



Danvers High School Guidance Newsletter

Fall 2021

Welcome back! We hope everyone's year is off to a great start. We encourage all students to take advantage of [Naviance](#), our school's web-based college and career planning site. Students have their own accounts, which they can log into with their Danvers Google account credentials.

[Grade 10 & 11](#)

All sophomores and juniors are registered for and will take the **PSAT on October 13th**. Details and practice questions can be found [here](#). Be sure to pay the \$25 on [efunds](#) for the test. No student will be turned away due to financial hardship. Results should be available to students by the end of December.

[Grade 9](#)

The guidance department utilizes a program called My Career and Academic Plan (MyCAP) for 9th and 10th grade classes. Students will have the opportunity to meet their guidance counselor, and participate in a series of classroom based, student-driven workshops over the course of the school year that focus on topics including early career exploration, personality inventories, and thinking about post secondary plans.

Class of 2022 Updates

- A signed [records release form](#) must be submitted to the Guidance Office before any transcripts can be sent out. Parent signature is required if the student is under 18.
- **Seniors should be mindful of college application deadlines!** Early action and early decision deadlines can fall anywhere between mid-October to mid-December. Check each school's deadline carefully.
- Transcript requests and requests for letters of recommendation **MUST** be made via Naviance at least 10 school days prior to any application deadline!
- Colleges do NOT accept SAT/ACT scores from the Guidance Department. Official scores MUST be sent by the student through their College Board/ACT accounts. It is the students' responsibility to be sure scores are sent by the testing agency if required. If seniors plan to take the SAT or ACT again this fall, please check the websites for test dates and deadlines: [College Board](#) [ACT](#)

- College representatives from over 30 colleges are visiting DHS this fall for informational sessions! Students may sign up on Naviance. Go to Colleges > College Visits. Seniors who wish to visit a college campus during school time must complete a college visit form ahead of time, which can be found on our website or in the guidance office.
- Seniors interested in Salem State University or North Shore Community College will have the opportunity to participate in On-the-Spot Admissions with those colleges. Salem State will be here November 18th and NSCC will be here later this fall, date to be announced. Students can sign up through their counselor.

[Financial Aid](#)

A Virtual FAFSA day is being held **October 13th at 7pm** through the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administration (MASFAA). [Click here for details and registration info.](#)

The FAFSA can be filed as early as October 1st, and each college has their own priority deadline, which can be found on their website. Some colleges also require the [CSS Profile form](#) as well.

The FAFSA is how you get access to financial aid from the government and from your college. Students who submit the FAFSA get \$15,000 per year (on average) in financial aid-- via a combination of grants, work-study, and loans. Many private/outside/merit scholarships also require the FAFSA.

[The FAFSA Made Easier Tool for DHS Students](#)

This year DHS has partnered with Going Merry, to provide you with “The FAFSA® Made Easier,” a more user-friendly version of the government form. Your senior will have the opportunity to create an account during Community Block this month, so your family can start using “FAFSA Made Easier”!

This new free service will guide you through the FAFSA and then submit it on your behalf. Going Merry asks each question one at a time in an easy to read format, re-words difficult questions and provides visual aids to answer the financial/tax questions. Going Merry’s FAFSA Made Easier opens **October 12, 2021**.

To complete the FAFSA Made Easier, you will need the following documents:

- 2020 tax forms for your parent(s) and you (if you filed taxes) - This includes Form 1040, and if they have them, Schedule 1, Schedule 2, Schedule 3, and/or Schedule K-1. (If your parents didn’t file taxes, then you can skip this. If your parents filed foreign taxes, you’ll need a copy of their taxes from 2020)
- 2020 W-2 forms for your parent(s) and you (if you worked)
- Social Security Cards for you and your parents, or other documentation of full legal names and SSNs
- If you are a Permanent Resident (green card holder), you will need their Alien Registration Number
- Bank/investment statements, or an idea of how much is in them
- Your college list (where you will be applying) of up to 10 colleges

Thank you for reading,

The DHS Guidance Department

Contact Us!

- Visit Naviance for useful information and scholarship updates throughout the school year.
- Visit us online at <https://danverspublicschools.org/dhs/guidance-department>

Guidance Caseload 2021-2022

Staff Member	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
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James Sullivan 978.777.8925 x 2210 jamesullivan@danvers.org	Rf - Z	Ov - Z	Pan - Z	Op - Z
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