



Pascack Valley High School Junior Post-High School Planning



*Kicking off the
College
Application
Process!*

- 2

TRANSCRIPTS, GRADES AND GPA

My High School Transcript: The first thing a college will see

- Your Transcript is your high school academic record
- Includes your final grades for all courses in Grades 9 through 12
- Includes GPA (Grade Point Average) for each year as well as a Cumulative GPA
- Transcripts show the rigor of your coursework and can show trends in



Example of a Transcript

Student Name:		
Student ID:	Grade:	Gender:
	12	
State ID:		
Birthplace:	Date of Birth:	
NJ		
Parent/Guardian:		



Pascack Valley High School

Pascack Valley Regional High School District
200 Pierson Avenue
Hillsdale, NJ 07642

Telephone: (201) 358-7060 Fax: (201) 358-7102
Website: <http://www.pascack.org>

The e-Learning School District - 1:1 Laptop Program

Class of: 2021

Guidance Counselor:

Enter Date: 08/30/2017

Graduation Date: 06/16/2021

Grade: 09 Year: 2017-18

Course Title	Final	Credits
English I	A-	5.000
Culinary Arts I	A	5.000
Geometry Enhanced	C-	5.000
Physical Education/Health 9	A	5.000
Biology	B	6.000
College Prep World History	A	5.000
Honors Spanish II	B-	5.000
Academic GPA:	3.42	Total Credits: 36.000

Grade: 11 Year: 2019-20

Course Title	Final	Credits
Honors English III	A	5.000
Pre-Calculus	B+	5.000
Physical Education/Health 11	A+	5.000
Physics	B	6.000
Honors United States History II	A-	5.000
Architecture	A+	5.000
Honors Spanish IV	B	5.000
Academic GPA:	4.06	Total Credits: 36.000

Cumulative Weighted GPA: 3.70

Cumulative Unweighted GPA: 3.42

Total Credits: 108.000

Additional Student Information:

Grade: 10 Year: 2018-19

Course Title	Final	Credits
Financial Literacy	A	2.500
Principles of Business	A-	2.500
English II	A-	5.000
Algebra II/Trig Enhanced	B	5.000
PE/DeEd 10	A	5.000
Chemistry	C+	6.000
Honors United States History I	A-	5.000
Honors Spanish III	B	5.000
Academic GPA:	3.61	Total Credits: 36.000

Grade: 12 Year: 2020-21

Course Title	Final	Credits
Entrepreneurship		
Honors English IV		
Calculus		
Physical Education/Health 12		
Honors Forensics - Syracuse University		
Honors SUPA Public Affairs		
AP Government & Politics		
Spanish V		
Academic GPA:		Total Credits: 0.000

Transcript is unofficial unless signed by a school official and embossed with the school seal.

Pascack Valley High School Official Signature: _____ Date: 10/20/2020

STANDARDIZED
TESTS:
SAT/ACT

SAT[®]

A CLOSER LOOK

- 154 questions / 3 Hours (plus 50-min essay)
- 1 min 10 seconds per question
- Top Score = 1600 (sum of 2 sections)
- "Real World" Problems, Evidence-Based, Content-Based, Multi-Step Solutions
- Writing: similar to ACT English + Charts & Graphs
- Reading: Greater emphasis on vocabulary, historical texts + charts and graphs
- Math: Heart of Algebra (33%), Problem Solving & Data Analysis (29%), Passport to Advanced Math (28%), Other (10%).
- Features a no-calculator math section
- Features some "grid-in" answer choices
- No "Science" Section
- No Guessing Penalty
- Score Choice
- Optional Essay: Analyze an argument

SAT[®] is a trademark owned by the College Board, which is not affiliated with, and does not endorse, this product.
ACT[®] is a trademark owned by ACT, which is not affiliated with, and does not endorse, this product.

