Y'ALL READY FOR

WHAT SHOULD YOU BE DOING <u>NOW?</u>

•**Sign up for SAT/ACT tests** – pay attention to registration deadlines! If you have an idea of some of the schools you would like to have your scores sent to, remember to identify them on your registration forms. You can identify up to four schools to receive your scores free of charge. Taking the SAT/ACT at this time will give you an idea of your strengths and weaknesses and give you time to prepare to take the test again in the fall of your senior year if necessary.

• Carefully select your senior year courses to make sure you meet the requirements for graduation and for the colleges you are pursuing. If you are considering D1 or D2 athletics, understand NCAA eligibility requirements (ex. Be careful of what English you are choosing for next year as some are not NCAA approved).

• Remember to take a **strong academic course load** your senior year. (I.E. KEEP GOING WITH ALL YOUR CORE CLASSES)

RESEARCH MAJORS AND COLLEGES --- Use Naviance

Read through information sent to you by various schools to get a better idea of what degree programs you are interested in pursuing and which schools offer the academic environment you are looking for.

Attend College Pathways

- Saturday, March 18, 2017 Saint Michael's College, 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. (includes lunch)
- Saturday, April 1, 2017 Castleton University, 9:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 29, Johnson State College, 9:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. (with an option for lunch and a JSC Admissions tour)

• Continue to **be involved** in extra-curricular activities, community service opportunities, community activities and employment

Explore interests and opportunities!

Governor's Institutes of Vermont (Main Office) <u>www.giv.org</u> MedQuest and Shadow Day (Guidance) <u>www.cvahec.org</u> Introduction to College Studies/Dual Enrollment (Guidance) Virtual High School courses <u>www.govhs.org</u> Volunteer Opportunities (Guidance) <u>www.unitedwaycc.org</u>

TESTING....HERE WE GO....

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS SAT/ACT

 Almost all schools accept either the SAT or ACT.

 Check with schools to which you will be applying.

Testing Recommendations...

- Take several practice tests of each to decide which is best for you (VSAC Resource library, Bookstores, outside agencies).
 STUDYING COULD IMPROVE YOUR SCORES UP TO 300 POINTS!!! Our CHS Guidance website has many resources
- Unless one score is consistently much higher than the other, we suggest you take (officially) both tests at least once in the spring of your junior year.
- Repeat at least the test you did the best on in the fall of your senior year.
- Plan, plan plan.... (SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT, AP, Finals, NECAP, SBAC, etc.)

TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS...

• It is STRONGLY recommended to take ACT and SAT with writing.

 The SAT Subject Tests are generally only required by more competitive schools, so you should look at the requirements for each specific school to which you are interested in/applying to.

TEST DATES

>SAT

- > Test 3/11: Register by 2/10
- > Test 5/6: Register by 4/7
- > Test 6/3: Register by 5/9

www.collegeboard.org

>ACT

- > Test 4/8: Register by 3/3
- Test 6/10: Register by 5/5 www.actstudent.org



SAT

May 6th Test Centers

- ► BHS
- ► SBHS
- > ESH
- > BFA St. Albans
- > Rice



June 3th Test Centers

- > Milton
- > BFA St. Albans
- Montpelier
- Middlebury
- ► SBHS

ACT Test Dates and Test Centers

April 8th (register by March 3rd)

•CHS

•EHS

•BFA Fairfax



•SBHS

•BFA St. Albans

•Milton HS



June 10th (register by May 5th)

-CHS

-BHS

-EHS

-CVU

FINALLY...

- Remember that test scores are *only* one factor college admissions consider in an applicant.
- They also consider rigor of courses taken, grades, essays, recommendations, interviews & extra curricular activities.



• There are many test optional schools. These can be found at <u>www.fairtest.org</u>

PLANNING COURSES FOR SENIOR YEAR

WHAT COLLEGES LOOK FOR IN YOUR SENIOR YEAR SCHEDULE

> Remember that most often the outstanding factor colleges are looking for is course rigor.

In other words are you continuing to challenge yourself and taking the highest possible course sequence?

MORE TO CONSIDER...

- Is the level of math you selected challenging?
- Are you taking the classes required for your major?
- Have you considered taking a 4th year of a lab science i.e. physics or chemistry?
- Is your schedule full?
- Are you continuing in your world language?



January 11, 2002

DEPARTMENT OF ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

Denise Demers, Guidance Counselor Colchester High School PO Box 900 Laker Ln. Colchester, VT 05446

Dear Denise,

I hope your new year is off to a good start. At the University of Vermont, we're extremely busy as the year begins, but I want to take a moment to provide you with some information that may help you counsel your college-bound students.

