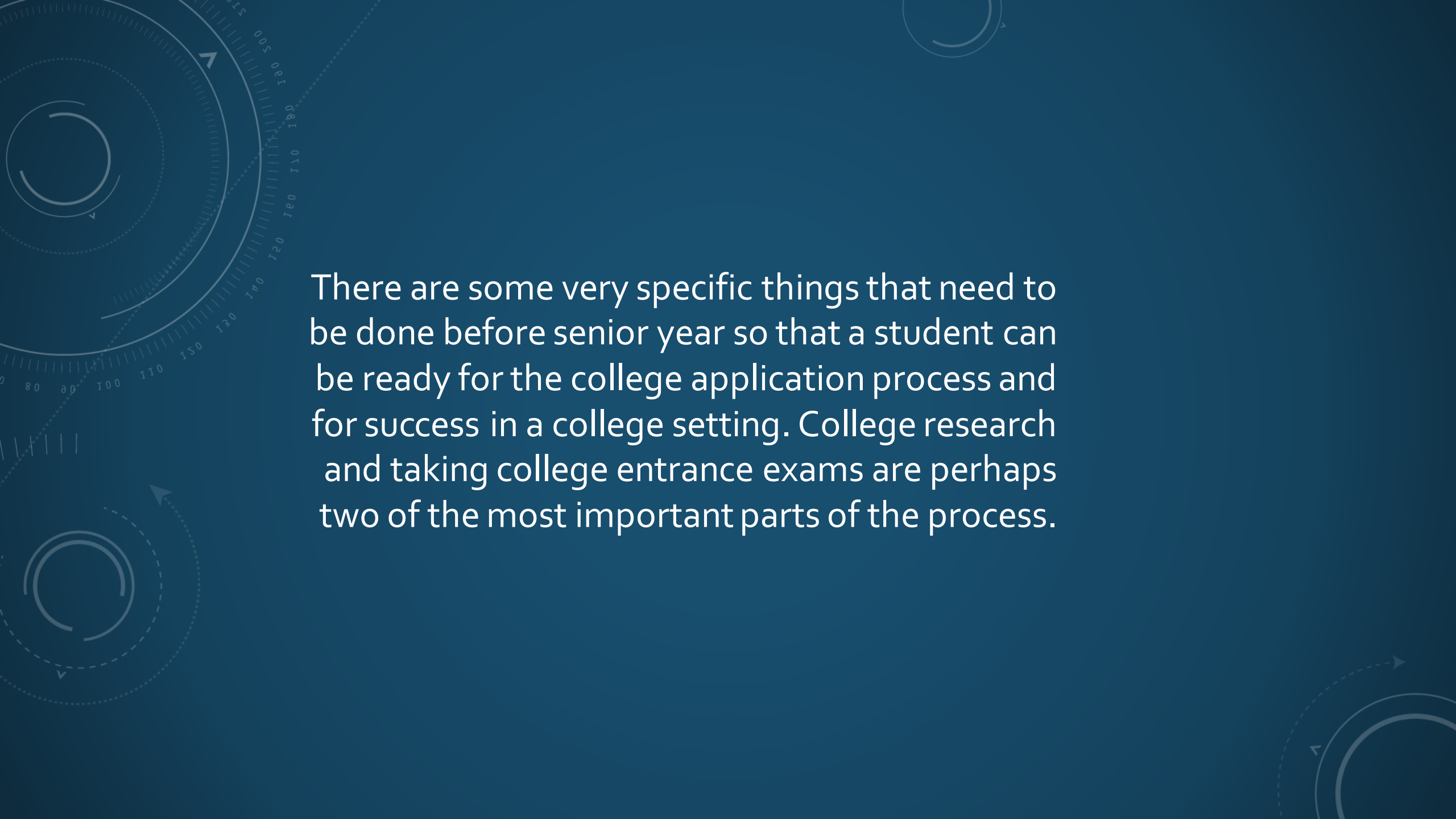
Readiness

Preparation

Prepared

Success,
achievement,
glory and all the
awesome stuff!