ACT[®]

A CLOSER LOOK

- 215 questions / 2 Hours 55 min (plus 40-min essay)
- 49 seconds per question.
- Top Score = 36 (average of 4 sections)
- Straightforward questions, longer test, intense time pressure
- English: similar to SAT Writing w/o charts & graphs
- Reading: Lesser emphasis on vocabulary (no charts & graphs)
- Math: Pre-Algebra (23%), Algebra (17%), Intermediate Algebra (15%), Coordinate Geometry (15%), Plane Geometry (23%), Trigonometry (7%).
- Calculator allowed on all math sections
- "Science" Section = Charts & Graphs
- No Guessing Penalty
- Score Choice
- Optional Essay: Consider an issue & three perspectives as you make your own argument.

clearchoice
→ Custom Branded Test Prep Tools

SATs and ACTs

Many schools are continuing to go test optional for 2022. We still recommend taking an exam if you feel safe and comfortable to do so. If you are able to take a test, you and your counselor can determine whether to send scores or not to each individual school when you are ready to apply next year.

Sign up for Exams at:

For SATs, go to www.collegeboard.org

For ACTs, go to www.actstudent.org



Test Optional

At this current time, Fifty-five percent of all bachelor-degree granting schools in the U.S. have already announced that they will not require ACT or SAT standardized exam scores for students entering college of Fall of 2022. The list of colleges going test optional can be viewed by clicking below:

<https://fairtest.org/university/optional>



SAT with ESSAY or No Essay?

In January of 2021, CollegeBoard announced that the Essay portion of the SAT will be discontinued after the June of 2021

CollegeBoard reported they made this decision to streamline testing.

What should I do if I'm already registered for or was planning to take the optional SAT Essay? You have two options:

1) Continue with taking the SAT with ESSAY

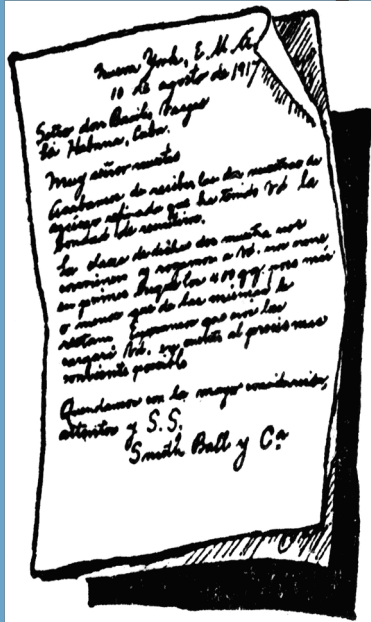
2) Log onto your CollegeBoard account and cancel your registration

collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/policies-requirements/changes.



LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of Recommendation



How many do I need?

- 2 teacher letters are recommended (most also require a counselor recommendation)

Whom to ask?

- Teachers who know you well!
- Two teachers from different disciplines, preferably from your junior year
- Possibly a teacher who taught the discipline you plan on majoring in

When should I ask?

- Spring - Please ask in person if possible, if not ask over video chat or a very nice email

Teacher Recommendation Procedure

The screenshot displays the 'Student' portal interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for Home, Course, Colleges, Careers, and About. The 'Colleges' link is circled in red. Below the navigation bar, the 'Colleges' section features a search bar with the placeholder text 'Type a college name' and a link to 'MORE COLLEGE SEARCH OPTIONS'. The main content area is divided into four columns: 'Find Your Fit', 'Research Colleges', 'Apply to Colleges', and 'Scholarships and Money'. In the 'Find Your Fit' column, there is a list of tools including SuperMatch®, College Match, Scattergrams, Advanced College Search, and College Lookup, with a 'Show less' button at the bottom. The 'Research Colleges' column lists various resources like 'COLLEGES I'm Thinking About', College Compare, College Resources, Acceptance History, Enrichment Programs, and College Maps, also with a 'Show less' button. The 'Apply to Colleges' column contains links for 'COLLEGES I'm applying to', 'Letters of Recommendation' (circled in red), 'College Events', and 'Manage Transcripts'. The 'Scholarships and Money' column lists 'SCHOLARSHIPS I'm Applying To', Scholarship List, Scholarship Match, and National Endowment for Research. A right-hand sidebar menu is visible, with the 'COLLEGES Home' link circled in red. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows icons for various applications including File Explorer, Firefox, Edge, and Chrome.

