



Junior College Planning

January 2021 – Supporting Materials

Mrs. Prange
PCH Post-Secondary Counselor

Recommendation Letters

Do You
Need
them?

▶ Core Teachers

- ▶ English, Math, Science, Social Studies or World Language Teachers
- ▶ Current perspective = junior and/or senior year

▶ Counselor

- ▶ May request from any of the 5 counselors at PCH (*Dr. Flagg, Ms. Lange, Mr. Hussmann, Mrs. Greenwood, or Mrs. Prange*)

▶ Other

- ▶ Employer, research mentor, etc
- ▶ Provides unique perspective; cannot replace a required teacher/counselor letter

Confidentiality - Colleges ask you to waive your rights to view all letters of recommendation and supporting documents. You need to do this so they know your letters are honest and candid!

Resume

- ▶ May be allowed to upload; otherwise you will enter information directly into application
- ▶ Purpose is for college to gain a global perspective of everything you balance outside of the classroom
- ▶ How do you spend your time?
- ▶ Some teachers will ask for a copy of your resume if you ask them to write a letter of recommendation.

Common App Activities Section

- ▶ 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
 - ▶ Hobbies
 - ▶ Sports
 - ▶ Work or volunteering
 - ▶ Other experiences that have been meaningful to you

Common App Activities Section

- ▶ You may list up to 10 activities in order of preference
- ▶ Info includes: Activity type, Position/Leadership description and organization name, Description of the activity (including what you accomplished and any recognition you received), Participation grade levels, Timing of participation, Hours spent per week, Weeks spent per year, Intention to participate in a similar activity in college

Common App Honors section (list up to 5)

- ▶ If you have received any honors related to your academic achievements beginning with the ninth grade, please indicate number of honors. If you received more than five, please add the five most important to you

Resume

About Me - My Stuff - Resume

Add/Update Sections

Print/Export Resume

We noticed you haven't created a resume yet. To get started, select the Plus button.

Parkway Central High

369 North Woods Mill Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017-3329
p: (314) 415-7900
<https://www.parkwayschools.net/>
Contact Counselor



- Objective
- Summary
- Work Experience
- Education
- Volunteer Services
- Extracurricular Activities
- Awards / Certificates
- Skills / Academic Achiev...
- Music / Artistic Achieve...
- Athletic Achievement
- References
- Additional Information
- Leadership

© 2018, Hobsons Inc
Privacy Policy
Signed in as **Ima Student**
LOG OUT

Essays

- ▶ Answer specific prompts within specific word limitations
- ▶ Potential topics include:
 - ▶ **YOU!**
 - ▶ Allow them to learn more about the applicant – your personality, your passions, your character
 - ▶ Become a human - - not just pages of data and facts!
 - ▶ **Your decision to apply to that specific college (“Fit” essay)**
 - ▶ Have you really done your research? Do NOT be generic or tell them about their rankings!
 - ▶ Why is this school a good fit for you? How will you maximize your opportunities to engage in the community?
 - ▶ **Your decision to pursue that particular major**
 - ▶ What experience and exposure have you had in this field?
 - ▶ Why is this degree a good fit for you?

Special Talents

▶ Athletes

- ▶ NCAA Div 1 or 2 – register with the NCAA eligibility center **by May**
- ▶ Send official ACT scores to NCAA (look for updates)
- ▶ Communicate with Mrs. Prange – do you know your **core GPA** and **sum ACT**?
- ▶ Download the Guide for College-Bound Student-Athletes from the PCH Counseling site



▶ Visual & Performing Arts

- ▶ Portfolios – online, via “Slideroom” or through “Portfolio Days”
- ▶ Auditions – live or previously recorded; often require pre-screening audition videos
- ▶ Deadlines may vary significantly from regular admissions process
- ▶ Supplemental material – even for non-majors

Overwhelmed?

- ▶ Consider starting to brainstorm essay ideas once topics are shared. Think about which teacher(s) you might ask to write a recommendation letter.
- ▶ Work on organizing your activities and honors/award into a resume.
- ▶ Schedule an appointment with me.
- ▶ Check out all of the resources on the [PCH Counseling](#) website and in [Naviance](#)
- ▶ Sign up for a **FREE** College Mentor and check out **FREE** workshops and **FREE** monthly presentations at mentors4college.org