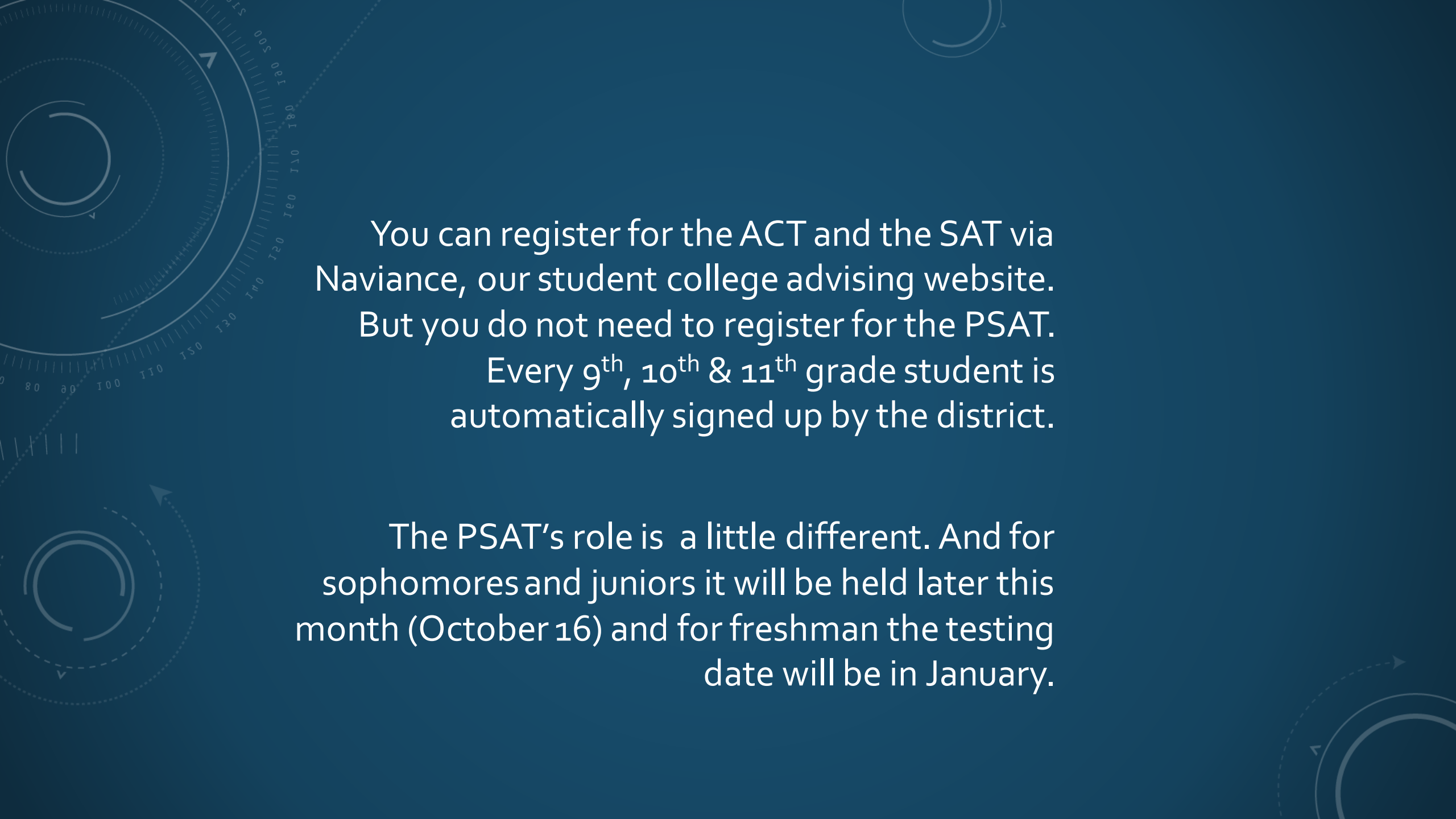


There are some very specific things that need to be done before senior year so that a student can be ready for the college application process and for success in a college setting. College research and taking college entrance exams are perhaps two of the most important parts of the process.



