

Summer Letter *Updated July 12, 2024*

May 28, 2024

Dear Pine View Family of a Rising Senior,

Summer is upon us! Before we leave for a well-deserved break, I wanted to share some important Summer College Planning suggestions and tasks, all of which I conveyed in classrooms last week (Powerpoint attached). The essential takeaways are as follows, STUDENTS SHOULD:

Research and finalize their college list. This should not wait until Fall and requires considerable time.

Visit the admissions websites for ALL of the colleges to which students are applying and create a list of deadlines and ALL requirements (a spreadsheet).

Create a *Common Application* account and review/complete all sections. While students cannot enter information into the application until the annual refresh on August 1st, they are strongly encouraged to *review the application and complete as much of it as they can prior to its re-launch*. Regarding the various sections such as the Activities portion, students should strategize and decide what and how to share their information. Once the *Common Application* opens students may simply transcribe their completed sections into the application.

Plan for/write the *Common App* Essay. The essay prompts remain the same as last year and can be found on the *CommonApp* website or here <https://www.commonapp.org/blog/common-app-announces-2024-2025-common-app-essay-prompts>. Begin writing! Students should have a strong, refined draft by early August (College Essay handout attached).

Research the supplements for each of the colleges to which you are applying (and plan for/write). These usually remain the same from year to year and may be found on the *CommonApp*.

More information will follow in a letter home in August. This will include:

- Instructions for completing the *Common Application* and how to 'sync' it with **Schoolinks**
- A copy of your transcript to use when completing self-reported transcripts for UF and FSU, and other public, in-state universities (SSAR-instructions to follow as well)
- A transcript request form on which you will list your colleges
- Instructions for requesting teacher letters of recommendation

A series of Class Meetings will occur in August/September to help further explain these tasks and to answer any remaining questions students might have. Parents and students should feel free to email with questions as well.

I wish you all an enjoyable and restful summer!

Sincerely,

Lance Bergman, Pine View School College Advisor

Pine View School