



PONAGANSET HIGH SCHOOL
START HERE. GO BIG!

Junior Parent Session

**Post
Secondary
Planning**



Options
Just Ahead

Ponaganset School Counselors

Mrs. Brenda Sonnenschein-Director

Mr. Alexander MacLeod

Mrs. Sarah Metro

Mrs. Linda Murphy

Mrs. Dawn Cabral

Mrs. Joan Kenney

Dr. Lynne Bedard- Career Counselor

PHS Graduation Requirements

- **4 credits English**
- **4 credits Math**
(min of Algebra II required for 4 year college acceptance)
- **3 credits Science**
*(min of 2 lab sciences required for college admission;
Bio/Chem; Physics required for Engineering/PT/Nursing)*
- **3 credits Social Studies**
- **2 credits Phys Ed/Health**

PHS Graduation Requirements

- **.50 credit in Fine Arts**
(Chorus, Band, or Art)
- **5.5 credits in additional electives**
2 Years minimum of the SAME World Language
(required for 4 year college acceptance; 3 recommended)
- **Successful completion of**
Digital portfolio and Senior Exhibition

Total number credits for Graduation: 22 total
18 CORE ACADEMIC CREDITS
required for 4 year college acceptance

Strong Senior Schedule

- Selection of courses for senior year takes place in March
- It is important to choose **appropriately challenging** courses.
- Colleges examine grades closely through the end of the senior year.
- No matter what your child's post high school plans, the high school transcript will be viewed.
- It is highly discouraged to drop a class after the add/drop period in the senior year...only under extenuating circumstances with administration's approval.
- A "W" withdrawn will show up on the transcript.

GPA - Grade Point Average

- The **GPA** includes the five core classes:
English, Social Studies, Math, Science
and World Language are weighted
- Honors Level and AP courses hold an extra weight in the GPA
- Cumulative GPA's are calculated every SEMESTER.
 - Therefore, the GPA your child earns at the end of Junior year will essentially be the GPA that appears on college applications.

*TIP: Keep
GPA/Test Scores
private*

Dual Enrollment Opportunities

CCRI Running Start Program

- Complete senior year of high school and freshman year of college at the same time
- No fee to attend. School district pays for books
- Deadline March 1
- 3.0 High School GPA
- Must pass Math/Reading Placement Exams

<https://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/partnerships/runningstart.html>

Dual Enrollment Opportunities

Advanced Course Network

- Students can register to take college courses at a variety of campuses
(NEIT, Roger Williams University, High Schools around the state, online and campus formats)
- Registration for spring 2020
is **November 15th**

<https://ride.gosignmeup.com/Public/Course/Browse>

Dual Enrollment Opportunities

Rhode Island College EEP Courses:

EEP is affiliated with Rhode Island College

PHS Offers:

- US History
- Intro. To Visual Arts
- Spanish IV
- Elementary Music Theory
- Digital Audio Production I

URI Dual Enrollment Opportunities:

Intro to Literature 110 & College Writing 104

PrepareRI

Internship Program for High School Juniors

Start building your future through an Internship Program which provides paid summer work-based learning connecting school and work.

Earn - Internes are paid \$11.25/hr, earn college credits.

Learn - Learn critical work readiness skills, explore skills and careers and learn workplace expectations.

Connect - Make connections with top RI employers and peers. Jump start your career and start building your resume.

Apply by December 31, 2019 www.skillsforri.com/prepareri

Post Secondary Options

- **Technical and Vocational Education**
- **Armed Forces/ROTC**
- **Military Academies**
- **Business Schools**
- **Community College/Junior College**
- **Fine Arts College & Conservatories**
- **Colleges and Universities**
- **Apprenticeship Training Programs**
- **Post Graduate Year**

Post Secondary Options

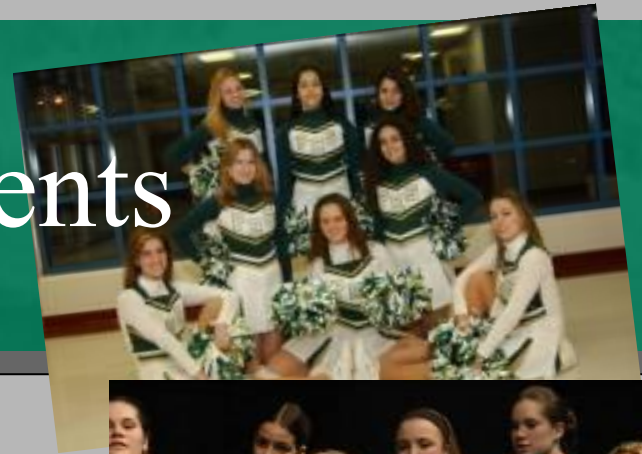
- **Counselors, Career Coordinator**
- **Teachers**
- **College Websites and Campus Visits**
- **College Fairs**
- **College Representative visits to PHS**
- **Naviance**
- **College Planning Center of Rhode Island
(Financial Aid)**

What are Colleges Looking for?

