

A close-up photograph of a pencil and a ruler on a piece of graph paper. The pencil is in the foreground, pointing towards the right. The ruler is positioned diagonally across the page. The background is a soft-focus grid pattern.

# SOPHOMORE EXPLORE! THE ROAD TO COLLEGE

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Grosse Pointe South Counseling

# Recommended Reading

**College is yours 2.0:  
Preparing, Applying,  
and paying for  
colleges perfect for you**

[www.collegeisyours.com](http://www.collegeisyours.com)

By Patrick J. O'Connor, Ph. D.

**Colleges That Change  
Lives: 40 Schools That  
Will Change the Way You  
Think About Colleges**

[www.CTCL.com](http://www.CTCL.com)

By Loren Pope

# Pencils ready?

- First a Quiz
- (don't worry – its just for fun)
  
- Inspired by Patrick O'Connor, Cranbrook



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If you're a Horned Frog,

what college do you attend?

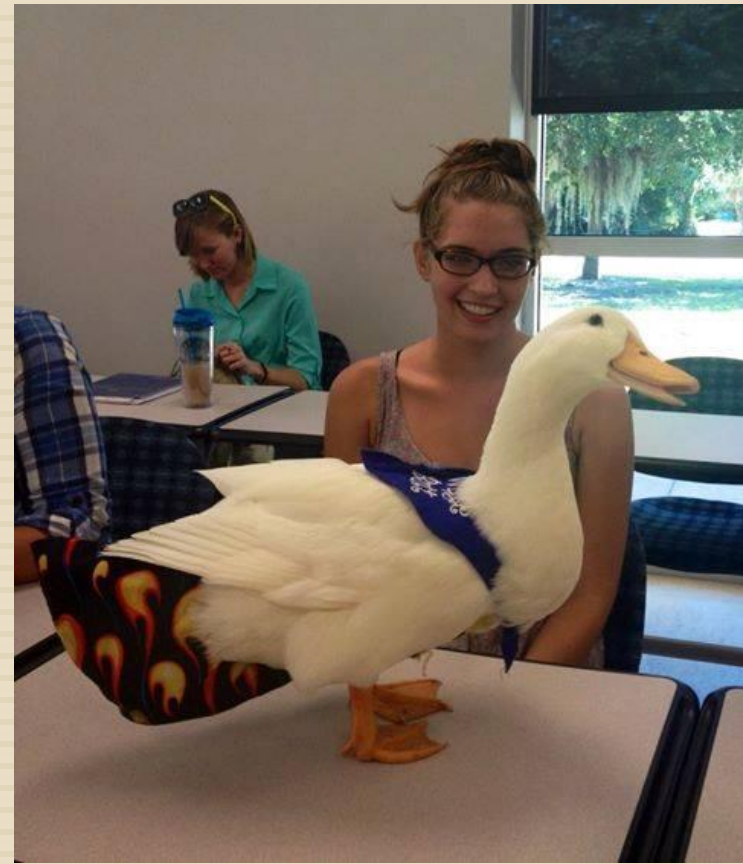
Texas Christian University

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If you want to take your frog to school, where should you go?

(or cat, bird, dog, ferret, duck?...)

Eckerd College on Florida's Gulf Coast



# What college...

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requires its students to dress for dinner two to three times a week, sometimes in academic robes?



The University  
of Toronto

# What must every graduate...

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of the University of Chicago,  
Dartmouth, Cornell, Columbia,  
MIT and Notre Dame be able  
to do

**SWIM!**



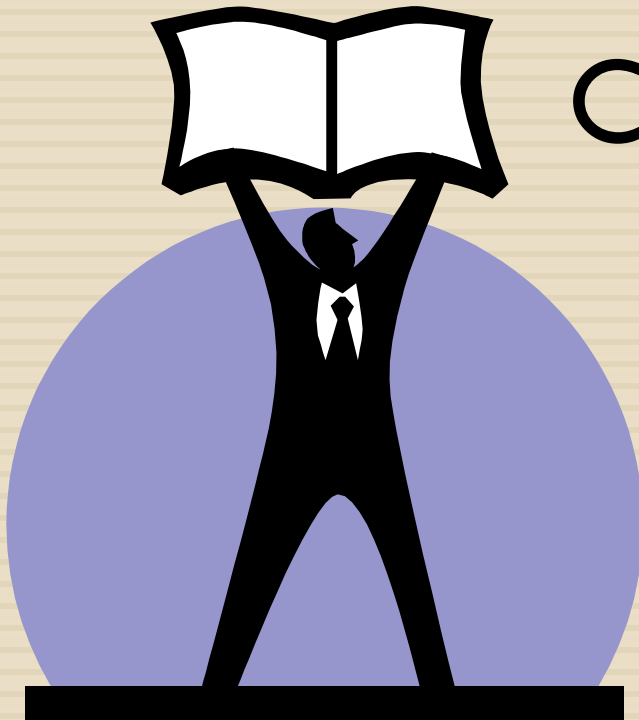
What do these schools have in common?