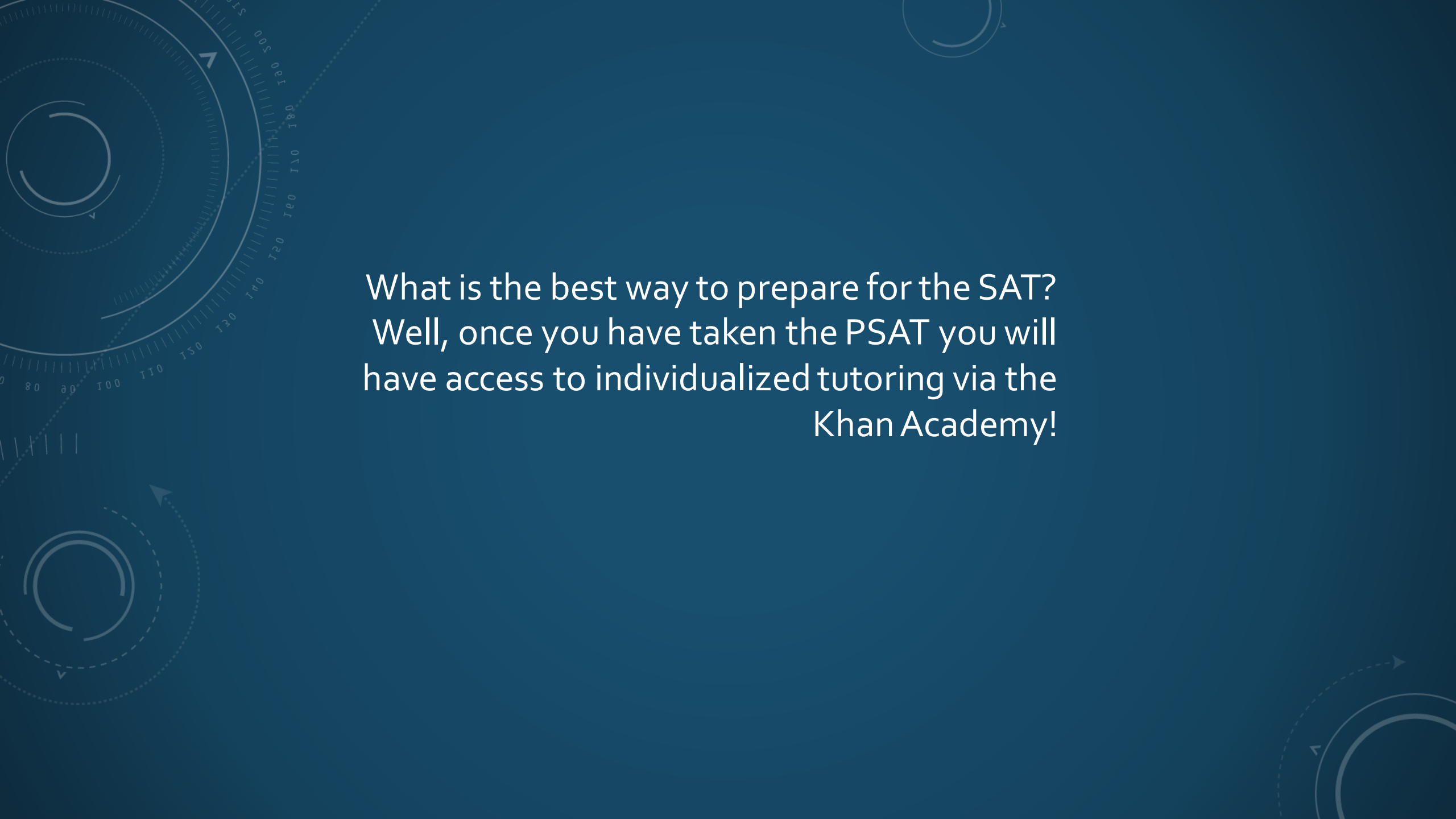
What is a college entrance exam and what is its role?