- **Grades in academic classes all 4 years**
- **Levels of academic classes**
- **Standardized Test Scores**
- **Grades in all other courses**
- **Work/Extra Curricular activities**
- **Special Talent**
- **Essay or Writing Sample**
- **Counselor Recommendation**
- **Teacher Recommendation(s)**
- **Student's Demonstrated Interest**
- **Interview (if required)**

List Accomplishments

- Review interests, skills and talents
- Keep a record of volunteer and community service
- Note recognitions; honors and awards you receive
- Record work experiences, noting employer and dates
- Develop and refine a resume
- Ask supervisors and teachers for recommendations



College Entrance Exams

SAT

www.collegeboard.com

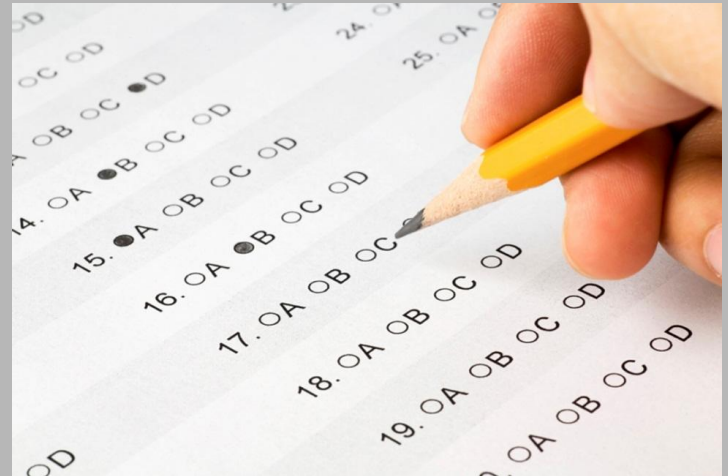
SAT Subject Area Tests

one hour content based tests

www.collegeboard.com


ACT

www.actstudent.org



The above web addresses will have information regarding registration, fees and a complete listing of all dates and deadlines.

SAT vs. ACT

|SAT..... |  |ACT..... |
|---|--|---|
| 1. More time per question (170 questions, 3 hours and 20 minutes) | | 1. Less time per question (215 questions, 2 hours and 55 minutes) |
| 2. Essay is mandatory (25 minutes) | ←→ | 2. Essay is optional (30 minutes) |
| 3. Tricky questions | ←→ | 3. Straight-forward questions |
| 4. Nine short sections, plus essay | ←→ | 4. Four long sections, plus essay |
| 5. Experimental section | ←→ | 5. No experimental section |
| 6. No trigonometry | ←→ | 6. Trigonometry questions |
| 7. No science section | ←→ | 7. Science section |
| 8. Vocabulary questions | ←→ | 8. No vocabulary questions |
| 9. Guessing penalty | ←→ | 9. No guessing penalty |
| 10. The SAT tests critical thinking and problem solving skills | ←→ | 10. The ACT is a content-based test |

SAT/ACT Test Dates



| Test Date | Registration Deadline |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| August 24 | July 26 |
| October 5 | September 6 |
| November 2 | October 3 |
| December 7 | November 8 |
| March 14 | February 14 |
| May 2 | April 3 |
| June 6 | May 8 |



| Test Date | Registration Deadline |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| September 14 | August 16 |
| October 26 | September 20 |
| December 14 | November 8 |
| February 8 | January 10 |
| April 4 | February 28 |
| June 13 | May 8 |
| July 18 | June 19 |

Reporting SAT/ACT Scores

- Scores are not listed on the transcript; Official scores should be sent directly through SAT or ACT (4 schools free at time of registration)
www.collegeboard.com www.actstudent.org
- Tests can be taken multiple times with colleges considering the highest set of scores.
- *Check individual college websites for specific information regarding testing requirements.*
- Many schools are becoming SAT/ACT optional. View www.fairtest.org for an updated list.