nce | Student

Home Course **Colleges** Careers About

COLLEGES Home

COLLEGES I'm thinking about

COLLEGES I'm applying to

Find Your Fit >

Research Colleges >

Apply to College >

Scholarships and Money >

Find Your Fit

SuperMatch®

College Match

Scattergrams

Advanced College Search

College Lookup

Show less

Research Colleges

COLLEGES I'm Thinking About

College Compare

College Resources

Acceptance History

Enrichment Programs

College Maps

Show less

Apply to Colleges

COLLEGES I'm applying to

Letters of Recommendation

College Events

Manage Transcripts

Scholarships and Money

SCHOLARSHIPS I'm Applying To

Scholarship List

Scholarship Match

National Endowment for Research

UTILIZING NAVIANCE

- *Resume

- *Student Brag
Sheet

- *College Search/List



NAVIANCE

- ❖ Naviance allows students to:
 - Complete Student Brag Sheet and Resume.
 - Run a college search.
 - Save colleges of interest.
 - Learn information about individual colleges including deadlines, academic programs, extracurricular offerings.
 - View acceptance/denial statistics of PV alumni.
 - See when college reps will be at PV in the fall.
 - Explore career interests and pathways.

- ❖ Please reach out to your counselor if you need your Naviance password reset.

<https://student.naviance.com/pascackvalley>

Student Brag Sheet and Resume

Please fill out by the end of June :) Email your counselor to notify them that it is complete.

This will allow them to write your recommendation letter!

The screenshot shows the Naviance Student dashboard. At the top, the header includes the Naviance logo and the word "Student". Navigation links for Home, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner are visible. A welcome message "Welcome, doug!" is displayed, along with a search bar for colleges. A red circle highlights the "My Stuff" dropdown menu, which contains links to My Surveys, Resume, Test Scores, Portfolio, Documents Shared With Me, and Journal. Red arrows point to the "My Surveys" and "Resume" links. Below the header, the dashboard is divided into two main sections. The left section, titled "WELCOME SENIORS!!", contains a welcome message for Pascack Valley's Naviance, a link to a College Application FAQ's and FERPA Waiver Instructional Video, and a "Read more" button. The right section, titled "My Favorites", lists three items: "COLLEGES I'm thinking about", "COLLEGES I'm applying to", and "CAREERS AND CLUSTERS I'm thinking about".

Naviance | Student

Home Colleges Careers About Me My Planner

Welcome, doug!

Search for Colleges

Type a college name

My Stuff

- My Surveys
- Resume
- Test Scores
- Portfolio
- Documents Shared With Me
- Journal

WELCOME SENIORS!!

Welcome to Pascack Valley's Naviance!

College Application FAQ's and FERPA Waiver Instructional Video

Seniors, please click "Read More" for FAQ's and video for

Read more

My Favorites

- COLLEGES I'm thinking about
- COLLEGES I'm applying to
- CAREERS AND CLUSTERS I'm thinking about

College Searches

Welcome, doug!

Search for Colleges



Type a college name

Back Find Your Fit

SuperMatch®

College Match

College Events

Scattergrams

Advanced College Search

College Lookup

WELCOME SENIORS!!

Welcome to Pascack Valley's Naviance!

College Application FAQ's and FERPA Waiver
Instructional Video

Seniors, please click "Read More" for FAQ's and video for matching your

Read more

My Favorites



COLLEGES

I'm thinking about



COLLEGES

I'm applying to



CAREERS AND CLUSTERS

I'm thinking about

Important To-Dos and Tasks

What's New

Super Match College Search

SuperMatch College Search

[About SuperMatch](#) 

III Choose Fit Criteria

[Location](#) [Academics](#) [Admission](#) [Student Life](#) [Diversity](#) [Institution Characteristics](#) [Cost](#) [Athletics](#) [Resources](#)

Your Fit Criteria

Saved Searches [Choose one](#) ▼

[Save Search](#)

[Start Over](#)

0 selected criteria

Select Criteria To Start

To refine your results, use the arrows to move your criteria into the "Must Have" and "Nice to Have" boxes.

Must Have

A *Must Have* is anything you absolutely need to be happy and successful.

Nice to Have

A *Nice to Have* is anything that's important to you, but isn't an absolute must have.

How many and what kind of colleges should I apply to?