As you know, the University's leadership has focused its attention on enhancing the quality of undergraduate life at UVM and on enrolling those students most able to benefit from a rigorous academic experience. Initiatives such as the Green & Gold Scholarship and expansion of the Vermont Scholars Program have succeeded in attracting more strong Vermont students to the University. While the University of Vermont undergraduate applicant pool has been holding steady for a number of years at about 8,000 applications, this year I am witnessing a dramatic change in that trend. We received a significant increase in Early Action and Early Decision applications and that gain appears to be holding for the regular pool as well. Of course, we haven't yet reached our January 15 deadline, and it takes several weeks before we are certain of the final results. Nevertheless, I thought it was important for you to know that application volume from both Vermont and Out-of-State students seems to have increased significantly.

In December, UVM responded to this trend by being more conservative than usual with early decisions, something you may have noticed with our decisions for your Early Action and Early Decision candidates. Should the application volume increase hold, it is likely that we will offer admission to students with somewhat stronger academic records than you have seen in recent years. The university continues to examine all applicant records comprehensively to ensure that the entire student background is considered when gauging a student's potential for success at UVM, but in this climate it may behoove some of your students to consider submitting an extra one or two college applications to ensure that they have plenty of options as they complete their planning for the fall.

We will keep you abreast of the UVM enrollment picture as it evolves. In the meantime, you may find this an opportune moment to remind your younger students to challenge themselves academically throughout their high school years to enhance their chances of admission to their state's University. I wish you the best of luck with this busy season.

Sincerely,

threan

Donald M. Honeman Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

Donald M. Honeman 330 Waterman Building, Burlington, VT 05405-0160, Telephone (802) 656-8793, Fax (802) 656-4076 E-mail: Donald.Honeman@uvm.edu

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer 🛟

•Significantly increased volume

•More conservative decisions

•Admitting students with somewhat stronger academic records.



Admissions Office

163 South Willard Street, PO Box 670 Burlington, Vermont 05402-0670, USA e-mail: admission@champlain.edu Phone: (802) 860-2727 / Toll-free: (800) 570-5858 Fax: (802) 860-2767 / TDD: (802) 860-2744 www.champlain.edu

To: From: Date: RE:

College Counselors in our sending schools Jo Churchill, Director of Admissions March 2002 Senior year course selection

The following letter has been mailed to all of our sophomore and junior prospective students. We wanted you to be aware of this mailing, and trust that it will assist you in your continued efforts to convince students of the importance of senior year courses and achievement:

Dear [Sophomore/Junior Prospective Students]:

Your senior year courses and grades matter very much in the college admissions process. Don't become one of the students denied admissions to a college of your choice because you opted to take a minimal and lightweight course load for your last year of high school.

You still have time to avoid this mistake.

Colleges are looking for motivated learners, and there are several ways we evaluate motivation: course selection and levels, AP exams, attendance, and effort reflected in teacher comments and recommendations. Colleges view a willingness to take a challenging curriculum throughout high school as a good indicator of success in college. The more you challenge yourself, the better prepared you will be for college.

Note that doing well in the SATs or ACTs will not make up for a weak senior year curriculum.

Champlain College definitely looks at senior year grades and course load. A lightweight or unchallenging academic load in senior year can be the basis for a decision to deny admission to an applicant. For example, one applicant, who had already met the high school's minimum graduation requirements, was taking only Human Relationships and Film Appreciation for the entire senior year! The Admissions Committee voted to deny this applicant.

Students who are enrolled in AP courses are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam. This is one way to continue to challenge yourself; plus your grade on the exam could earn you college credit. Taking the exam cannot hurt your academic record, regardless of how you do on it; not taking the exam is a lost opportunity.

If you have questions about course choices available to you as a junior or senior, be sure to speak to your guidance counselor. We welcome your call or e-mail to one of our admission counselors if you have questions about our requirements.

Sincerely,

Josephine H. Churchill Director of Admissions admission@champlain.edu

•Senior grades and course load •AP exams •"A lightweight or unchallenging course load in senior year can be the basis for a decision to deny admission to an applicant."/

Founded in 1878

COLLEGE VISITS

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR VISIT

> Try to visit when **classes are in session**.

Contact admissions to set this up

> Ask to sit in on a class.

If you are traveling far, ask if the school will let you stay overnight in a dorm room. They may do this for you, but not your parents.

--Ask for a meal voucher. You should test the food.

> Any visit is better than no visit.....



SAFETY SCHOOLS Ie: Schools you know you can get into (financial)

2

2-3 GOOD-FIT SCHOOLS Ie: Your credentials match the average student admitted 1 -2 REACH SCHOOLS

Ie: Schools that your credentials are lower then the average incoming student

> Go on to NAVIANCE and either do:

<u>SUPERMATCH COLLEGE SEARCH-</u>--if you feel confident in the major/majors you want to search for...if you want to explore more......

<u>COMPLETE OTHER ASSESSMENTS</u> under "**My** Assessments"

- <u>StrengthsExplorer®</u>
- Do What You Are[®]
- ► Learning Style Inventory[™]
- career interest profiler
- <u>cluster finder</u>

AND NOW.....