The ACT and SAT are standardized tests used in the application & admissions process of higher education institutions which are commonly taken during springtime of junior year, but many students take it earlier or during the first half of senior year. They may be taken multiple times and schools accept the highest composite score (and in some cases 'superscore' each section). Both are accepted in all American universities plus, according to William R. Fitzsimmons, Harvard's dean of admissions in an article from the New York Times, "The tests predict college performance equally well, and despite urban legend, most people do about as well on one as on the other." So try either or both if you wish!

The background is a solid dark blue. It features several faint, light blue circular patterns. On the left side, there are concentric circles with arrows indicating a clockwise direction. Some of these circles have numerical markings around their perimeters, such as 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360. In the top right corner, there is a small circular pattern with an arrow. In the bottom right corner, there is another circular pattern with an arrow. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

You can register for the ACT and the SAT via Naviance, our student college advising website. But you do not need to register for the PSAT. Every 9th, 10th & 11th grade student is automatically signed up by the district.

The PSAT's role is a little different. And for sophomores and juniors it will be held later this month (October 16) and for freshman the testing date will be in January.

The background is a solid dark blue. On the left side, there are several faint, light blue circular patterns. One large circle at the top left has a scale around its perimeter with numbers from 0 to 180 in increments of 10. Below it, there are smaller concentric circles, some solid and some dashed, with arrows indicating a clockwise direction. In the bottom right corner, there is another partial circular pattern with a dashed arrow.

What is the best way to prepare for the SAT?
Well, once you have taken the PSAT you will
have access to individualized tutoring via the
Khan Academy!

A college readiness partnership
 CollegeBoard +  KHANACADEMY

Official SAT[®] Practice NEW!

For the first time ever. For you. For free.

