

Darien High School Parents Association
November 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Welcome/Call to order by Lori Olson at 9:00 a.m.

Co-Chair report: Dec 6 Teacher Holiday Luncheon: Please sign up for dessert donations. We will have spirit wear sales that day.

Committee Reports and Announcements

Nominating: Therese Vogt – please consider volunteering

Program: ***College Panel: Five Former DHS Students Return to Share their Experiences***

College Process:

- Naviance is helpful - compares student GPA and test scores
- Take tests in Junior year so Fall Senior year you can focus on grades and narrow the list
- Start college visits early Junior year to spread them out
- Talk to current students on campus when you visit
- DHS College Rep Visits are a good resource: learn about schools; build relationship
- Talking with DHS Guidance Counselors

How did you limit the number of schools?

- Different for everyone: reach, target, safety; some apply to 15 schools, others apply to 1
- College visits are an important way to decide to apply or not
- Overnight or “Day in the Life” visits

Transition to College:

- Time management; you have to go see teachers; how do you use your free time
- DHS prepare students for college level work

Appreciate when my parents...

- Call me once a week; not constantly texting/calling
- Limit the advice they give

Anxiety going off to school – worry about meeting friends

- Pre-orientation programs and Orientation is good way to meet people

Everyone gets sick fall freshman year – new germs; living in dorms with lots of people

Advice to 9th/10th grade self:

- Don't stress out as much
- You will find your school; it will work out; don't worry about where other people go
- Wish I'd joined clubs at DHS beyond just doing athletics

Pick a school for academics – play sports, but you have to ultimately like the school and be able to do the work.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa Williams
DHSPA Secretary