- Target
- Reach
- Safety

*We recommend
applying to 8
schools in total*

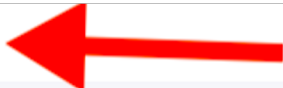
Types of College Admission

- Early Action
- Early Decision (binding)
- Regular Decision
- Rolling Admissions



Researching Colleges of Interest

Binghamton University ❤️



Virtual Tour

Communicate ▾

Apply Online

Learn More ▾

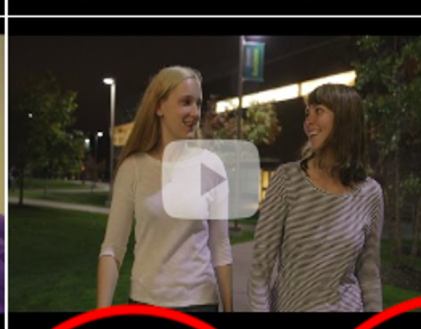
Overview

Studies

Student Life

Admissions

Costs



AVERAGE NET PRICE ⓘ

\$11,030

Family Income

\$0 - \$30k ▾

More about Cost & Aid

from 2020

GRADUATION RATE ⓘ

73%

4 Year

6 Year

More about learning environment

from 2020

ACCEPTANCE RATE ⓘ

40%

Check out Scattergrams to see how this relates to you

from 2020

COLLEGE OVERLAPS

10

See other colleges that applicants to this school also applied to ↗

EARLY ACTION DEADLINE

November

1

See all deadlines

Each college features a Scattergram with the outcome for past PV students who have applied.

Binghamton University ❤️

[Virtual Tour](#)

[Communicate ▾](#)

[Apply Online](#)

[Learn More ▾](#)

[Overview](#)

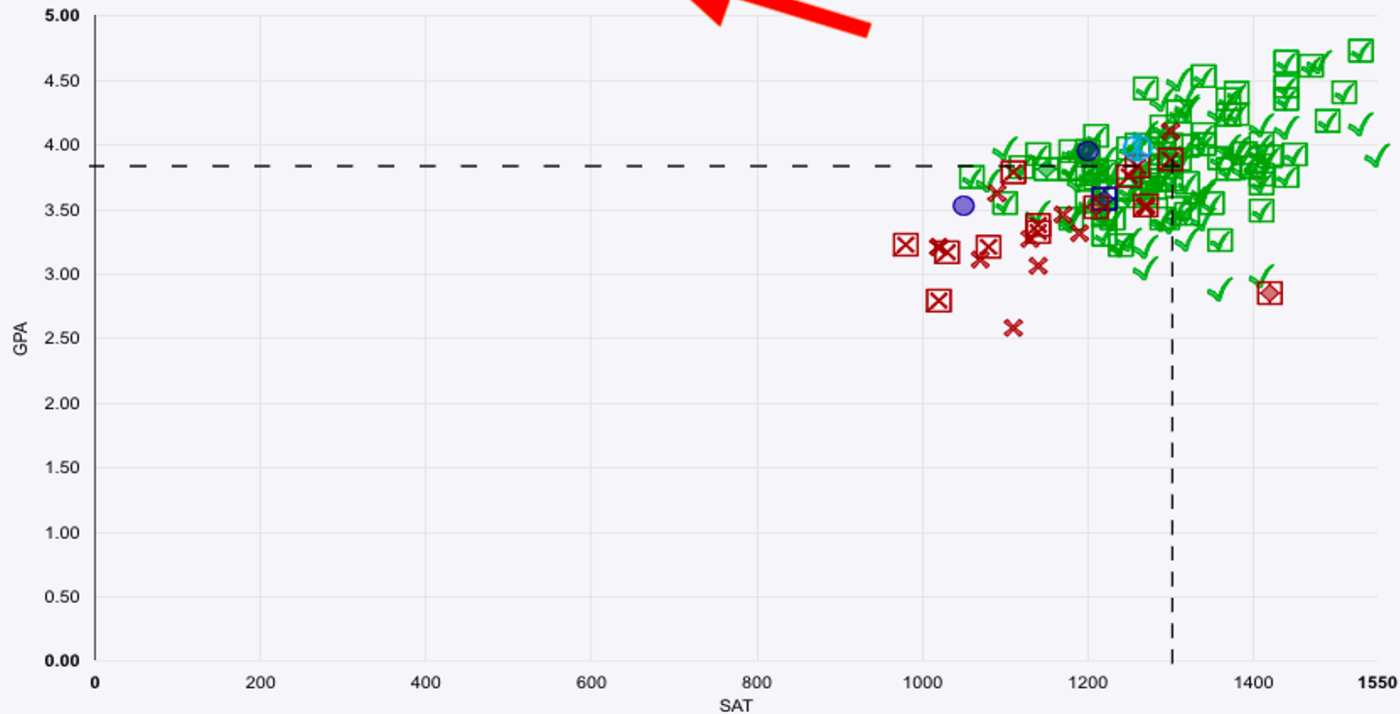
[Studies](#)