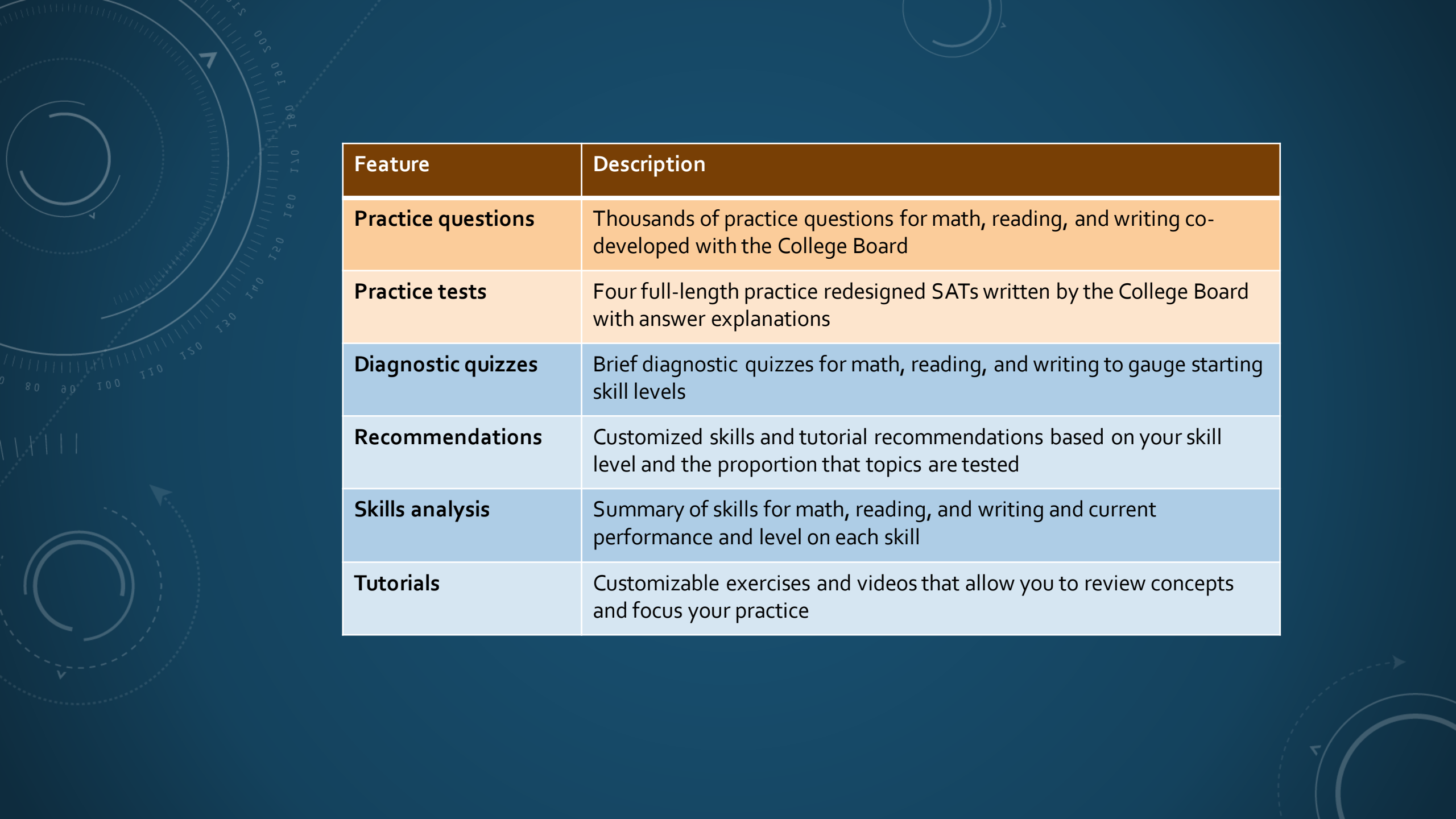
- ✓ Get to know the new SAT (March 2016)
- ✓ See recommendations to focus your time
- ✓ Stay on top of important dates and announcements



Check it out now

Or tell a student, parent, or educator you know!





Feature	Description
Practice questions	Thousands of practice questions for math, reading, and writing co-developed with the College Board
Practice tests	Four full-length practice redesigned SATs written by the College Board with answer explanations
Diagnostic quizzes	Brief diagnostic quizzes for math, reading, and writing to gauge starting skill levels
Recommendations	Customized skills and tutorial recommendations based on your skill level and the proportion that topics are tested
Skills analysis	Summary of skills for math, reading, and writing and current performance and level on each skill
Tutorials	Customizable exercises and videos that allow you to review concepts and focus your practice

