



# The Husky Compass

The Harrison High School Guidance Department

## The College Fair—October 20

The Harrison High School Guidance Department, sponsored by the Harrison High School PTA and through the generous financial support of the Harrison Education Foundation will hold its annual College Fair on Tuesday, October 20.

**12:15-1:00** (7th period) is for seniors only.

**1:00-1:45** (8th period) is for seniors and juniors. We ask that parents allow the seniors alone time in



HHS students interact at the 2007 College Fair.

the gym from 12:15-1:45.

**1:45-2:30** (9th period) is

open to juniors, sophomores and parents.

## For the Parents—the College Fair Experience

Parents are encouraged to attend our college fair. Parents have a role, however, it should be the students who ask most of the questions. Admissions representatives want to see the child's authentic interest. Representatives want to speak with and develop a relationship with the student, rather than

the parent.

A good strategy might be for parents and children to split up, at least for part of the fair. This will allow students to ask their own questions without parents speaking for them.

This is good preparation for self-advocacy that students will utilize in their

future college experience and beyond. It is also an opportunity to boost their self-esteem.

We encourage parents to review the advice we provide to students (see reverse) and to assist in preparing your child for the college fair. So too, we encourage you to visit Naviance.

### Upcoming Events

Southern Westchester College Fair at Westchester County Center, White Plains, NY	Oct. 19
6:30-9:00pm	
HHS College Fair at HHS	Oct. 20
12:00-2:30pm	
1st Marking Period Ends	Nov. 6
PLAN Test (Practice ACT)	Nov. 18
Financial Aid Night at HHS	Dec. 1
7:00pm	
2nd Quarter Progress Report Period Ends	Dec. 11
Post High School Planning for Junior Parents	Jan. 7
Midterm Week	Jan. 25-29

### Questions Parents Might Ask at a College Fair

1. **What qualifications does my child have to meet to be admitted?**
2. **What percentage of students graduate in 4 years?**
3. **What is the college's overall placement rate?**
4. **How can I stay informed with what is happening on campus?**
5. **What resources are available to assist my child?**
6. **What is resident hall security like?**



## FOR THE STUDENT THE COLLEGE FAIR

Before attending the college fair do your homework and be prepared. Know what you want to know.

### Before the Fair

- Review the list of college fair participants and determine which tables you want to visit
- Visit Naviance and research the schools you are interested in speaking with
- Visit the college website to learn basic information about the college

Admissions representatives understand that you may be nervous and thus they seek to make the you comfortable. The college fair can be overwhelming so it helps to come prepared.

Your conversation should be an attempt at dialogue. Find questions that meet your needs and which are helpful to you as an applicant. Often the representative at the fair will be the admissions representative that actually reviews your application. Think about what is important to you and the impression you can leave.

### During the Fair

- Look the admissions representative in the eye, shake hands and introduce yourself by name and grade.
- Be neat; appropriate dress is still an easy way to impress and represent our school well.
- Be well-prepared in terms of the tables you want to visit and the type of questions you want to ask.
- If asked, answer questions to the best of your ability.

- Be ready to volunteer information—know your scores, GPA, latest grades, and what courses you are presently taking.
- Be yourself; do not pretend to be something or someone you are not.
- Above all just relax. The college fair is meant to be informative.
- Thank everyone you speak with.

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER ASKING A COLLEGE ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

Students always want to know what they should ask during a college visit interview or when college representatives visit Harrison High School. It is sometimes helpful to ask the same questions to a series of admissions representatives to see how they each answer. It may give you some helpful comparisons.

- What do you look for in an applicant?
- What type of student is happiest at your college?
- What type of student is most successful at your college?
- What is special about the campus?
- What kind of special services are available to assist and support students?
- What resources are provided to assist students in finding work after college?
- What support is offered to assist students in making the transition from high school to college?
- Leave a good impression. You are representing yourself and Harrison High School.

### After the Fair

The college fair can be exhausting. You will likely have a handful of brochures, catalogs and new information.

- Record your impressions on those colleges you interacted with.
- Keep what you gathered for later use.
- Research colleges that interested you. Use Naviance.
- Discuss your thoughts with your parents and guidance counselor.

**Leave a good impression.  
Make eye contact. Introduce yourself by name, grade. Share your interest. Ask questions.**

**Know what you want to know.**

### Preparation

The English Department and the Guidance Department will be prepping students prior to the college fair. Please take the time to work as a family to also prepare for the fair.

If you need access to Naviance to research colleges, then please contact us at 630-3101.

Naviance Parent Workshops will be announced soon for those parents wanting to learn more about this incredible resource.