[Student Life](#)

[Admissions](#)

[Costs](#)

Comparing Weighted GPA with SAT (1600) ▾



Legend

You

Average GPA

Average Score

Accepted

Regular Decision

Early Decision

Early Action

Waitlisted/Accepted

Regular Decision

Early Decision

Early Action

Waitlisted/Unknown

Regular Decision

Early Decision

Early Action

Waitlisted/Denied

Regular Decision

Early Decision

Early Action

Denied

Regular Decision

Early Decision

Early Action

Considering Other Options?

- Naviance is still a resource for future plans other than college. For example: technical schools, the military & trade schools

The screenshot shows the Naviance website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Courses, College, **Careers**, About Me, and My Planner. The **Careers** link is circled in red. A dropdown menu is visible under the **Careers** link, containing options: CAREERS Home, CAREERS I'm thinking about, **EXPLORE Careers, Clusters and Pathways** (circled in red), and Explore Careers and Interests. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "Explore Careers and Clusters". Under this title, there is a "Career Lookup" section with four lookup methods: "Lookup by keyword", "Lookup by category" (N/A), "Lookup by Holland Code" (No Preference), and "Lookup by career name" (A-Z). At the bottom of the page, there is a link "Find Clusters and Pathways" which is circled in red. Below this link, there is a paragraph of text explaining the concept of career clusters.

Give feedback new message LOG OUT

Home Courses College **Careers** About Me My Planner

CAREERS Home

CAREERS I'm thinking about

EXPLORE Careers, Clusters and Pathways

Explore Careers and Interests

Explore Careers and Clusters

Career Lookup

Lookup by keyword

Go

Lookup by category

N/A

Go

Lookup by Holland Code [Learn More](#)

No Preference

Go

Lookup by career name


A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Find Clusters and Pathways


Careers are grouped into clusters based on common features and skills. Careers grouped into the same cluster typically require similar education and training. Exploring clusters can be a useful way to find a good career match, especially if you have general areas of interest but are not sure what specific careers match those interests. Career clusters can also help you better understand how your coursework in school can prepare you for certain types of careers.




















If a college uses the Common Application, it will be indicated in Naviance.

Colleges I'm thinking about

 Search for colleges

 Compare Me

 = extended profile available

College	Delivery type 	Added By	Application Deadlines	Interest	
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College		Counselor	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 
* Binghamton University		Counselor	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 
* Caldwell University		Student	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 
* Clemson University		Counselor	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 
* Drexel University		Counselor	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 
James Madison University		Counselor	Multiple Deadlines 	N/A	MORE 



THE COMMON APPLICATION

The Common Application is your friend!

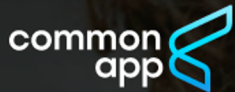
- Streamlines the application process
- Over 500 colleges use the Common Application.
- Easier for students, complete ONCE, then send to any participating school you're applying to.
 - We recommend using the Common Application *even if* the school offers its own application
- www.commonapp.org



www.commonapp.org



[Access our COVID-19 resources >](#)



FIND A COLLEGE

Plan for college ▾

Apply to college ▾

Support your students ▾



Sign in

Create an account

Your future starts here

Apply to college for the first time or transfer to complete your degree. Navigate your entire college application journey with Common App.