Essay/Personal Statement

- **The essay provides evidence of your child's personality and experiences that are not reflected in other parts of your application.**
- **Application essay questions have no right or wrong answers.**
- **Essay assistance is available with Senior English Teachers.**
- **Some students may wish to begin their essay over the summer. Common Application opens over the summer**

Special Interest

- **ART** – students should talk with their art teacher(s) regarding portfolio requirements
Visit www.portfolioday.net for information about National Portfolio Day.
- **ATHLETICS** – students should talk with their coach(s)
 - *Potential Div I or Div II* athletes must complete the NCAA Eligibility Application at www.eligibilitycenter.org/
 - *Potential Div III* athletes should seek advice from their high school coach
 - See Mr. Marcello, Athletic Director, for more information
- **MUSIC/THEATER** – students should talk with their music teacher(s) regarding auditions and/or supplementary materials.

Senior Year Timeline

September- December:

- **Individual conference with Counselor**
- **Take the SAT's in the Fall for a second time/SAT Subject tests if required. It is best to prepare for this.**
- **Finalize list of schools (reach, target, likely)**
- **Application process begins;
set up a calendar of due dates; **BE AWARE OF DEADLINES****
- **Attend College Representative/Fairs at PHS and Statewide**

Senior Year Timeline

- Attend **Financial Aid Night**
- Register with FAFSA apply for ID.
 - Begins Oct. 1
 - College Planning Center of RI available for assistance
- Ask teachers, coaches, and professionals for Letters of Recommendation
 - *Remember to write notes of thanks and ask early!*
- Revise resume
- Maintain good grades

Application and Admission Types

- **Early Action** – can apply to more than one school usually in October. Some Schools are now in Sept. Acceptance is non-binding. Many merit based-scholarships require early application.
- **Early Decision** - student applies to first choice school, generally between November and mid-January. Acceptance is **binding**. Student may submit other applications; no other can be Early Decision. If accepted, all other applications must be withdrawn.
- **Regular Decision** – the traditional application option. Watch for Application deadlines which are found on the college's websites. Decision is rendered in April or earlier.
- **Open Admission** – students are accepted upon application – usually community colleges.
- **Rolling Admission** – ongoing/no deadline. The college notifies the applicant once the decision is rendered (usually 4 to 6 weeks).

Tip: Early applications and acceptances hold the most promise for financial aid

Application and Admission Types

- **Common Application**
 - *Online application*
 - *Submit to over 700 available members*
 - *Create account in Sept. at www.commonapp.org*
- **Hard copy (paper) application**
 - **Notify School Counselor**
 - **Must Sign a Consent to Release Records**
 - **Allow 2 weeks for processing**

Stress Reducing Tips

- **Do not let the college process overtake your life**
- **Stay Organized**
- **Ask for help when needed**
- **Do not discuss college issues at home everyday**
- **Do not believe everything you hear from others regarding college admissions**

Accommodations

If your child will be seeking academic accommodations at the college level, please be aware of the following:

- **It is your child's responsibility to self identify**
- **Accommodations at the college level are based on the colleges' review of documentation and their interpretation**
- **NOT what the high school has provided on 504 plans or IEPs**

What Admissions is Stating

The first thing we look at is academic achievement, how well students do in their high school curriculum. We're interested in students who have taken the most rigorous courses. Are they stretching their minds, looking for academic challenge?"

Admissions Officer, University of Rhode Island

"I like to see students who have challenged themselves by taking the extra math or writing courses that are beyond what is required."

Admissions Officer, Northwestern University

"We value leadership, but not everyone is a leader. We also value contributors, the followers. Contributors demonstrate that they have the ability to follow through, which is a very valuable quality. Also, time management is important. Being able to balance out a busy school schedule and extracurricular activities implies that a student is disciplined and can handle responsibility."

Admissions Officer, Case Western University

The background of the image is a dense, textured field of three-dimensional green question marks. The question marks are rendered with a slight 3D effect, showing shadows and highlights that give them a sense of depth and volume. They are packed closely together, creating a complex, almost abstract pattern of green shapes. Overlaid on this background is the word "QUESTIONS" in a large, white, serif typeface. The letters are bold and have a classic, slightly ornate design. The word is centered horizontally and vertically, making it the focal point of the image. The contrast between the white text and the green background is sharp, ensuring the word is easily legible. The overall composition is simple yet visually striking due to the unique texture of the question marks.

QUESTIONS