JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT

CLASS OF 2026

Lora McGuire

Director of Guidance

GRADUATION PATHWAYS

Earn a Diploma   Core 40, Academic Honors, or Technical Honors

Learn and Demonstrate Employability Skills   Gained through extracurricular involvement or employment

Achieve Post-Secondary Competencies   Enroll, Enlist, or Employ

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POST-SECONDARY READINESS COMPETENCIES

Enroll. Employ. Enlist.

- Academic/Technical Honors Diplomas

- SAT and ACT scores (1250/26)

- ASVAB – Signed military letter of intent

- CTE – Anthis Career Center, ABC Prep Academy, Amp Lab, or BD Business Administration

- AP/Dual Credit/CLEP – combination of three

- Locally Created Pathway – Civic Arts Pathway

TESTING

SAT

- *Juniors took the SAT @ BD on March 13; scores available online soon*
- Subjects: Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math
- Maximum Score: 1600   BD Average: 1058
- Cost: $68 (fee waivers are available for students who are **enrolled** in the free/reduced lunch program and/or 21st Century Scholars)
- Web address: www.collegeboard.org; students should have an account
- Saturday Test Dates: May 3 and June 7
- Registration Deadlines: April 18 and May 22
- First fall test date: August 23
- **School Code: 151082**

TESTING

- Subjects: English, Reading, Math, and Science Reasoning; **if given the option, students should take the Science Reasoning assessment; the optional writing assessment is not necessary**
- Maximum Score: 36   BD Average: 22
- Cost: $69 (fee waivers are available for students who are **enrolled** in the free/reduced lunch program and/or 21st Century Scholars)
- Web address: www.actstudent.org; students will need to create an account
- Saturday Test Dates: June 14 and July 12
- Registration Deadlines: May 9 and June 6
- First fall test date: September 6
- **School Code: 151082**

- Take academically challenging classes
- PSAT Score Report – online
- Khan Academy for SAT; ACT Academy
- Online Prep: www.collegeboard.org, www.actstudent.org, www.number2.com
- Books: The Real ACT Prep Guide, The Official SAT Study Guide
- Prep class offered at BD – Fall 2025

TEST PREPARATION

TEST OPTIONAL

In recent years, many colleges have adopted a Test-Optional policy. Students determine if they want their test scores included in the admissions review process. However, this is not to be considered a pass to avoid testing. Students should take at least one SAT and one ACT by August. They can then determine if the scores they earned enhance or diminish their candidacy for admission. This decision should be made on a college-by-college basis.

Please note that Purdue University is no longer Test-Optional.

COLLEGE SEARCH

Things to Consider

- Private vs. public
- Cost: tuition, fees, room & board, books, and travel
- Programs of study: majors and minors
- Opportunities: sports, clubs, organizations, travel abroad, internships, co-ops, job placement etc.
- Size: student enrollment and size of campus
- Location: proximity to home and the setting (large city, college town, rural)
- **<u>Meet with the representatives when they visit BD</u>**
- Utilize Super Match through Naviance

CAMPUS VISIT CHECK LIST

- ❑ Meet with the admission counselor assigned to BD students
- ❑ Meet with a financial aid representative; ask about merit scholarship opportunities and typical financial aid packages
- ❑ Take a walking tour
- ❑ Talk with current students on campus
- ❑ See a dorm room and eat in the cafeteria
- ❑ Do research before visit and prepare questions
- ❑ Talk with an instructor/advisor of intended major
- ❑ Do an overnight visit as a follow-up

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Types of Applications

1) **Directly to the Institution Application**
   This is an application that is created by the college and is customized to extract the specific information they want to evaluate applicants.

2) **Common Application**
   This is a comprehensive application that can be used to apply to multiple colleges and universities. Colleges may add supplemental pieces or questions, such as specific essay topics or personal statements. There are 36 Indiana colleges that currently use the Common App.

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are available online and go live August 1

1) Access application through the college's official website under the Admissions webpage. If the school uses the Common Application, there will be a direct link to www.commonapp.org.

2) Students will need their social security number and a credit card to pay the application fee.

3) Request an electronic transcript for each college through Naviance – be sure to indicate the deadline for the application.

4) If letters of recommendation are required, request them through Naviance after asking permission of the **teacher** in person. Give plenty of notice.

TIPS & NOTES

1) Review applications over the summer – start rough drafts of essays.

2) Apply early and pay attention to deadlines.

3) Create a resume through Naviance.

4) Most students apply to 3-5 colleges.

5) Keep track of usernames and passwords.

6) Research colleges' testing policies.

7) Attend College-Bound Boot Camp – August 2025.