Start your application



List the colleges in which you plan to apply (if the school accepts the Common App)

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Financial Aid Resources

My Colleges

Amherst College

Boston College

Iona College

Ithaca College

Lehigh University

Pace University

Ramapo College of New Jersey

College Information

Application

Questions

Recommenders and FERPA

Review and Submit - Common App

SUNY Binghamton University

Ramapo College of New Jersey

Contact Info

Phone: (201) 684-7300

Fax: (201) 684-7964

Email: admissions@ramapo.edu

Address: 505 Ramapo Valley Road

Mahwah, NJ 07430

USA

Links: College Website · Virtual Tour · College Navigator

f i t y

Application Deadlines

Fall 2021

First Year

Early Decision - 11/01/2020

Early Action - 12/15/2020

Regular Decision - 02/01/2021

Spring 2021

First Year

Regular Decision - 12/01/2020

Other Deadline Information

The priority deadline for Nursing and Biology majors is December 15, 2020.

The priority deadline for merit scholarship consideration is December 15, 2020.

Need help?

When is the deadline for my application submission?

To meet an application deadline, you must submit your application materials by 11:59 pm on the

Read more

What is the min/max word count for the essays on the Questions page or Writing Supplement?

Each school has different requirements/word counts for their essay questions, so be sure to check the

Read more

How can I view a college's Writing Supplement, if they have one?

There are two ways you can access a college's Writing Supplement.

Read more

Where are the application requirements for a specific

Extracurricular Activities (list up to 10)

Dashboard

My Colleges

Common App

College Search

Financial Aid Resources

Common App

Profile

Family

Education

Testing

Activities

Writing

Courses & Grades
0 college(s) require

Activities

Preview

Activities

Reporting activities can help colleges better understand your life outside of the classroom. Examples of activities might include:

- Arts or music
- Clubs
- Community engagement
- Family responsibilities ([learn more](#))
- Hobbies
- Sports
- Work or volunteering
- Other experiences that have been meaningful to you

Do you have any activities that you wish to report? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Clear answer

Please list your activities in the order of their importance to you.

Activity 1

Activity type*

Theater/Drama

Position/Leadership description
(Max characters: 50)*

Stage Crew - Fall and Spring Productions

Organization Name
(Max characters: 100)

PV Theater

COLLEGE ESSAY



Common App Personal Essay Prompts (Choose 1)

Below is the full set of essay prompts for 2021–2022.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Essay Tips

- ☐ Write about something important to you
- ☐ Don't be afraid to use humor/be creative
- ☐ Use supporting examples
- ☐ Be vulnerable/authentic
- ☐ Write several drafts, have a teacher review
- ☐ Be mindful of word limit (under 650 words/one page)
- ☐ Be YOU!

COLLEGE FAIRS, VISITS AND TOURS... OH MY!!! ;)



College Fairs and Tours

- National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) will be sponsoring virtual college fairs this spring

<https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events>

College Board is also hosting virtual college fairs and panels this spring starting March 7th.

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/big-future-days>

- PVRHSD and Northern Valley Regional HS District will jointly host our annual college fair, virtually on Wednesday, April 28, from 4:00-6:00 pm

College Fairs and Tours cont'd

- Virtual College Tours

<http://www.ecampustours.com/default.aspx>

- Virtual Campus Tours and In Person Campus Tours - to schedule a Campus Tour, visit the specific college website for more info.
- PV offers virtual College Rep Info Sessions in the Fall with many popular colleges for students to learn more about colleges of interest. Register via Naviance.




Virtual Campus Tours

RUTGERS NEW BRUNSWICK

Languages ▾ Create Info Packet Contact Us Visit Share ▾

Select a Tour: Overview ▾



Introduction: Train Station

Welcome

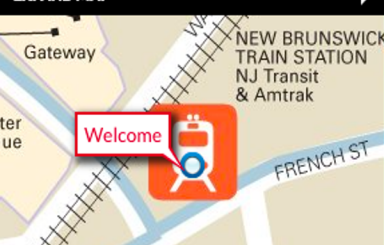
Old Queens Landmarks


Aresty Research Center


College Avenue Gym: Community Service

International Student Services

Libraries

EXPAND MAP ▸




Comments ▾


Things To Do Now...

- Attend your scheduled Individual Junior Conference with your parent
- Continue to explore colleges or career paths on Naviance
- Visit colleges/tech schools virtually or in person
- Register for SATs/ACTs
- Ask two teachers for recommendation letters by Spring
- Complete both the Parent/Student Brag Sheet
- Work on College essay with English teacher at end of Spring
- Begin Common App on August 1st, 2021



Thank you for joining us tonight!



*We are here to help you, and we are looking forward to working together
through this process!*