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Arizona State University

Muskingum University

Curry College



They are *fantastic* at  
accommodating kids who learn  
differently and especially students  
that receive special education  
services

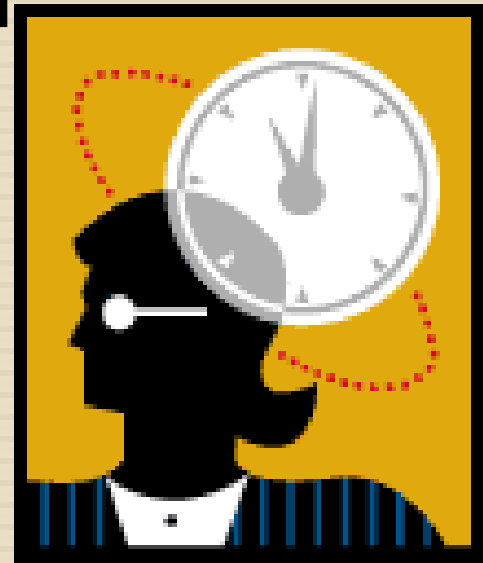


# What do these colleges have in common:

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## Colorado College and Cornell College of Iowa

One-at-a-time “Block” courses that meet for 3-4 weeks.



# What do these colleges have in common:

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Lawrence University,  
Bates College,  
and  
Hampshire College

No longer require  
Standardized tests like the  
ACT or SAT



# What do these colleges have in common:

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Cooper Union

Berea College

US Naval Academy

Curtis Institute of Music

Schools are free or nearly free to all admitted students



# What do these colleges have in common:

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Kalamazoo College,  
Knox College,  
Birmingham-Southern,  
Southwestern University, and  
Ursinus College

These are some of the colleges featured in *Colleges That Change Lives*, a book featuring colleges that excel in making college the perfect mix of support and growth for all students.



# What school in Michigan...

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Has a special Medical  
School Early Admission  
Program



# What college...

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is among the nation's leaders in its percentage of students who are student athletes?



MIT



# What is the main reason...

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most students are denied admission to  
University of Michigan



U of M runs out of room.  
If a college denies admission to a student, often students think it's because they "aren't smart enough." In most cases, especially with highly selective colleges, 95% of the students who apply could go to that college and be successful— but the college isn't that big.

42K apps 6K slots

# OK one more...

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## What schools have a Quidditch Team?

the game from Harry Potter was adapted by Middlebury College students in 2005, Quidditch is now played at over 300 universities and high schools in the United States and 12 other countries.





# It's all about the *QUALITIES*

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- What qualities are a priority?
- Matching is a two way street
- Matching student (family) and college requires time, patience, and research

# Learn to use Naviance Family Connection

- <http://connection.naviance.com/gpshs>

## Welcome to Family Connection

Students: log in below with your school lab login info. Parents: first time users click "I need to register" & enter your ParentPortal/Pinnacle password as the registration code.

username

password

remember me



**Log In**

[forgot your password?](#)

[need additional help?](#)

are you new here?

[I need to register](#)



Students log in here.  
Use school computer  
login

Parents log in here  
for the first time.

Use Parent Portal  
Password

# Go! See! Do!

## Hit the Gas Tank Tour

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- Goal is NOT just to look at schools you might attend but to get *on a campus* to observe
- Pay attention to the *QUALITIES* that make this campus unique
- Just the facts, Ma'am. (no judgment)
- Go on a tour. Sit in on a class. Take it in.
- Document
  - Take notes as soon as you can following the visit. (Yes, this means the ride home)

# Consider the Dynamic Duo!

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No...not that dynamic duo

# Consider the Dynamic Duos!

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Plan your Gas Tank trips to hit two schools in a day:

- Western Michigan U and Kalamazoo College
- U of M Flint and Kettering
- U of M A<sup>2</sup> and Eastern Michigan
- Miami U & Dayton
- DePaul and Northwestern
- Purdue and Rose-Hulman
- ...

# Prepare Academically

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- Keep working hard in school
- Use PLAN (3/13) & PSAT (10/14) test results
- Consider what, if any, test prep is necessary
  - Independent study (red book ACT prep)
  - Online prep (Naviance Prep Me, Mel, Shmoop, Q of Day and ACT/SAT resources)
  - Individual Tutoring
  - Test Prep Courses
- Read

# Paying for College

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- It's not too early to think about it
- Who is on your team?
  - Student
  - Parents
  - Possibly Financial Advisor



# Paying for College

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- **Second String Supporters**
  - Religious Affiliations
  - Community Organizations
  - Professional Organizations
  - School Resources





# Strategize!

- Evaluate
- Discuss Regularly
- Keep Active in the Process

## Know your resources

- ❖ Online Scholarship Search Engines
- ❖ School website resource lists
- ❖ FAFSA, CSS Profile
- ❖ College Specific Scholarships (Merit & Need Based)
- ❖ College Financial Aid Offices

## Be Careful!

- ❖ Never pay for a scholarship search
- ❖ Keep personal information secure
- ❖ Be aware of scholarship scams

# Conclusion

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- Carpe Diem! Seize the Day!
- Make a plan
- Set a goal (3 colleges by the end of the school year?)
- Meet with your *First String* team mates regularly  
(same time/same place quarterly)
  - Use this time to communicate developing ideas/goals/plans
  - Keep it healthy and positive

# Questions, Comments, Feedback

- Resources available on the South Counseling Web page including this presentation and some helpful handouts & links
- Thank you for joining us. Please **Evaluate** so I can improve 😊
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook as:  
“G P South Counseling” & “@SouthCounseling”