Tips and Notes for Students When Applying to Colleges

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

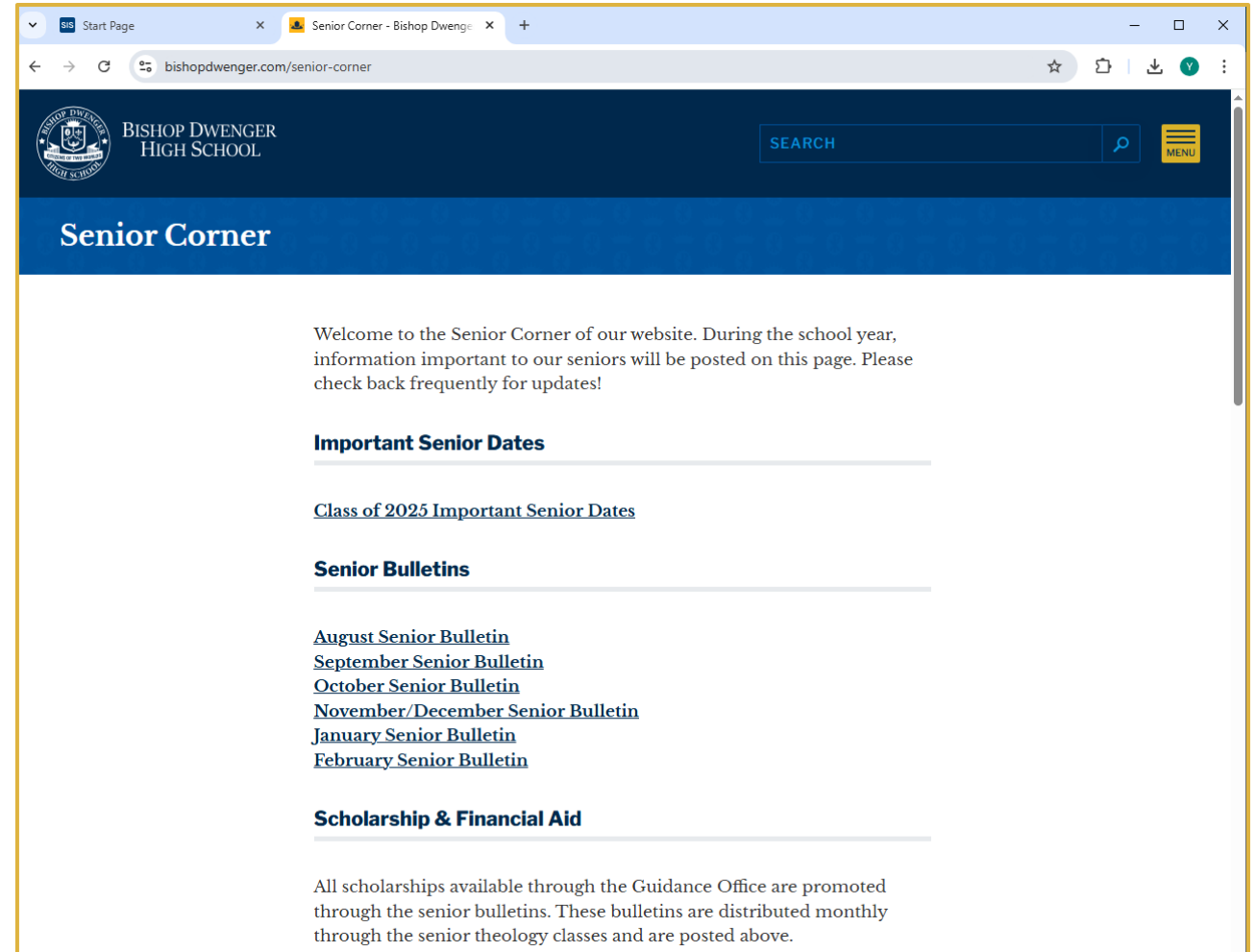## Individual Scholarship Searches – Places to Look

- Colleges: academic merit, departmental, athletic, talent

- Parents' places of employment

- Student's place of employment

- Clubs/organizations to which parents/student belong

- Internet: set up multiple accounts; never pay to apply for a scholarship nor for a scholarship search

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

BDHS Guidance Office Scholarships

- Monthly Senior Bulletins – distributed in theology classes and/or sent through Canvas – parents who are observers will receive them

- BD Website: www.bishopdwenger.com, Senior Corner; reminders in Halo

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- Filing Window in Indiana: October 1, 2025 – April 15, 2026; completing the **2026-27** form

- Available online at studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

- Based on parents' and student's completed income tax returns for 2024

- Types of Need-Based Aid: grants/scholarships, loans, and work-study

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA Notes & Tips

- FSA IDs for parents and students are required and may be created at https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch. Must be created several days prior to starting the FAFSA.

- Some colleges require FAFSA **and** the supplemental CSS Profile, which is available at www.collegeboard.org. There is a fee to submit the CSS Profile.

- Some colleges have an earlier deadline than April 15 for filing FAFSA.

- Financial Aid Night for parents in Fall 2025.

NCAA DIVISION I & II ELIGIBILITY

- Students may register anytime during the junior year at https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/; cost is $100.

- Transcript request may be communicated to Miss McGuire after the completion of the junior year.

- Students must have 16 core academic courses (English, math, science, social studies, and world languages) for NCAA Division I and II completed by graduation; ten of the required core courses must be completed by the start of the senior year. For reference, the Academic Honors Diploma requires 17 core courses. Students must also have a core-course GPA of 2.3.

- Read through the eligibility requirements and rules very carefully.

NAIA ELIGIBILITY

- Students may register anytime during the junior year at www.playnaia.org; cost is $100.

- Transcript request may be made to Miss McGuire after the completion of the junior year.

- Students must earn at least a 2.3 GPA to be eligible.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- www.collegeboard.org – SAT, AP, test prep, college search, financial aid
- www.actstudent.org – ACT test prep and registration
- https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa – FAFSA
- www.fastweb.com – college and scholarship search
- www.finaid.org – financial aid
- www.learnmoreindiana.org – college search, financial aid for Indiana
- www.catholiccollegesonline.org - information regarding Catholic colleges
- www.icindiana.org – private colleges of Indiana
- https://collegecost.ed.gov/net-price – college cost estimator
- www.finaid.org/calculators – student loan repayment calculators
- https://student.naviance.com/dwenger – Naviance: transcript requests, college search, scholarship search, resume builder, and career exploration

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