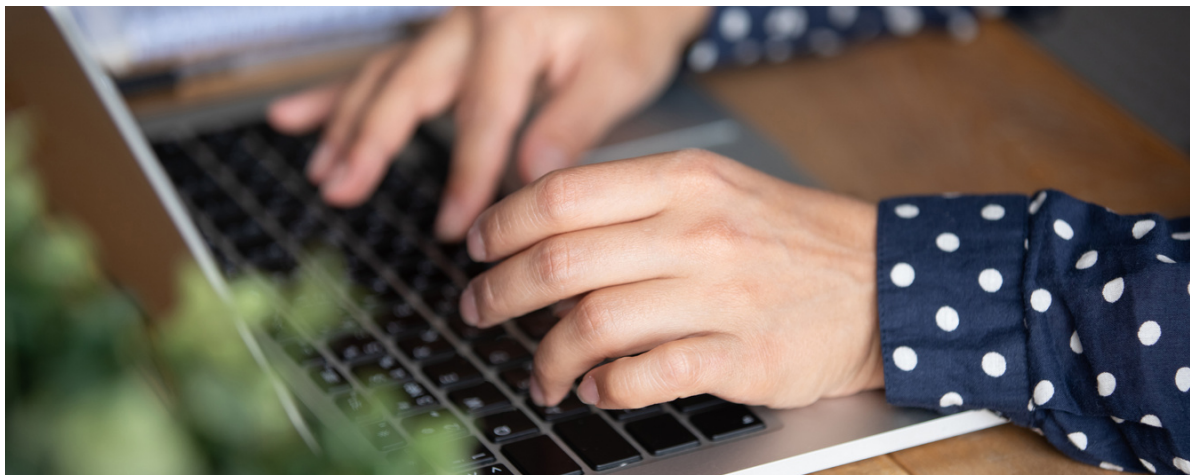

Senior Newsletter

MRS. KIMOSH

17 September 2026 ♦



Application Essays

You should complete the Common App essay and any additional essays, even if they are marked optional. You are a person worth listening to and investing in, not a list of data, scores, and activities.

Brainstorm about who you are. What adjectives describe you? What do you value? Who do you want to become?

Choose an essay prompt that lets you tell a story. You want to use examples and details - show the reader who you are. They already have a list of your classes and activities.

Write the essay yourself. You're showing schools that you are a real person. It must be YOUR work, no one else's and definitely no AI.

There are no bad topics, but you should be personal and original. How have YOU grown? Where have YOU had a positive impact? What do YOU plan to do with all you've learned?

What is important to you and how do you want to add value to the world? It's wise to avoid controversial issues or extremely personal content. It is ok to have strong convictions if you present yourself as thoughtful. It's ok to talk about a tragedy you've experienced if your focus isn't to seek pity.

Wait a few days after you're done to go back and revise. Try reading it aloud to make sure it flows. Ask another adult or two to review and give you feedback (but don't let them rewrite it for you!).

Be specific if you are asked "Why ____ college?" Show why you are a good fit, that you've been thoughtful in considering the school, and avoid vague statements like "I love the opportunities you offer," "I love the location," or "Your psychology program is outstanding." Try "I want to join the Society of Physics students and do undergrad research in the Life Sciences Institute."

In this newsletter you can expect:

Application
Essays

Other Senior
Advice

Engagement
Matters

Scholarship
Databases

Book Resource

Upcoming Visits



Other Senior Year Advice

Your Class of 2027 folder on Schoology contains a **Common App Tip Sheet** with frequent questions students have as they fill out their applications. Please read it and see Mrs. Kimosh if you want more help or want to work together on yours!

Be prompt! Keep a spreadsheet or calendar with deadlines so you don't miss any. Give a week for a transcript or test scores to be sent. Give 2-3 weeks for a letter of recommendation. Submit any financial aid applications as soon as you can.

Be accurate and consistent! Spell your name as it appears on official documentation (passport, driver's license, etc) on all applications, SAT/ACT/AP registration, and any other forms and correspondence. Differences in your recorded name can mean denied admission, delayed or denied test scores, misplaced documentation, or extra accounts to track. Use your full given first and last names, including suffixes if you have one. Middle initials are usually optional, so decide if you're including yours then do the same every time.

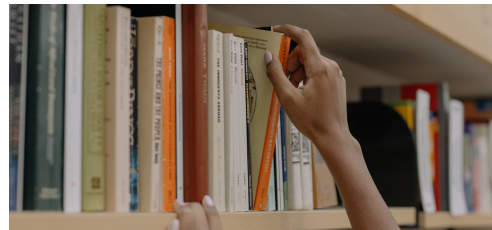


Engagement Matters

Create a system for communication so you engage with your top schools.

Many schools won't tell you this, but they track your level of engagement as part of your profile to determine if you will be admitted as a student. They check whether or not you read the emails they send. They record when you call an admissions rep with questions. They log when you attend campus tours or other events.

Check your email regularly and make an effort to actively engage with the schools you care most about.



Resources and Events

Scholarship Databases: fastweb.com, [BigFuture](http://BigFuture.com), scholarships.com, studentscholarships.org.

Book Recommendation: [Making College Count](#) (Kimosh has a copy)

College Visits:

***September 21 (at lunch)** - West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV)

***September 24 (advisory)**- Calvin University (Grand Rapids, MI)

***October 1st (advisory)**- University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI), College for Creative Studies (Detroit, MI)