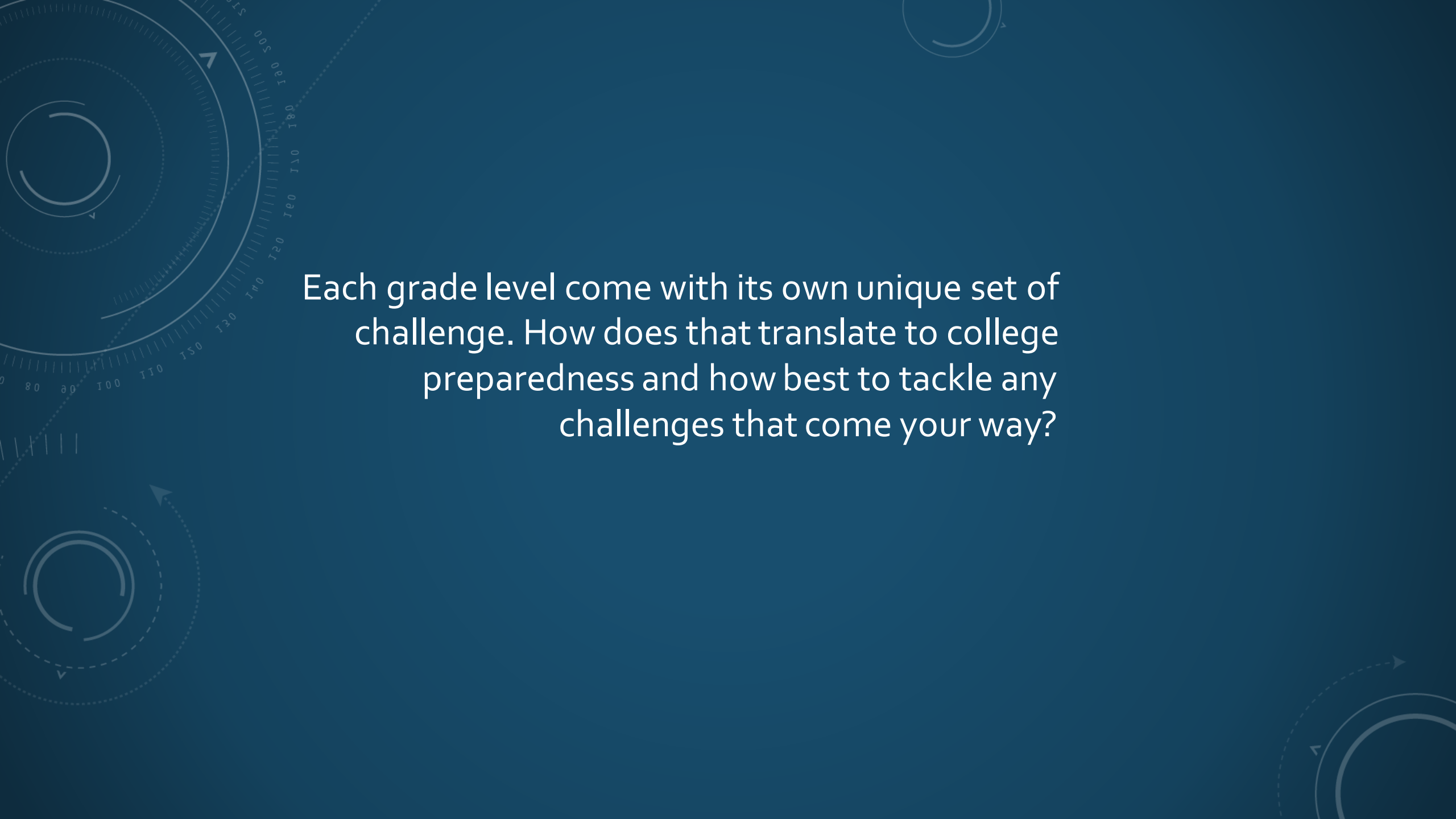
“

*Well-rounded also means knowing when to stop and
smell the roses*

”

Somebody wise

How does downtime, relaxation, mindfulness and mental
health play into all of this?



Each grade level come with its own unique set of challenge. How does that translate to college preparedness and how best to tackle any challenges that come your way?



DE-COMPLICATING (UN-COMPLICATING MAYBE?) THE COMPLICATED

- Resources in school to help with college readiness and college applications
- The College & Career Center



- Pam Mason and our College & Career Center
- College tours, campus visits and college reps
- Using the college search tools on Naviance



- It is never too early to start talking about paying for college
- FAFSA
- Naviance scholarship search



THE WORLD OUTSIDE THE (CLASSROOM) WINDOW

The role of extracurricular
activities, volunteer service,
charity work and work
experience





- Find something you care about, dedicate yourself to it, and don't worry about your resume being huge but make sure it's full of meaningful commitments
- Document your hours spent on service; keep track of achievements; know how to find out about clubs, organizations...ours are listed on the school website; use Naviance resume builder
- Be able to articulate what you have learned since it could be useful in entrance essays, interviews etc.



THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR
TIME... ANY QUESTIONS?